



Chepstow News

Keeping you up to date with school life



Message from Mrs Barr

Dear Parents

Another busy week has seen the Woodlark class perform our first assembly of the New Year. They reminded us about new year resolutions when they started and why we choose them. It was interesting to see how many children had committed to starting afresh as well as the teachers. Hopefully they will form new habits that have impact, although some admitted they had fallen behind already. However, as we always, we need to keep those two words in mind, perseverance, and resilience.

Well done to the year 5 who complemented their bike ability course last week. It was a challenge but an enjoyable one and all the children made great progress in their cycling skills. Hopefully this will see more of them riding to school or to work in the future.

Please remember that you can keep up to date with all the school events and activities via our [website](#), [SharePoint](#) and social media sites: [school](#), [art](#), [sport](#).

Best wishes

SPORTS DIARY DATES

24 th Jan - 28 th Jan			
Monday 24 th Jan	No fixtures		
Tuesday 25 th Jan	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> Y4 Rugby vs Eaton House Venue: Clapham Common (opposite Eaton House School) Leave School: 1:30pm Start Time: 2:15pm Pick Up from Venue: 3:30pm Arrive back at school: 4:30pm (All Y4 Rugby players will play) Kit:https://livealphaplusgroupco.sharepoint.com/sites/CHS/PE/SitePages/KS2-PE-Kit.aspx **Mouthguard is essential Venue: clapham common - Google Maps </td> <td> Y4 Hockey vs Eaton House Venue: Ferndale Centre Leave School: 1:30pm Start Time: 2:15pm Pick Up from Venue: 3:30pm Arrive back at school: 4:30pm (All Y4 Hockey players will play) Kit:https://livealphaplusgroupco.sharepoint.com/sites/CHS/PE/SitePages/KS2-PE-Kit.aspx **Mouthguard and Shinpads are essential Venue: Ferndale Community Sports Centre - Google Maps </td> </tr> </table>	Y4 Rugby vs Eaton House Venue: Clapham Common (opposite Eaton House School) Leave School: 1:30pm Start Time: 2:15pm Pick Up from Venue: 3:30pm Arrive back at school: 4:30pm (All Y4 Rugby players will play) Kit: https://livealphaplusgroupco.sharepoint.com/sites/CHS/PE/SitePages/KS2-PE-Kit.aspx **Mouthguard is essential Venue: clapham common - Google Maps	Y4 Hockey vs Eaton House Venue: Ferndale Centre Leave School: 1:30pm Start Time: 2:15pm Pick Up from Venue: 3:30pm Arrive back at school: 4:30pm (All Y4 Hockey players will play) Kit: https://livealphaplusgroupco.sharepoint.com/sites/CHS/PE/SitePages/KS2-PE-Kit.aspx **Mouthguard and Shinpads are essential Venue: Ferndale Community Sports Centre - Google Maps
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Wednesday 26 th Jan	No fixtures		
Thursday 27 th Jan	No fixtures Morning Swimming: Y2 Afternoon Swimming: Y3 and Y5		
Friday 28 th Jan	No Fixtures Y3 Games- 11am-12pm Y4 Games- 1pm-2pm Y5/6 Games- 2pm-3pm		

STARS OF THE WEEK

	Class	Name	Reason
	<u>Robin</u>	Ruby	For trying so hard in our phonics lessons with great focus!
	<u>Sparrow</u>	Levi	For your fantastic reading in our guided reading sessions.
	<u>Wren</u>	Azmi	For using his phonic knowledge to write a super sentence in his weekend news book.
	<u>Pelican</u>	Verity	For her amazing addition skills.
	<u>Puffin</u>	Zane	Well done for doing such detailed My News in this new term.
	<u>Penguin</u>	Anna	For making such a positive start to life in Penguin class. Well done Anna!

	Class	Name	Reason
	<u>Swallow</u>	Freya	for learning your assembly lines so quickly and using wonderful expression and tone.
	<u>Kingfisher</u>	Noa	For writing a beautiful poem full of interesting alliteration.
	<u>Swift</u>	Lucas	For sharing your wonderful knowledge of capital cities, countries and continents!
	<u>Woodpecker</u>	Sasha	For being so engaged and hard-working during our online lessons.
	<u>Woodlark</u>	Ellie	For always being a good role model to the rest of the class with hard work, maturity and good behaviour. Well done!
	<u>Skylark</u>	Charlie	For making great progress in learning your times tables!

