



Chepstow News

Keeping you up to date with school life



Message from Mrs Barr

Dear Parents

Congratulations to Mr Wilkinson who has welcomed a baby boy into his family this week. All are doing well and are enjoying being back home together.

Mr Wilkinson will be on paternity leave for the next two weeks and I am sure you will join me in wishing him great joy. Fortunately, Mr Mathers, our year 5/6 TA, is covering in the sport department whilst he is away and the Eagles and Hawks have been joined by Mr Richardson for the next two weeks.

Thank you to Miss McNeilis and her team for hosting a morning drop in event on Friday for our new Reception children who will be joining us next September. Great fun was had by all, especially the year 5 and 6 children who kept the little ones busy and enjoyed mingling with the parents. What great ambassadors of the school, thank you.

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

Sport/Fixtures - 31 st Jan-4 th Feb		
Monday 31 st Jan	Y6 Rugby vs NHP Venue: Chiswick Rugby Club Leave School: 1:30pm Start Time: 2:15pm Pick Up from Venue: 3:30pm Arrive back at school: 4:30pm (All Y5&6 Rugby players will play) Kit: https://livealphaplusgroupco.sharepoint.com/sites/CHS/PE/SitePages/KS2-PE-Kit.aspx **Mouthguard is essential** Venue: https://goo.gl/maps/7jWBLxDD8wB9kQd99	Y6 Hockey vs NHP Venue: Linford Christie Stadium Leave School: 1:30pm Start Time: 2:15pm Pick Up from Venue: 3:30pm Arrive back at school: 4:30pm (All Y6 Hockey players will play) Kit: https://livealphaplusgroupco.sharepoint.com/sites/CHS/PE/SitePages/KS2-PE-Kit.aspx **Mouthguard and Shinpads are essential** Venue: https://goo.gl/maps/DjwFowJkWVT79nfj9
Tuesday 1 st Feb	Y3 Tag Rugby vs Norland Place Venue: Avondale Park Leave School: 3:30pm Start Time: 4pm Pick Up from Venue: 5pm Arrive back at school: 5.15pm (All Y3 Tag Rugby players will play) Kit: https://livealphaplusgroupco.sharepoint.com/sites/CHS/PE/SitePages/KS2-PE-Kit.aspx **Mouthguard is essential** Venue: https://goo.gl/maps/fBJadGvbSJRgDYxM6	Y3&4 Hockey Tournament Venue: Ferndale Centre Leave School: 12:30pm Start Time: 1:30pm Pick Up from Venue: 3:15pm Arrive back at school: 4:30pm (Only selected children will play. Parents of those selected have been contacted. Please assume if you haven't been contacted your child isn't playing.) 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
Wednesday 2 nd Feb	No fixtures	
Thursday 3 rd Feb	No fixtures Morning Swimming: Y2 Afternoon Swimming: Y3 and Y5	
Friday 4 th Feb	No Fixtures Y3 Games- 11am-12pm Y4 Games- 1pm-2pm Y5/6 Games- 2pm-3pm	

STARS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>
	<u>Robin</u>	Electra	For settling into the Robins so well and making new friends.
	<u>Sparrow</u>	Leon	For always being so helpful and trying your best at everything.
	<u>Wren</u>	Philip	For his enthusiasm and focus when solving subtraction equations using a giant number line. What a marvellous mathematician!
	<u>Pelican</u>	Ava	For her amazing Weekend News.
	<u>Puffin</u>	Harry	For a very informative report on a Puffin bird in literacy.
	<u>Penguin</u>	Cayetana	For producing a wonderful piece of topic work during our lesson on the United Kingdom.

	<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>
	<u>Swallow</u>	Henriette	For your fantastic rhyming couplets focusing on a wizard in our poetry lesson.
	<u>Kingfisher</u>	Beatrice	For working so hard to master the column addition method in maths. You showed great determination in your working, well done!
	<u>Swift</u>	Theo	For your excellent effort with column addition in Maths.
	<u>Woodpecker</u>	Andrey	For his brilliant rhyming and alliteration.
	<u>Woodlark</u>	Freddie	For his enthusiasm and creativity in his persuasive writing for adverts.
	<u>Skylark</u>	Ellis	For his persuasive advertising poster and his improved attitude towards his learning.
	<u>Tawny Owl</u>	Lara	for excellent research and beautifully presented work on the carbon cycle.

