



# Chepstow News

Keeping you up to date with school life



## Message from Mrs Barr

Dear Parents

What an incredibly festive week this has been. The Stand by Me card writing on Monday set the scene with children past and present creating cards for the children at our sponsored school in Ethiopia. They were cheered along by some musical performances from our talented children as well as some bell ringing by Miss Ritchie and Miss Etherington.

Well done to our piano players, vocalists, violinists and guitar players who performed so confidently and with great enthusiasm.

Thank you to all the FCH team who coordinated this well attended event.

A huge thank you also to Miss Aves who this week has pulled off four festive musical events with great aplomb and festive spirit, whilst showcasing our breadth of musical talent and repertoire.

All the performances had their own sprinkle of Christmas cheer. I certainly went away with a huge smile on my face and warm heart after each one.

As always the performances were live streamed and recorded. They can be found on our [SharePoint](#) and do not forget to follow us on our social media sites:

[chepstowhouseschool](http://chepstowhouseschool)

[chepstowhouseschoolsport](http://chepstowhouseschoolsport)  
[chepstowhouseschoolart](http://chepstowhouseschoolart)

Sadly, at the end of this term Mr Mike will be retiring from his position of Premises Manager and leaving Chepstow House School.

He will be greatly missed as like a stick of rock he has Chepstow running right through him. Every production has had an addition of his artists flair and he is always on hand to help out at any event, decoration of the school and maintaining the school to the highest standard. There is not a wall that has not been painted by him or had one of his works of art adorn it.

Fortunately, we will not be left totally in the lurch as Mike will be handing over his responsibilities to Les.

However, a very talented man will be hard to replace, and I am sure you will join me in thanking him in keeping us safe whilst going above and beyond for the many years, whilst wishing all the best for an easier pace of life.

All that leaves me to say is have a wonderful festive holiday season and I hope that all your family plans manage to come together.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Baw'.

## STARS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>
	<u>Robin</u>	Olivia	For being a wonderful kind friend for all the other Robins.
	<u>Sparrow</u>	Romi	For your beautiful letter formation and excellent effort during guided reading.
	<u>Wren</u>	The Whole Class	For a fantastic nativity performance, you showed such confidence and pizzazz, it really blew us away, we are so proud of you all.
	<u>Pelican</u>	Amir	For his awesome reading in guided reading.
	<u>Puffin</u>	Max	For being a really ambitious writer when doing descriptive writing in literacy.
	<u>Penguin</u>	Kamal	For his positive attitude to learning both in the classroom and in his sessions with Mrs Shrouro.
	<u>Swallow</u>	Luis	For including a variety of openers and impressive verbs in his blizzard story.

	<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>
	<u>Kingfisher</u>	Kit	For your wonderful descriptive paragraph retelling part of 'The Snowman'. You thought carefully about your adjectives and openers, well done!
	<u>Swift</u>	Erin	For a fantastic, emotional retelling of Lily and the Snowman. You used such wonderful sentence openers-keep up the hard work you superstar!
	<u>Woodpecker</u>	Niobe	For making your writing interesting to read and working really hard on your spellings.
	<u>Woodlark</u>	Indah	For her excellent retelling of 'The Unexpected Guest' story. You used excellent vocabulary to make your story exciting!
	<u>Skylark</u>	Bella	For her wonderful voice and enthusiasm during singing rehearsals for the Christmas Carol Concert!
	<u>Tawny Owl</u>	Jack	For his creativity and teamwork skills to create an impressive volcano on Roman Day.
	<u>Snowy Owl</u>	Greta	For impressing everyone with her creativity, teamwork and resilience during Roman day building a wonderful volcano and making a delicious pizza.

	<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>
	<u>Grey Hawk</u>	Amelie	For your great writing about the mysterious door.
	<u>Harrier Hawk</u>	Zoe	For a superb attitude and excellent output in every lesson.
	<u>Golden Eagle</u>	Jude	For his amazing help with the Christmas card workshop.
	<u>Imperial Eagle</u>	Christopher	For his constant improvement in English and resilient determination to succeed.