	Class	Name	Reason
	<u>Tawny Owl</u>	Louis	Consistent approach to try his best and go above and beyond in all tasks (in class and homework).
	<u>Snowy Owl</u>	Addie	For always trying her best and being a fantastic member of the Snowy Owl class.
	<u>Grey Hawk</u>	Nicole	For always being a wonderful role model in class and going above and beyond to fill other people's 'buckets'!
	<u>Harrier Hawk</u>	Ben	For a great improvement in his confidence and skills in Bikeability.
	<u>Golden Eagle</u>	Joachim	For his great knowledge and enthusiasm when studying the world of banking.
	<u>Imperial Eagle</u>	Izzy	For his amazing persuasive cereal advert in English and for helping others complete theirs as well.

BEHAVIOUR BADGE

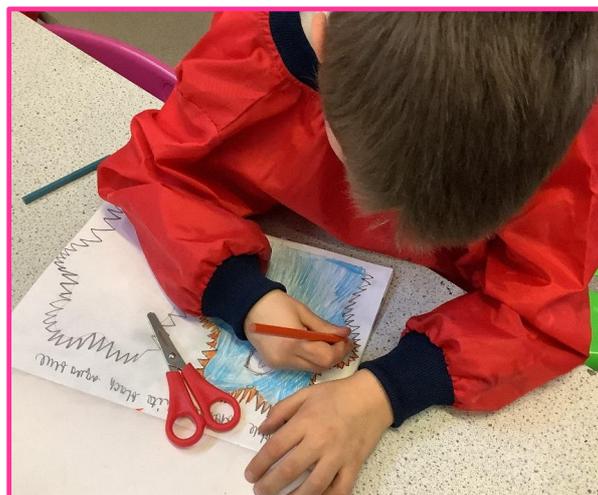
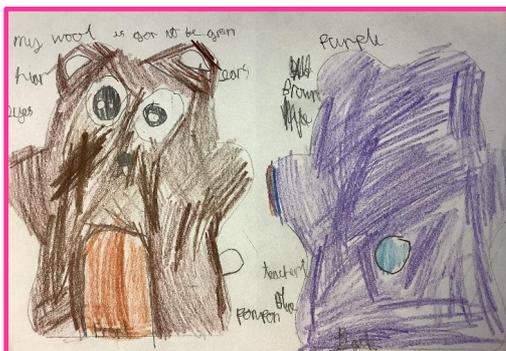


Hardworking Badge	Name of Child
Reception	
Robin	Alex
Sparrow	Olympia
Wren	August
Year 1	
Pelican	Verity
Penguin	Margot
Puffin	Mark
Year 2	
Kingfisher	Lev
Swift	Aria
Swallow	Daya
Woodpecker	Miller
Year 3	
Skylark	Rocco
Woodlark	Leonor
Year 4	
Snowy Owl	Sofia
Tawny Owl	Shy'm
Year 5	
Grey Hawk	Bella
Harrier Hawk	Bentina
Year 6	
Golden Eagle	
Imperial Eagle	Anton

SPECIALIST AWARDS

Class	Name	Reason
<u>Sport</u>	Olympia (Sparrows)	For bringing a fantastic attitude into all her sports lessons.
<u>Art</u>	Harrison (Snowy Owls)	For notable effort in lessons when designing your Roman mosaic.
<u>French</u>	Otis (Snowy Owls) Nate (Tawny Owls)	Otis: For memorising all key words of the Goldilocks story Nate: For a brilliant presentation about Napoleon Bonaparte in the French home pack.
<u>Music</u>	Beatrix (Kingfisher)	For a great start to learning the recorder.
<u>Science</u>	Nour (Skylarks)	For her excellent focus and brilliantly labelled skeleton diagram.

NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT



Year 2 have been thinking about their favourite toys from when they were babies and why toys are so special to us. They will be making their own toys this term and will be learning sewing skills to create their very own hand puppets!

Before we start sewing, they need to think of what they want their puppet to look like, what colours it will be and if they need any additional features such as pompoms, buttons, pipe cleaners, ribbons or extra teeth! They used their sketchbooks to plan out their puppet designs which they will work from next week once the sewing begins.