	<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>
	<u>Snowy Owl</u>	Addie	For always trying her best and being a fantastic member of the Snowy Owl class.
	<u>Grey Hawk</u>	Josephine	For your mature, thoughtful and interesting contributions to our picture news discussions.
	<u>Harrier Hawk</u>	Bentina	For a significant amount of work in every lesson.
	<u>Golden Eagle</u>	Max	For his great focus in class and organisational skills.
	<u>Imperial Eagle</u>	Luca	For his consistent hard work across all subjects this week.

SPECIALIST AWARDS

Class	Name	Reason
<u>Sport</u>	Miron (Woodlarks)	For his excellent breaststroke races in the swim gala.
<u>Art</u>	Laetitia (Woodpeckers)	For showing such resilience and perseverance when learning to sew.
<u>French</u>	Mikayil (Robins)	For his faultless counting in French up to 10 and recognising colours.
<u>Music</u>	Ellie and Leonor (Woodlarks)	For their excellent attitude and cooperation in Music, producing a secure performance of 'the tortoise'.
<u>Science</u>	All of the Snowy and Tawny Owls!	For their fantastic focus throughout the Electricity topic and their accurately drawn circuit diagrams.

BEHAVIOUR AWARDS



<u>Respectful Badge</u>	<u>Name of Child</u>
<u>Reception</u>	
Robin	Aaron
Sparrow	Isabella
Wren	Dion
<u>Year 1</u>	
Pelican	Harry
Penguin	Talia
Puffin	Maria-Helena

<u>Year 2</u>	
Kingfisher	Beatrice
Swallow	Louise
Swift	Giada
Woodpecker	Francesca
<u>Year 3</u>	
Skylark	Freyja
Woodlark	Sara
<u>Year 4</u>	
Snowy Owl	Uliana
Tawny Owl	Miriam
<u>Year 5</u>	
Grey Hawk	Layan
Harrier Hawk	Honor
<u>Year 6</u>	
Golden Eagle	
Imperial Eagle	Gabi

NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

Reception have been looking at artists Wassily Kandinsky, Sonia Delaunay and Paul Klee who all explore colours and shapes within their work. They have then produced their own small and large-scale artworks inspired by these colourful masterpieces

Check out the Art SharePoint for more photos!



NEWS FROM SPORTS DEPARTMENT



In KS1 tag rugby they improved on their already exceptional tagging skills whilst trying to develop the evasion element, focusing on moving forward the whole time. Moving forward whilst evading is a key skill in rugby as it allows us to apply more pressure to the defence and get closer to the try line. In the rugby club we worked on our organisation in defence and attack and how the two differ, creating a steep line in attack and a strong flat line in defence.

KS2 saw their first game of the year with the year 4s playing against Eaton House on a bitterly cold Tuesday afternoon. There was great commitment from all involved with some strong tackling and good aggressive running. The boys fell to their opposition with Eaton house winning one and drawing the other. There's definitely space to improve in our structure and our tactical game play. The rest of KS2 will be continuing to develop their knowledge of the game and how we can beat the opposition as a team and not just with individual skill

In KS1 hockey they've started to get the hang of how to hold the stick (tricker than one might think at that age) and have begun to apply it to some passing and dribbling games in pairs or small groups. Safety of course is paramount and we've continued to promote the safe and correct use of the sticks.

We had our first KS2 hockey fixture as well this week with the Y4s also playing a strong and well organised Eaton House. In biting conditions the Chepstow players gave it their all and showed plenty of promise for the rest of their season. It's been a good while since many of them have played properly so all things



considered, it was an encouraging display despite two strong defeats.



Our Y2 swimmers this week have continued to work on the arm elements of both front crawl and backstroke, as well as thinking about their body position in the water. Our Y3s and 5s were re-timed in front crawl and backstroke this week (Y4&6 will be timed after Half Term) in their lessons while our Swim Squadders worked on their endurance racing and their breaststroke head position.

