

Chestnut Lane School

SEPTEMBER 2019

Welcome back to the new school year, I hope that everyone has had a wonderful summer break. A particularly warm welcome to all of the new families who have joined us. If I haven't already, I look forward to meeting you over the coming weeks.

Mrs Gemma Rehal

EVENTS

Year 1 Topic Meeting at 9am	12 Sep
Reception Topic Meeting at 9.15am	17 Sep
Nursery Topic Meeting at 2.20pm	18 Sep
Nursery Topic Meeting at 9am	20 Sep
Skipping Workshops	27 Sep
CLESA AGM Elangeni School at 7.30pm	1 Oct
CLESA New Parents Welcome at Chestnut Lane at 7.30pm	9 Oct
CLESA New Parents Welcome at Elangeni at 9am	11 Oct
Individual School Photos	15 Oct
Parents Evening Reception, Yr1 & 2 3.30-6.30pm	21 Oct
Parents Evening Reception, Yr1 & 2 6.30-9.00pm	24 Oct
Tea in a Box	25 Oct
Last Day of Half Term	25 Oct



September Welcome

Welcome Back

I am pleased to report that the roofing maintenance work went mostly to plan over the summer break and the children and teachers are now all settled into their new classrooms. The topic meetings are well underway and I hope that they will provide you with helpful information about the routines and timetables for your child's year group. We are looking forward to the year ahead. The staff have already discussed preparations for special events such as visitors into school, off-site trips and celebrations for the school's 50th Anniversary in November.

Staff News

We are delighted to welcome Ms Warner as a LSA in early years and are pleased to announce Miss Hill has started her teacher training this year.

Assessments

During these first few weeks in school the children and staff will be working very hard on assessments. These are carried out in an informal way, usually one-to-one or within small groups. These are a vital part of the transition to new classes so that the staff can get to know the children well, and in turn plan for their individual next steps accordingly.

As Key Stage One parents will have seen, the outcome of the reading assessments will be shared with you on Friday 20th September.

Well Done Assemblies

Our weekly Well Done Assembly usually takes place on a Friday morning in school and it is a time for

us to celebrate the achievements of the children. They are not just praised for their academic work but also for showing kindness to others, or demonstrating effective characteristics of learning within the classroom. We would like to remind everyone that these assemblies are a great time for the children to share their achievements from outside of school as well, such as certificates, medals or trophies that they may have been awarded, or special events that they may have been part of. If you think your child has something they would like to share please speak with your child's class teacher. Currently these assemblies are not attended by the Little Chestnut pupils.

How are we spending our School Fund?

The School Fund contains both voluntary contributions and money raised from class cake sales. It allows us to offer additional opportunities for the children, which are not possible to fund through the budget the school receives from the local authority.

On Friday 27th September we have skipping workshops planned for all of the classes across the school, and we are looking forward to the children applying their new skills during playtimes.

During the week beginning 18th November we will be celebrating the school's 50th Anniversary and staff are currently making lots of plans. Many of you will have seen our request for ex-pupils to join us in November to share with the children what they are doing now. If you know of anyone who came to Chestnut Lane School, at any time, we would love to hear from them. The school opened on 24th November 1969.

Please see our website for all event information: <https://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk>

Please Note

View notes in Bookbags / Head Bumps

Although we aim to send a lot of our communications via ParentMail sometimes the school staff will send messages home via the children's book bags, particularly about minor First Aid incidents. Please can I encourage all parents to look in their child's book bag each day to ensure that these important notes are not missed.

Keep Logs in Good Condition (No Stickers Please)

As ever we are very keen to preserve the condition of our Key Stage One Learning Logs. With this in mind we would ask that the children refrain from sticking any stickers onto them, as these are very hard to remove for the following year.

What is a Read-in?