## SPECIALIST AWARDS

Class	Name	Reason
<u>Sport</u>	Greta (Snowy Owls)	For breaking a CHS school record and scoring an incredible 10 goals in our Y4 netball fixture vs Eaton Square.
<u>Art</u>	Ginny (Pelicans)	For outstanding effort in all your art lessons and winning artwork of the term with your fantastic self-portrait, well done!
<u>French</u>	Viktoria (Snowy Owls)	For completing tasks correctly and quickly and helping others to understand instructions
<u>Music</u>	Shy'm (Tawny Owls)	For her excellent attitude to learning in every music lesson.
<u>Science</u>	Oscar (Woodlarks)	For his fantastic poster presentation on Blood Testing which he made independently

## BEHAVIOUR AWARDS



<u>Responsible Badge</u>	<u>Name of Child</u>
<b><u>Reception</u></b>	
Robin	Safiyya
Sparrow	Hera
Wren	Philip
<b><u>Year 1</u></b>	
Pelican	Loli
Penguin	Riley

Puffin	Hugo
<b><u>Year 2</u></b>	
Kingfisher	Rafi
Swallow	Lila
Swift	Estee
Woodpecker	Camilla
<b><u>Year 3</u></b>	
Skylark	Can
Woodlark	Giacomo
<b><u>Year 4</u></b>	
Snowy Owl	Aran
Tawny Owl	Stella
<b><u>Year 5</u></b>	
Grey Hawk	Bea
Harrier Hawk	Stella
<b><u>Year 6</u></b>	
Golden Eagle	Max
Imperial Eagle	Ocean

## NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

**We have had a fantastic term and it has been so exiting seeing all the extraordinary artwork from all the year groups!**

Reception have worked with collage materials making a selection of mini-beasts from caterpillars made of fabric to painted butterflies



Year 5 have made some spectacular 3D embossed helmets using metal sheets which were inspired by the treasure found at Sutton Hoo



Year 6 have produced some impressive and very skilful chalk and pastel drawings of fruit which explore colour and light

## NEWS FROM SPORTS DEPARTMENT

So we've made it into our final week – what a term it's been. In our last week of term we thought it was only fitting to make our lessons as Christmassy as possible – all in the name of fun.

In all our gymnastics lessons we had a circuit set up (adjusted for the different year groups) where the children could showcase many of the skills they've learnt during this half of term on a rotation in small groups. This included the elusive but hugely popular climbing frame apparatus that spends much of the year folded away into the wall but now has its time to shine. The children have been showcasing their jumps, vaulting, balances as well as their strength and climbing skills on the frame.

In our younger KS1 classes, we've been playing a whole host of Christmas themed games which the children have relished. We've had reindeer races, we've had santas racing on their sleighs, we've had snowball dodging challenges, we've had Christmas shape challenges and many many more.

In our KS2 football and netball we've just done some mini tournaments to finish off the term. The children love anything competitive so a tournament is very much enjoyed by all and they deserve it at the end of term. Plus, it's Christmas.

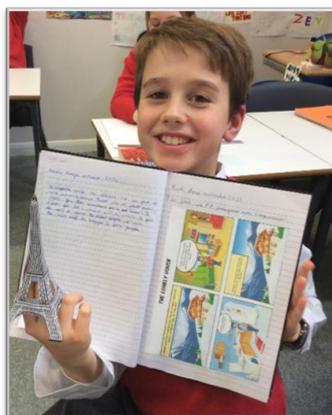


## NEWS FROM FRENCH DEPARTMENT

Year 4, 5 and 6 had fun using Comic Strip Creator on Linguascope (and a bit of Google Translate!) to create short stories for the French scrapbook. Looking forward to more stories... You can also email them to school and I will print them for you if you don't have a printer at home.



In Yr 4, Snowy Owls, Tom wrote about himself, what he likes to do and spending Christmas with his grandmother and Greta talked about her school day and how her favourite time of the year was Christmas (Noël).



In Yr 5, Josephine made up a story about an old lady and a robber, Julian wrote about a holiday in Switzerland and Ben invented Dave who likes football and cycling.

In Yr 6, Lucas started the trend with a story about a boy looking for a game to do by himself and who decides to go for a cycle ride.

Zac imagined a dad and his son in a house in the middle of nowhere.

Zinzi suggested ways to save the planet.

Aleksander wrote about someone shopping to make an apple pie and ending up eating a delicious "tarte aux pommes"!



## NEWS FROM SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

### Festive Engineering!



This week, to celebrate the end of term, Year 5 undertook a very Christmassy STEM challenge... who could make the longest, strongest (and of course, prettiest) paper chain?



Well done to Lea, Zoe and Ella who were our winners!

However it must be said that all chains looked amazing and have transformed Mr Buckley's lab into a winter grotto!

## NEWS FROM MUSIC DEPARTMENT

### **It's a wrap!**

Congratulations to Years 1 to 6 for all their hard work and wonderful Christmas performances. In each event the children rose to the occasion and sang so well. We really enjoyed it and you are all stars, well done! It was a delight to see so many parents at each show as well as those who joined us remotely, online. A special thank you also goes to Les for all his manoeuvring of furniture and to Mike for ensuring the stage area looked beautiful and festive.