NEWS FROM FRENCH DEPARTMENT

Wednesday 2nd February is "La Chandeleur" also called "la fête des chandelles" or "la fête de la lumière" (Candlemas), is a religious festival in France – a day when people get to eat a lot of crêpes! Before becoming a religious holiday, La Chandeleur stemmed from several pagan traditions celebrating the fertility of the earth and the beginning of the end of winter. This festival isn't, however, exactly like Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday in France is called 'Mardi Gras' and is more associated with eating fatty food. People eat up the 'fat' ahead of fasting for Lent.

Children can bring some pancakes to school to eat and share during their French lesson (plain, no toppings) or take a photo at home eating some!

Email your photos to chsinfo@chepstowhouseschool.co.uk



Why not try these traditional French buckwheat galettes from Brittany (galette de blé noir/sarrasin), perfect for lunch or dinner, much more nourishing and filling than "crêpes"?

NEWS FROM MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Musical Elements

Year 1 are learning about the musical element called 'pitch' this term. In simple terms, pitch means how high or low a note sounds. We have explored changing the pitch of our voices and we have honed our listening skills to identify whether the pitch is high or low, descending or ascending. Year 1 are also learning to play melodic patterns with a small range of pitches on pitched percussion instruments.



Year 2 are learning how to identify specific pitches as they learn how to read notations. So far, we can identify and play three treble clef notes on the recorder.



Thank you to Leonor and Ellie (woodlarks) for performing on the piano in Tuesday's assembly.

Congratulations to Zinzi (Year 6) who gained a merit in her Trinity Grade 2 Drum exam.



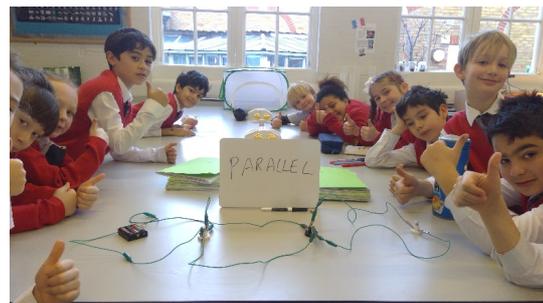
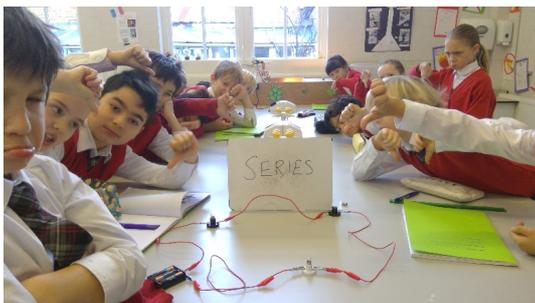
NEWS FROM SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Shockingly good fun in the Electricity topic!



Both the Snowy and Tawny Owls have done a fantastic job getting to grips with using circuit symbols and arranging them correctly to form circuit diagrams. Mr Buckley was so impressed that he awarded both classes Scientist(s) of the Week!

They have loved creating their own human circuits and seeing how energy is passed through them to make the Energy Ball light up and make a noise. Check out the Science SharePoint page for a link to buy one on Amazon!



They really enjoyed learning the differences between series and parallel circuits and produced some excellent explanations on why parallel circuits are preferable for using in Christmas fairy lights.

LITTLE CHEPSTOW NEWS



This week has been jam packed full of learning!

The Field Mice are loving their Space topic and every day, new intergalactic journeys are taking place, and Mission Control is frantically busy! There have been exciting discoveries of aliens and multi coloured planets.

The Dormice have continued with their book, *The Three Little Pigs* and they are learning a pig poem which is going very well. Pigs have been used for size ordering and many big bad wolves have been made.

In addition to all this, we had a wonderful day celebration Burns Night complete with a real piper and drummer who came and played for us. Shortbread and cupcakes with the Scottish flag icing were gobbled up...as you can imagine.

Australia was the topic of conversation as our Australian families marked Australia day with us. We so enjoyed the stories, learning about Australian cities and food that is eaten there. Thank you [?]he children also enjoyed making their own version of Aboriginal art. We have decided that we love wombats and hoppys (kangaroos) and that lamingtons, fairy bread and pavlova is what we would like to have for snack every day.

