

## Message from Mrs Barr



Dear Parents

Happy New Year.

What an eventful return to school.

We have had two surprise visits, one from Cookie the dog, who came looking for Harrison and the other our lovely inspection team.

Cookie, certainly had an adventure, walking from home, crossing the Ladbroke Grove Road and managing to sneak in through the school gates and the reception doors. An escape artist in the making. She then enjoyed joining the children in the lunch hall, before being reunited with Harrison. Surely, a story to be told there.

With regards to our visitors, thank you for completing the surveys and for your support during the two days they were with us.

We now just await their compliance report, which could take up to 5 weeks to be prepared. It will then be shared with the school community.

In the meantime, the school has been busy as usual and we look forward to the events that this term brings. Please remember to keep up to date on all school events and activities on our website, SharePoint and social media sites: school, art, sport.

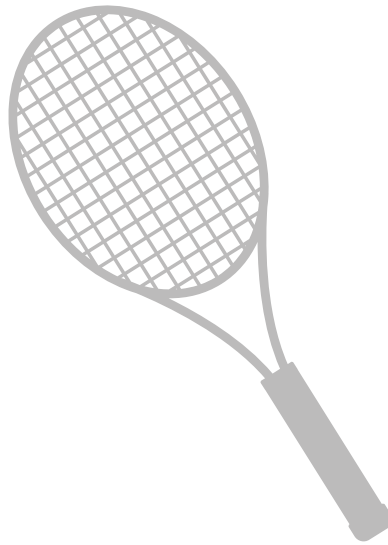
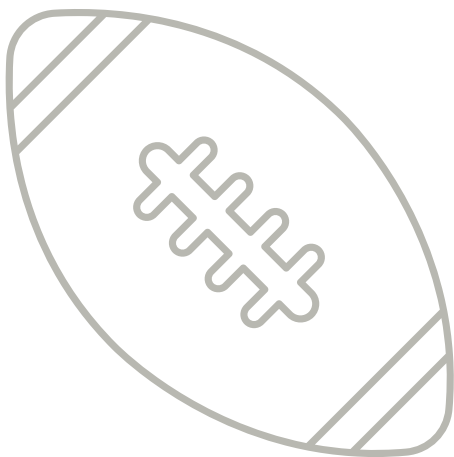
Best wishes

Angela Barr  
Head  
Chepstow House School

# Sport Fixtures

Sport: 16th-20th January







Monday	No Fixtures
Tuesday	No Fixtures 1:30pm-3pm: Y4 Games
Wednesday	No Fixtures
Thursday	No Fixtures 1:30pm-3pm: Y5 and 6 Games  Swimming Morning Swimming: Y1 Afternoon Swimming: Y4
Friday	No Fixtures 1:30pm-3pm: Y3 Games










# Stars of the Week



Class	Name	Reason
Robin 	Alesso Jacobs	For being a pleasure to have in the Robins and always being polite, understanding and kind.
Sparrow 	Deia Lalani	For your amazing handwriting, you have made such excellent progress!
Wren 	Leonardo Munoz	For showing such perseverance when cutting around 2d shapes
Pelican 	Timur Lebedynets	For working so hard over the Christmas holidays to learn all of his high frequency words- keep up the fantastic work!
Puffin 	Electra Valmorbida	For writing a beautifully descriptive Big Write on Friday.
Penguin 	Lily-Rose Muhanna	For focusing so hard on her presentation when writing the Chinese New Year story.

Class	Name	Reason
Swallow 	Harry Amos	For being a credit to the Swallow Class as our School Council representative last term.
Kingfisher 	Riley Chung	For your fantastic independent story writing during Big Write.
Woodpecker 	Musa Aslam	For being so considerate and attentive to his classmates and having a super start to 2023!
Woodlark 	Austin Bienkowski	For his great involvement and animation in our Kung Fu Punctuation!
Shorelark 	Bibi Townsend	For always helping tidy up outside at playtime.
Skylark 	Jude Zelman	For consistent accurate application of suffixes to root words. You follow the rules with great care.