Keep an eye on the Year 2 Art SharePoint page for updates on their creations.

- Miss Luke



NEWS FROM SPORTS DEPARTMENT

It's week 2 and we're well underway now with this term's sports lessons. We've had some very chilly early morning starts with our hockey and tag rugby clubs, as well as our first swim gala of this term.

In KS1 hockey the children have focused mostly on their individual dribbling skills, learning to keep the ball close to their stick while remembering the correct technique for holding the stick. As our first hockey fixtures are approaching the KS2 hockey players have started to work on their positional play in small sided matches, learning the roles of each position (very similar if not the same as those in football) on the pitch as well as introducing tackling and teamwork skills.



In KS1 tag rugby the children have continued to learn how to use the tags and tag belts in a variety of fun tagging games, while the Y1s and 2s have started to introduce the ball by learning the correct passing technique across their body. The Y3 tag rugby players have continued to work on their passing technique, particularly their accuracy and passing the ball while moving. They've also worked in small groups on the consistency of their passing in order to

maintain possession of the ball in small sided games. In contact rugby the children have continued to work on their tackling technique, both on each other and with the tackling bags. They've also started to work on and be introduced to gameplay techniques, positioning, the main rules and how to apply their skills within a game.

Across all year groups, dodgeball has continued to be a big favourite for a lot of the children. We've found that not only does the sport use/require multiple sporting skills that can be applied to other sports (agility, awareness, hand eye coordination, teamwork skills etc.), but also by introducing new rules each week, the children absolutely love the competitive element and, perhaps unsurprisingly, they very much seem to enjoy throwing balls at their friends. The KS1 classes are starting to introduce the idea of throwing and dodging simultaneously while we've introduced the 'supercatch' rule to the older classes, meaning that any catch made will bring everyone who's out on their team back into the game. It can quite literally be a game-changer and the children have relished this new rule to sometimes dramatic and very entertaining effect.

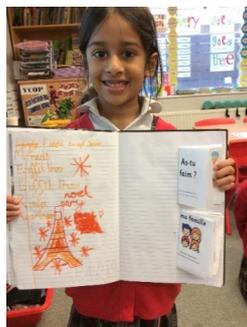
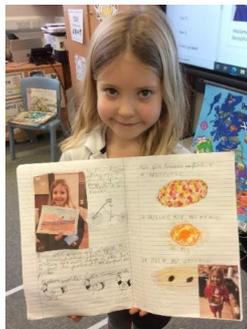
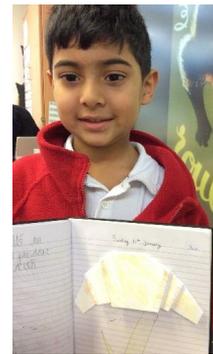


Our swim squad swimmers had their first gala of the term this week against Finton House and put in a fantastic effort on our home ground at Kensington Leisure Centre. Finton House are known for being a very strong swimming school and they came away with the win overall. However, many of the races were very close and even if our Chepstow swimmers were behind, they never gave up and still gave it their all and that's what we absolutely love to see, regardless of results, so a big well done to all our swimmers for doing themselves and the school proud.

NEWS FROM FRENCH DEPARTMENT

Thank you to the children who have enriched French lessons with their personal contributions to the scrapbook. I have been amazed by their creativity. They did plenty of cooking, origami croissants, paper models of Paris monuments, shared photos of their holidays in France, wrote about famous people (a scientist Marie Curie, an army general Napoleon), popular French landmarks, made comic strips using Linguascope, some mini-books and countless drawings of Eiffel towers and flags...

It brings an additional element, often cultural, to language learning which opens up classroom discussions. The children enjoy sharing and showing what they have done at home. Hopefully more Yr 5s and Yr 6s will find a little time in the week for this when they get the French home pack. After all it is once a term at most.



NEWS FROM SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Having fun with skeletons



This term, the Year 3s have been learning all about skeletons. They were first introduced to the names of many different bones (though won't be expected to learn all 206!) before they constructed and labelled their very own skeletons in class.

Mr Buckley has made full use of Indiana Bones, our model skeleton, in the science lab, and the children have loved taking on the challenge of pointing to which bone is which.