A huge thank you to all our families who have helped us with these extra activities, your generosity, time and involvement is so appreciated.

RECEPTION NEWS



This week we have learnt all about volcanoes. We started the week by making some amazing volcano collages using tissue paper, glue, glitter and cotton wool. We had the best time becoming volcano seismologists...we put on our safety goggles and conducted an experiment where we created our very own volcanic eruption. We were able to talk about what was happening as the molten magma came to the surface of the volcano and turned into lava!



YEAR 1 NEWS



It's been another busy in year 1!

In maths, the focus this week was on multiplication. We made arrays to show that multiplication is the same as repeated addition and tackled some tricky word problems.

In literacy, we had a go at writing our own non-chronological reports on an animal of our choice. We made sure we used features like headings, bullet points and of course facts in our writing.

During topic, we continued our work on the United Kingdom. We researched the different flags, national symbols and the national dish of each country.

Well done to all of the children in year 1. We are very proud of the progress you are all making.



YEAR 2 NEWS



We have been so busy in Year 2 this week, working hard on lots of exciting things! We have been reading *Katie Morag* and this has formed our focus in both Literacy and Geography. We've written fantastic letters to our new friend Katie, which you can see displayed all around school. In Geography we have been learning all about the Isle of Struay where Katie Morag lives. We have created our own maps of the island and were even lucky enough to have a presentation from Nicholas in Year 4! In Maths, we have been continuing our learning about column subtraction and have worked so hard on improving our knowledge of formal methods. If you need to know anything about Velcro- ask a Year 2! We spent our Science lesson this week independently researching all about the product and presenting back to the class. What superstars!

YEAR 3 NEWS



This week we have been investigating the different layers of the rainforest in geography. We learned some fun facts like 90% of the rainforest animals live in the canopy layer. We particularly liked learning about the plants and animals that live in each layer. Did you know that the emergent layer of the rainforest is home to bird-eating tarantulas? We are looking forward to our trip to Kew Gardens next week where we can experience the rainforest plants and climate in the Palm House but we hope we don't see any bird eating tarantulas!

Linking to our rainforest topic, we have been learning about deforestation and focused on the orangutans that are affected by this. We made posters to make people aware of the dangers and importance of deforestation. We loved learning about the orangutans and writing non-chronological reports on them too!

Our favourite facts included orangutan meaning 'man of the forest' and finding out that they use leaves as umbrellas in the rain.



YEAR 4 NEWS



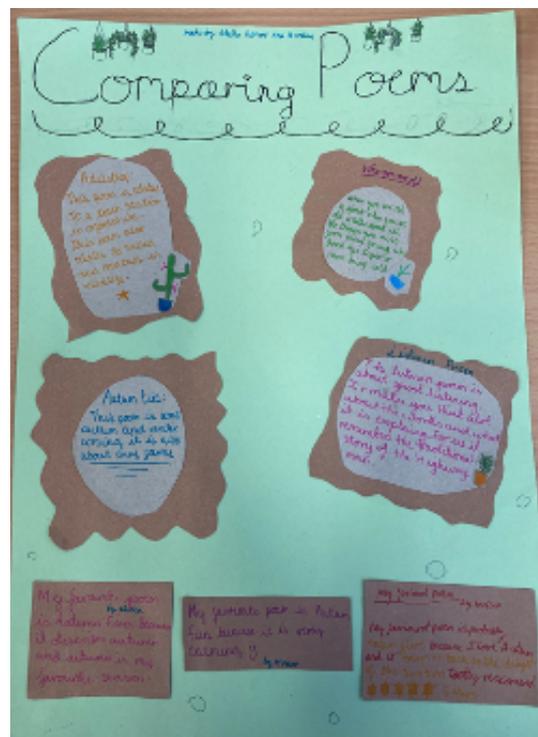
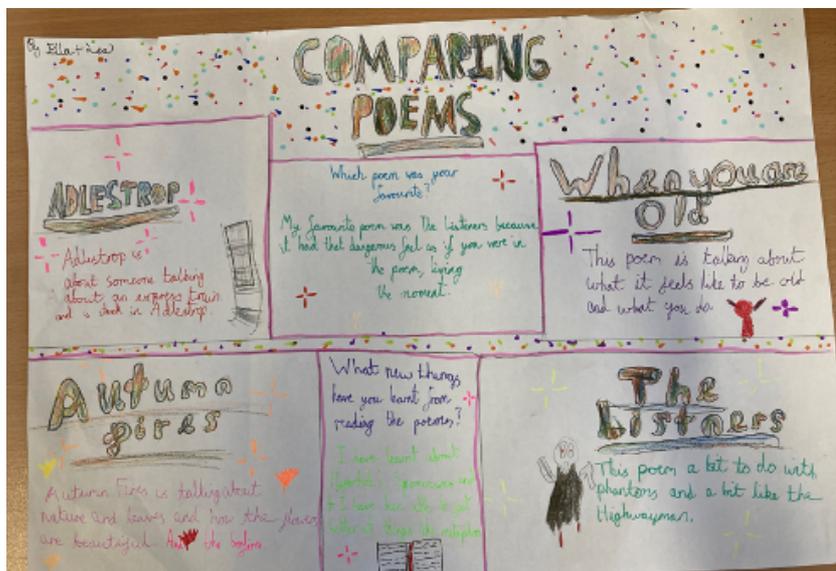
This week we have loved writing our own Greek myths using our word processing skills. After carefully planning our stories, we typed them up and learnt how to edit our work, save documents, recover them, undo and even use the dictation tool. All our myths can be found on our Sharepoint pages. We hope you enjoy reading them.