Class	Name	Reason
<p>Tawny Owl</p> 	<p>Alexa Barnes-Withey</p>	<p>For setting a wonderful precedent for behaviour in the Tawny Owl class and for making a superb start to 2023!</p>
<p>Snowy Owl</p> 	<p>Indah Collier</p>	<p>For always arriving to school ready for learning and for beginning 2023 with a fantastic attitude.</p>
<p>Grey Hawk</p> 	<p>Aran Keyhan-Rad</p>	<p>For a super start to the spring term. Keep up the great work!</p>
<p>Harrier Hawk</p> 	<p>Ines le Moine and Veronika Vaksman</p>	<p>For their informative poster on the use of semi colons. A tricky concept that they tackled confidently together.</p>
<p>Golden Eagle</p> 	<p>Bea Anker</p>	<p>For her untiring desire to learn and great attitude to work this week.</p>

# SPECIALIST AWARDS



French	Stella Perfetti	For making interesting and helpful contributions to French lessons.
Music	Noah Simonsen	For always giving 100% in music lessons and singing with enthusiasm in singing assembly
Sport	Sophie Merkl	Making a great start to swimming lessons and showing a great improvement from last year
Drama	Margot Chalmers	For making an excellent and enthusiastic start to her Drama lessons.
Art	Guoran in Woodpeckers	For showing great control working with both wet and dry media when creating an artwork of her favourite toy.



# Art Department

It has been a fabulous start to the term in art and Year 3 have been learning about how people throughout history created art before paint, paintbrushes and canvases were invented. We looked at the history of the Indigenous Australians and Torres Strait Islander peoples' whose art was originally created using natural materials. Mud, water, chalk, or charcoal from the fire could be used to draw and paint with and sticks, twigs, feathers or hands also made perfect tools. We then thought we should try these materials out for ourselves and used as many natural materials as possible (including mud and sticks from the wild area) to have a go at creating some of the signs and symbols found within artworks made by the Indigenous Australians.

Have a look at the Art SharePoint pages for more pictures of our exploration in how to paint without paint!

Have a lovely rest of the week!

- Miss Luke



# Music Department



We have had a fantastic start to the spring term in music! Thank you to our wonderful pianists, Clara, Leo, Maya, Ayesha, Lea and Harper. You all played so beautifully in assembly and should be very proud of your polished performances. The whole school enjoyed singing 'Alice the camel' in assembly. Peri lessons and clubs are back in full swing, and I was delighted to lead our first orchestra rehearsal of the year – we are working hard on some fabulous pieces to entertain you later in the term.



In year 5 we are learning the ukulele. We are working on developing our strumming technique and learning to play new chords and chord sequences while singing some fun songs. In reception we have been exploring the different ways to make sounds on instruments – should we shake, rattle, bang or scrape? We are learning the song "I am the music man" and playing our instruments in time to the music.





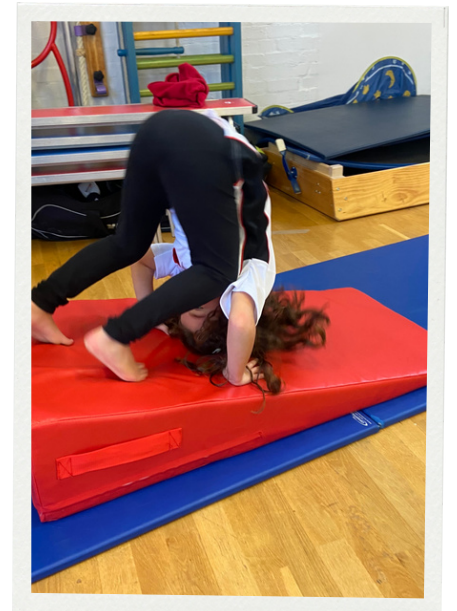
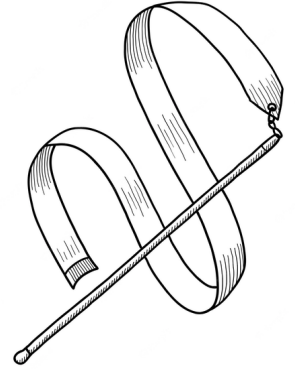
# Sports Department

Welcome back and a happy new year from the sports department! We have now changed sports to hockey, rugby and gymnastics this half term.

In Gymnastics the children have been moving around set stations in a circuit looking at a range of skills within gymnastics. We have been looking at balancing on the beam, jumps off the vault, transferring weight onto the hands in preparation for cartwheels, forward rolls, pencil and egg rolls. We will continue to work on some of these skills and develop the stations to make them more difficult throughout the weeks.

In hockey we have been looking at control of the ball when dribbling, passing and stopping the ball as well as shooting towards goal from inside the D. KS2 children have begun looking at matches and space on the pitch in preparation for their upcoming fixtures over the next few weeks.

In rugby we have been looking at tagging games, putting on our own tag belts securely and how to attach and remove tags within games. The KS2 children have been working on contact rugby, looking at how to safely tackle and recover from a tackle.



# French Department

Last week on 6<sup>th</sup> January was **Epiphany**, a religious tradition celebrating 12 days after Christmas when the 3 kings (wise men) came to bring gifts to Jesus. In France we mark this time with a special cake made with almonds and puff pastry "**La galette des rois**". It has a porcelain charm in it and the person who gets it wears a crown and becomes a king or a queen.