We also had Mr Cope make a guest appearance on Thursday to demonstrate the clarinet and saxophone to children in the hall. If anyone is interested in learning either of these instruments, then please speak to the office or Miss Aves to sign up.



Thank you to Dominic (Year 5) who performed *Surprise Symphony* on the piano in Tuesday's assembly.

## LITTLE CHEPSTOW NEWS



Goodness me, our last full week of term. What a wonderful, fun filled term it has been at Little Chepstow! We would be writing pages and pages if we were to recap on all the amazing and exciting things that have happened this autumn.

Let's just tell you about our final week. Well, the nursery has been full of the sounds of festive songs, the floor has had a fine covering of glitter, some cheeky elves have been sneaking into school every night and the smell of cinnamon cookies baking has filled the air. Our trees are sparking away, we have a very busy Christmas Post Office that is keeping nursery hours and the older children are getting so excited about their Christmas performance this week.

We have even heard that Father Christmas might be taking time away from the busy North Pole to visit us next Monday. Fingers crossed this is true! What's that we heard you say? You wish you could be at Little Chepstow too? We know, we are very lucky to have such a wonderful and happy nursery.

Maybe you can come and see us sometime.

Wishing you all a happy and safe festive season from all at LCN.

## RECEPTION NEWS



Reception have gone Christmas mad this week! We wrote letters to Santa, made our very own wrapping paper decorations, wrapped presents, wrote Christmas card and much, much more.

Those pesky elves have also been causing havoc across the three classrooms, playing tricks on the teachers and leaving chocolate treats.



## YEAR 1 NEWS

The Christmas spirit has well and truly arrived in year 1. We had so much fun performing our songs for our Christmas concert. Even though we are getting closer and closer to Christmas that does not mean the work has stopped. In maths we have been looking at positional language and being able to perform turns and follow directions. In literacy we have been developing our understanding of writing letters by writing to Santa Clause. We also had our last swimming lesson and we were treated to a free swim session which was amazing!



## YEAR 2 NEWS



We have had such a great, festive week in Year 2! In Literacy, we have created our own version of The Snowman and have put it together as a class book. We can't wait to show you our work- have a look on Sharepoint to see the finished product- we've definitely got some budding authors! In Maths, we've been working on data and money. We really enjoyed creating graphs to show our favourite part of the Christmas dinner! Our highlight of this week was definitely the Christmas concert. It was so lovely to have our parents back in school to watch us perform and we hope you all enjoyed the songs and dancing as much as we did. It made us really excited to start working on our performance at the end of the Spring term! Have a wonderful Christmas holiday everybody!

