

Welcome back to a new school term and Happy New Year to you all. A particularly warm welcome to the new families who have joined us. I hope that you all had an enjoyable festive break.

**Mrs Gemma Rehal**

## EVENTS

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Nursing Team to visit Reception               | 13 Jan |
| Woodlands Cake Sale                           | 17 Jan |
| CLESA PTA Meeting (Elangeni)                  | 21 Jan |
| Silver Class Cake Sale                        | 24 Jan |
| Tea in a Box                                  | 14 Feb |
| School Closes for Half Term at 3.05pm         | 14 Feb |
| School Opens at 8.40am                        | 24 Feb |
| CLESA Family Fun Night                        | 29 Feb |
| Parent Consultations (Reception, Yr 1 & Yr 2) | 2 Mar  |
| Parent Consultations (Reception, Yr 1 & Yr 2) | 4 Mar  |
| World Book Day                                | 5 Mar  |
| Drama Workshops                               | 6 Mar  |
| Orange Class Cake Sale                        | 13 Mar |
| Bubble Workshops                              | 17 Mar |

# Chestnut Lane School

JANUARY 2020

## Happy New Year



We would like to say a huge thank you for all of the generous cards, gifts and kind words we received before we broke up from school for Christmas. It is such a special time of year to be around the children and it was a pleasure to share in the joy with them.

We would like to also thank you for all of the donations given to Save the Children, either after our Christmas Productions or as part of the Christmas Jumper Day. We are very pleased to report that we raised £300.67 for the charity. This generosity was continued as lots of families came to purchase Christmas Postcards from the school's Environment Club and this raised a super £76.60 for the Roald Dahl Nurses.

When exchanging Christmas Cards in December we were pleased to once again contribute to an initiative run by Close to Hand, an online community connecting older people with local people who can lend a helping hand. Their #onemorecard campaign encourages members of the community to send an extra card to an older person at Christmas. We were able

to send cards written and decorated by the children to five local care homes, covering around 200 people within our community.

Thank you to all of the parents who donated food items for the Year 2 children to take along to Amersham Free Church on 25th November. They had a very interesting morning and received lots of compliments on their behaviour. Chiltern Foodbank have thanked us for the school's donation, informing us that it would contribute towards feeding 7 people for three days.



### Staff Update

Those of you who are particularly observant may well have noticed that I am expecting my second child in May. Planning for my maternity leave has already begun and further details will follow. For the Spring term we are pleased to welcome two trainee teachers through our partnership with Chepping View SCITT.

Mrs Saswati Basu will be working in Orange class, and Miss Kerrie Kennedy will be working in Green class. Miss Louise Hill is currently on her second placement at another school within Bucks, but will be returning for the Summer term.

Two midday supervisors, Mrs Linda Armstrong and Mrs Kirtsy-Leigh Harper-Matthews, sadly left us at the end of term and have moved on to different positions within local schools. We would like to thank them for their help during their time with us. We are currently interviewing to replace them.

### Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will take place after school on Monday 2nd and Wednesday 4th March. Letters will go out in book bags later this half term with details of the time slots available. Little Chestnut parents will be contacted separately regarding their Spring term consultations.



# Please Note

## Come and join our Read-ins



As you will hopefully all know parents/carers are invited to join us in the classrooms most Friday mornings between 8.40 – 9.00am to share a book with their child/ren. Over the past term we held two alternative read-ins covering social skills and phonics activities which the children have been using in school. As we look ahead we will be covering other subject areas within read-ins such as fine motor skills or maths (Friday 7th February) and World Book Day (Thursday 5th March). We look forward to seeing lots of you there and would like to remind you that these read-ins are also for Little Chestnuts' parents.

## Communication Books & Learning Logs

During the topic meetings teachers will have alerted you to some upcoming changes to the Early Years Communication Books and Key Stage 1 Learning Logs. These have been reviewed in light of feedback from the parental survey at the end of last academic year. They will include some helpful resources for you to further support learning at home. They will also signpost you to our school's website where you will find further details regarding each year group's curriculum coverage. We are also encouraging the children to reflect on their learning and identify how confident they felt about the homework task they chose.

## Belongings

Please could we make a gentle reminder that it is crucial that all of the children's belongings are clearly named. We often have lost property in school and sometimes name labels can fall out or rub/wash off and so please regularly check that these are still in place.

We are of course in the season of cold weather and so it is important for the children to have their coats, hats and gloves in school every day. Please also make sure that these are clearly named.

If your child has borrowed spare clothing from school please can you ensure that these items are returned to school as soon as is possible, particularly as there may be multiple items being borrowed at the same time.



## Adverse Weather

Please remember that we will post information on our website if the school has to close due to adverse weather. Further information can be found at:

<https://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk/parents/information-in-case-of-adverse-weather>

## Upcoming Events

Between 3rd and 7th February we will be celebrating Children's Mental Health Week in school. WHSmith and children's mental health charity Place2Be have teamed up to help schools show their support for children's emotional well-being. Activities will be themed around 'Finding Your Brave'.

We will also be preparing events and workshops during the week of World Book Day (week beginning 2nd March). We hope that the children will join staff in dressing-up as a book character on Thursday 5th March. Further information will follow.

## Cake Sales

Woodlands Day Nursery will be holding a cake sale in the quad area after school on Friday 17th January. The proceeds of the sale will be donated towards the Australian Bushfire Relief Fund.

Silver Class will be holding their cake sale on Friday 24th January.

## School Fund

The School Fund is used to supplement the school budget to enhance the children's educational experiences. We rely on contributions to ensure we can provide these additional resources.

Due to data protection regulations, we have only emailed parents who have agreed to receive this type of communication. Therefore if you would like to receive this and other relevant marketing communications e.g. clubs and other third party information please contact the school office.

## CLESA

Thank you to everyone who gets involved in organising or attending events. CLESA are pleased to announce the Christmas Fayre raised a very impressive total of £4,600. We really appreciate the money raised.

Chiltern Toy Bank were extremely grateful for the donations of toys which were left over after the Christmas Fayre.

CLESA is in urgent need of a new treasurer so if you are able to help please contact the Chair at: [clesacochair@gmail.com](mailto:clesacochair@gmail.com).

The next CLESA events are:-

**Tea in a Box:** Fri 14th February

**Family Fun Night & Elangeni Disco:** Sat 29th February