After conquering human skeletons, we moved onto animal skeletons! Children learnt that animals can have skeletons either inside or outside of their body, or in the case of Pepper the tortoise, on BOTH the inside and outside! We were amazed to learn that a tortoise's shell is just as sensitive as its skin.



NEWS FROM MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Seasonal Music

Year 4 are learning about Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' this term. They were surprised by the dark and stormy 'summer'. We explored different instruments in the classroom that could reflect the four seasons and composed a short piece of music. Now we are learning a song about global warming and adding a **drone** (*no not the flying thing, but a long held note or repeating note*)



Year 6 are learning about The Blues this term. They have explored some of the origins of the music and are working hard at learning how to play the 12-bar blues.

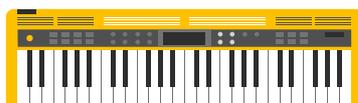


...and I'm feeling blue...

Reception are exploring lots of different instruments. So far, we have looked at and played on shakers, drums and scrapers:



Thank you to Uliana for performing her grade 2 pieces on the piano in Tuesday's assembly.



LITTLE CHEPSTOW NEWS



Pigs, airlines and continents...that has what we have been focusing on in Little Chepstow!

The Dormice have been enjoying the book 'The Three Little Pigs'. They have all made their own little pink pigs and some delicious pink pig cupcakes. It is impressive to hear the children talk about the best materials to build a house with as well as remembering the sequence of the story. Cutting skills are coming along...lets face it, who wouldn't be tempted to try cutting spaghetti into little pieces. (and then of course have a little taste!) J

The Field Mice have had a busy week learning about The Continents and making a big world map to display in their classroom. The sounds of the continent song has filled the air and many of the children know that continents are the "land and the cities and our houses and roads." We have created an

airport role play area and you wouldn't have believed how many flights have taken off and landed at Little Chepstow this week! The inflight service has been impeccable and attentive. Seats a little small and cramped to be honest and poor Miss Whiteside missed her wedding in Sweden when her flight mistakenly landed in South America!! If you fancy a holiday do come and book a flight.

RECEPTION NEWS



What a wonderful week we have had in Reception. On Thursday we had a very special drama workshop where we caught the dinosaur express and flew back 65 million years on a dino- discovery mission! We also learnt a very funny song called 'Dinosaur Noises'.

In literacy we wrote some menus for our dinosaur café. We were sure to include some tasty dishes for the hungry carnivores and herbivores.

YEAR 1 NEWS

We have learnt so much this week in Year 1. In Literacy we had so much fun researching and writing about our class birds. It was so interesting to learn more about their appearances, habitats, and diet. We also got to explore different fun facts. Did you know that Puffins are nicknamed the 'Sea - Parrot'. In maths we have been exploring subtraction in greater depth. It was great to use concrete resources such as counters and number lines for this. We also loved our weekly trip to the local library where we got to see lots of different books. It was so much fun!



YEAR 3 NEWS



This week in year 3, the children learned about the process of mummification in their history lesson. Following the steps carefully, the children mummified their soft toys! The children had to think about what should be buried with their teddies, just as the Egyptians had to do. Did you know that the Egyptians carried out mummification in order to preserve their bodies for the afterlife?

In geography, the children studied the different layers of a tropical rainforest, taking information not only from their teacher but also from their own research on their laptops. The children found that different animals and plants are suited to particular layers of the rainforest depending on their diet and behaviours.