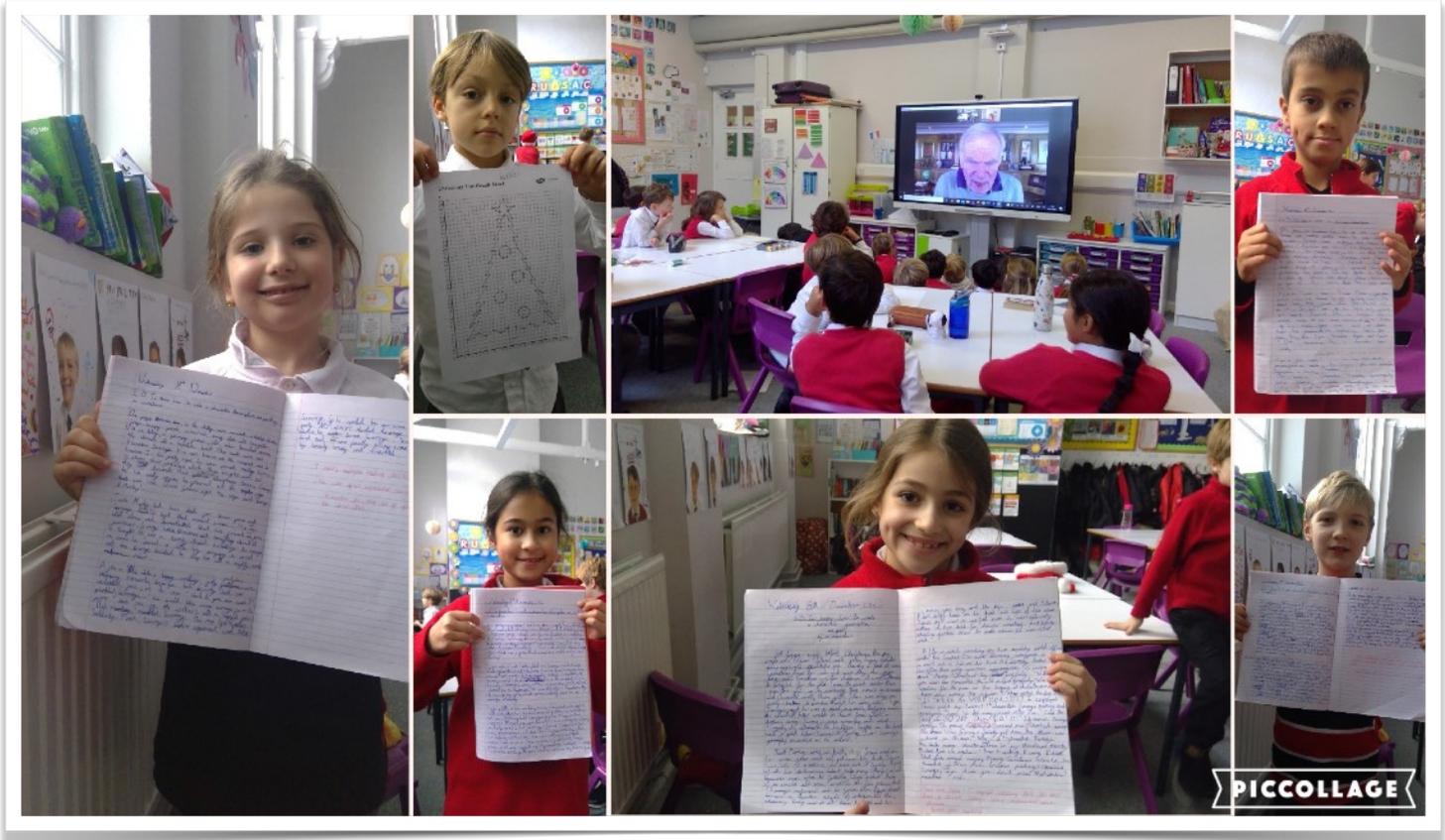
## YEAR 3 NEWS



We have been full of festive cheer this week in year 3! The children performed their Christmas show on Wednesday evening and Miss Lindsay, Miss Matthews and Miss de Souza are so proud of them. Well done, year 3! For DT week this week, year 3 have been researching, designing and creating felt Christmas decorations to hang up around the home. They tried out different stitches to decide which would be most suitable for their creation. Save space on your Christmas tree as these will really brighten up the room! Did you hear that Christmas was nearly cancelled?! The elves had gone on strike and were refusing to go back to work until the year 3 children met their 3 demands: a new uniform, less working hours and time to ride Santa's sleigh. After staging a debate, writing a persuasive letter, creating a new working timetable and finally designing a new, comfortable uniform, the children managed to save the day for children all over the world. A huge happy birthday again to our wonderful teaching assistant Miss Matthews!



## YEAR 4 NEWS



We were so lucky this week to have a Zoom visit from the author Jeffrey Archer who told us all about his version of Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol and the process of being a writer. We learnt about how difficult it would have been for Dickens to write, publish and promote his books at the time.

We also finished our unit of work on Scrooge by writing a character description focussing on using show not tell. We were so proud of our work and our use of descriptive language. We attempted to focus on how Scrooge's actions tell the reader about his personality as well as how he interacts with other people and what they thought about him.

## YEAR 5 NEWS

We have had a lovely week in year 5 and we are so proud of everything the children have achieved. The children have been embracing Christmas with lots of headgear brightening up the classroom. First, the children showed a mature attitude when analysing their recent end of term assessments. We discussed the areas we can be proud of and what we will focus on next.

The Harrier Hawks received a lovely email from the Rugby Portobello Trust about their assembly:

*“I just wanted to drop you a line to say, on behalf of the Rugby Portobello Trust, how very grateful we are for the immensely generous shoebox appeal that Chepstow House School ran for the children at RPT. I was overwhelmed by how beautifully put together your school assembly was and how the staff and children covered the issue of charity so thoughtfully.”*  
Sophie, RPT.

Our main project for the week in the classroom was our Anglo-Saxon DT project. We explored different bag styles and types of stitching. We experimented on pieces of material different types of stitching: running stitch, back stitch, cross stitch and blanket stitch. By the end of the project, we made a bag for an Anglo-Saxon settler to hold their coins.



## YEAR 6 NEWS

The year 6 children proved themselves to be wonderful Christmas helpers during the Stand By Me Card writing afternoon. It was also great to learn more about our international charity when Colin joined us in our class.