In Maths, we worked on fractions. We used our understanding of factors to simplify fractions and added and subtracted fractions with denominators which are multiples of each other. We also practised finding fractions of amounts and converting improper fractions to mixed number fractions.

We loved learning about life in Ancient Greece. We found out about the way that women were treated and how artefacts can teach us a lot about the past, even from over 2000 years ago. We designed our own Greek pots depicting life at the time.

In Geography we are starting a project researching and presenting information about the effects of human activity on global warming and animals. We will present our findings in next week.

YEAR 5 NEWS



Year 5 are producing so much work in all our lessons and we are having such a great time. In English, we have been exploring the work of the following poets:

Robert Louis Stevenson, Walter de la Mere, Ronald Stuart Thomas and William Butler Yeats. At the end of the poetry unit, we compared poems from all four poets. Have a look at our comparison posters below. We are now striving to use a range of figurative language in all our work. We know and can use the following: alliteration, onomatopoeia, similes, metaphors, spoonerism, idioms, hyperbole, assonance, consonance and oxymoron.

We had so much fun playing with spoonerism and flipping our names around, have a go at home. Here is how to use spoonerism:

Spoonerisms

A spoonerism is a deliberate error where letters or syllables are switched between words.

Some examples of spoonerisms:

runny **habbit** instead of **bunny rabbit**

belly **jeans** instead of **jelly beans**

flutter **by** instead of **butterfly**

Beeping **Sleuty** instead of **Sleeping Beauty**

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR GUITAR TEACHER!

Our guitar teacher is raising money for mental health charities

For those of you that don't know Ben Aldridge, he is our peripatetic guitar teacher. He's been with us for 11 years and has taught many of the students at Chepstow.

Ben is also a published author and his first book "How to be Comfortable with Being Uncomfortable" came out in 2020. He loves completing challenges and is asking for your support with his latest one:

Dear parents,

I would like to share with you a challenge I'm doing in order to raise money for a variety of mental health charities. Any support would be greatly appreciated.

THE GOAL: To train the body and mind to do 100 consecutive pushups in a row.

WHO: Over 900 men and women from around the world are taking part in the challenge.

WHY: To collectively raise 1 million dollars for three mental health charities for teenagers and young adults.

WHEN: Training is fully underway with a date for all of us to complete the challenge on the 1st of March.

It's been an incredible journey so far and I'm very excited to be working towards this goal. I've never done this before so it's completely new territory for me. I'm definitely out of my comfort zone with this one!

All donations will help to support the great work of these mental health charities.

Thank you so much!

Ben.

PLEASE USE THIS LINK TO DONATE: <https://www.onehundredgreat.com/ben-aldridge>