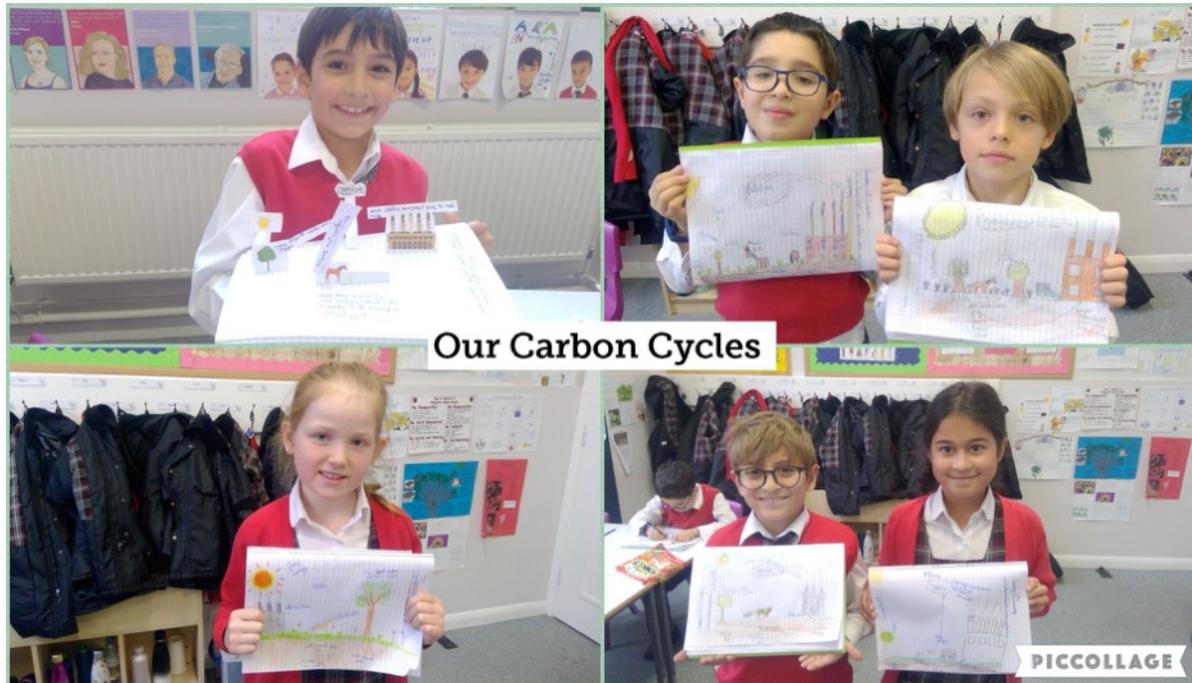


Year 3 have been thinking about what makes a good advertisement in English, studying the features.

Using their findings, the children created two advertisements, one in the form of a poster and another a detailed piece of writing, selling tickets for their new theme park. The teachers were so impressed that they wanted to buy a ticket themselves!



YEAR 4 NEWS



In year 4 this week, we worked on retelling the story of Theseus and the Minotaur. We did a fantastic job using year 4 description using expanded noun phrases, prepositional phrases, adverbial phrases, alliterations, similes and metaphors. We also designed and described mythical beasts ready for us to write our own Greek myths next week.

In maths, we revised subtractions. We learnt mental strategies to solve calculations mentally and learnt how to solve subtractions using decimal numbers.

In Geography, we found out about the carbon cycle and how human activity affects the balance in the atmosphere.

In History, we found out about the correlation between Roman gods and Greek gods and what they were gods and goddesses for. We practised our computing skills by presenting our research on a table.

YEAR 5 NEWS

Year 5 have been studying classic poetry this week. We began with Walter de la Mare's 'The Listeners' and then looked at 'Adlestrop' by Edward Thomas and 'When You Are Old' by William Yeats. The children really impressed us with their thoughtful interpretations and the way they compared and contrasted the three texts. They were able to identify poetic features such as assonance, consonance, hyperbole and spoonerisms.

In History, we began an exciting new topic – Mayan Civilisation. We discussed what we already knew about the Maya people, wrote down questions we would like to investigate this term and evaluated some of their most impressive inventions and discoveries.

On Thursday, we were very fortunate to have Bentina's mum come in to talk to us about her short film, 'Footsteps on the Wind'. The film was about refugees and how people can become refugees as a result of both conflict and climate change. We discussed the symbolism of the film and showed off our super inference skills. You can watch the film by clicking here:

<https://www.footstepsonthewind.com/>



YEAR 6 NEWS



Year 6 have been busy investigating the Bank of England. We have learning about interest rates, inflation and what makes a good investment. With 'Profit and Loss' and 'Supply and Demand' being some of our key vocabulary from this week, we reckon we have inspired some budding future bankers.

In other news, the children really enjoyed learning about the short animation 'Footsteps in the Wind'. Thank you to Betina's mum for enabling us to have this opportunity. It allowed us to think about children who find themselves displaced for a number of reasons. The animation allowed us to put our symbolism skills from 'The Arrival' to good use.