Read-ins are held on Friday mornings from 8.40 – 9.00am in the classrooms. These are an opportunity for parents to join their child in their classrooms to share a book, and look at the children's work on display. Over the year we will also be using these sessions to share with you activities that the children have enjoyed throughout the week, such as in Phonics and Maths. This year these themed read-ins will take place on: 4th October, 6th December, 7th February, Thursday 5th March (World Book Day), 1st May, 5th June. If you have more than one child in the school siblings can join each other, in the same classroom, during this time.



School Photos

Individual pupil photographs will be taking place on Tuesday 15th October. Siblings will be automatically paired up for a joint photo.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC

Pre-school children can be photographed with their siblings if you wish, between 8.15-8.50 am. Due to the quantity of children, we will not be allowing older siblings this year. Please come to school altogether at 8.15am on the day. You will be given a numbered ticket and photographs will be taken on a first come first served basis.

Could we kindly ask parents to keep their children under control whilst waiting and once photographs have been taken to swiftly make your way outside to the quad area to wait for the teachers to open the classrooms at 8.40am.

Moving around the School Grounds

As part of our new line markings installed at the end of last term we have had the 'scooter lane' repainted down the school drive. This long white line is provided as a safe place to cycle or scooter in and out of school. All children using bikes or scooters must use the scooter lane to ensure that pedestrians can walk safely up and down the main drive.

As many of you are aware lots of the neighbours' gardens back onto our school grounds, particularly down the school drive. We know that the children are often excited as they travel to and from school but please can we remind families to be respectful of the neighbours as they come and go. We would also like to remind families that the children should not be going behind the bushes and trees that line the school drive as it is not safe.

Pupil Premium

If you receive benefits such as income support or child tax credit you may be entitled to register for Pupil Premium.

The school receives an additional £1,300 for each pupil registered. This valuable funding is spent directly on benefits for the pupil. If you think you may be eligible please talk to Mrs Owen in the school office.

Parent Consultations

This autumn term's consultations for all reception, year 1 and 2 classes will take place on Monday 21st October (3.30-6.30pm) and Thursday 24th October (6.30-9.00pm). More information regarding booking a time will follow.



Cake Sales

Thank you to those parents who have agreed to be class reps this year. We will be sending out a message shortly to all class reps outlining the dates of the cake sales throughout the year.

Green class will be holding the first cake sale of the year after school on Friday 4th October. In order to reduce single use of plastic, we ask parents to bring their own cake containers.



For your information

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

As some parents may have noticed we now have an AED in school. This is located inside the main building block, on the wall, opposite the school hall. This has been funded by CLESA (our Parent Teacher Association) from funds they have raised to support the school. At the beginning of September the staff received additional first aid training specifically on the use of the AED.

ParentMail



All early years parents have now been sent a registration email from ParentMail to sign up to the ParentMail App but if you have not received yours please check your 'junk' folder and let Mrs Javaud in the office know if you have any problems.



School Website

We have made some changes to our school website and you may have therefore noticed the new appearance particularly on mobile versions.

Please visit our website to see the information about forthcoming events in the diary dates section. You will also find details about term dates, club times and dates and copies of letters sent home.

If you have any problems navigating around the new site or have any useful feedback please let us know.

<https://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk>

Lunch Time & After School Clubs

There are still a number of places available in our various lunchtime and afterschool clubs for children in year 1 and 2. Please contact the club organisers directly if your child is interested in joining any of the following clubs:-

Day	Lunchtime	Afterschool
Monday	Yoga Bears	Playball
Tuesday	French	Tennis
Wednesday	French / Chess	Football
Thursday	AS Judo / Top Banana Cooking	Create
Friday	Youth Moves	

CLESA

The PTA, also known as CLESA (Chestnut Lane & Elangeni Schools Association) are holding a New Parents Welcome Evening on Wednesday 9th October from 7.30pm at Chestnut Lane School and a coffee morning at Elangeni school on 11th October at 9am. All parents are welcome to come and see what CLESA is all about.

CLESA raised an amazing £29,544 during the last academic year. Thank you for all your hard work and support.

The next CLESA events are:-

- Tea in the Box** 25th October
- Family Fireworks Night** 9th November
- Christmas Fayre** 1st December