La  
galette  
des rois



6  
janvier



PIC•COLLAGE



Félicitations!



Bravo to Kush (Yr 6), Clara and Vova (Yr 5) for winning Stage 1 of the **national Primary Spelling Bee competition for French** organised by "Routes into Languages". They had to say and translate as many words as possible in one minute (from a list of 40 key words). They are now going through to stage 2 at a regional level.



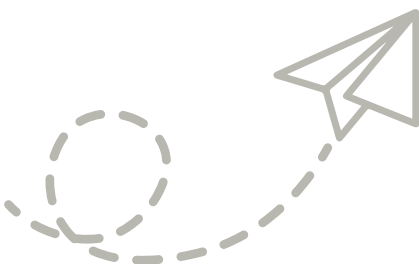
# Little Chepstow

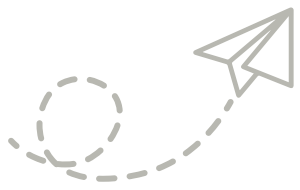
Happy New Year to you all from Little Chepstow. We hope that you had a wonderful festive break.

The children have all returned to nursery full of energy this week and it has been lovely to hear all their exciting news about holidays, presents and time spent with family.

This week both groups have been learning about Winter. The Field Mice have been reading the book 'Jack Frost' and talking about different types of winter weather. This has also included playing with ice and penguins, making marshmallow snow men and super soft cloud dough.

The Dormice have made polar bears and snowflakes. In addition, great fun has been had with parachute and water play. A fun filled sensory start to the new term. We are delighted to welcome some new Dormice children and their families who have joined us this term. We are looking forward to getting to know you. 😊

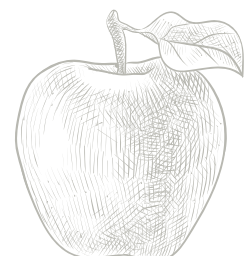
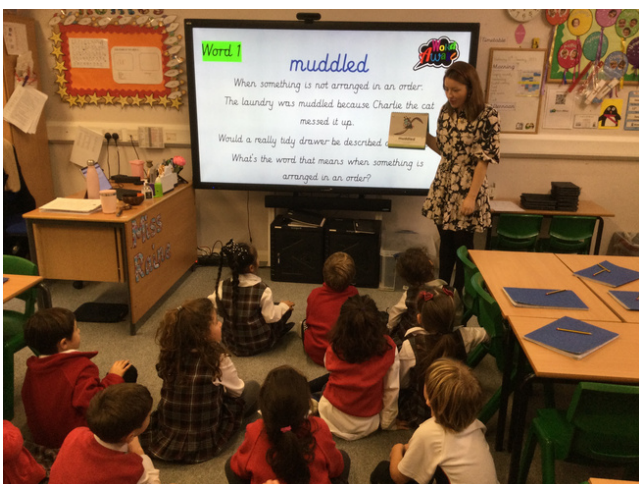




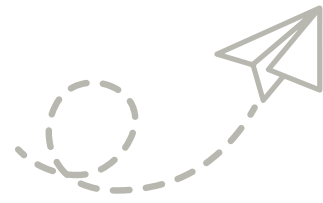
# Year 1

It has been a great full week back here in Year 1. In literacy it has been so interesting learning about sentence structure. We have worked hard at perfecting our capital letters and full stops and we are now experts at unjumbling sentences. In maths, we have loved learning our number bonds. It has also been great to learn addition in greater depth. We thought about different ways in which we can carry out addition and focused particularly on the counting on method.

In science we have been learning about different materials that make up the world around us. While in Geography we have begun our quest in exploring our country. We are really excited to delve deeper into the learning that this term has to offer.



# Year 4

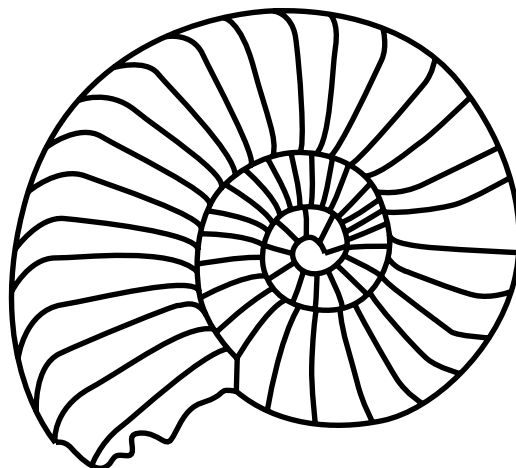
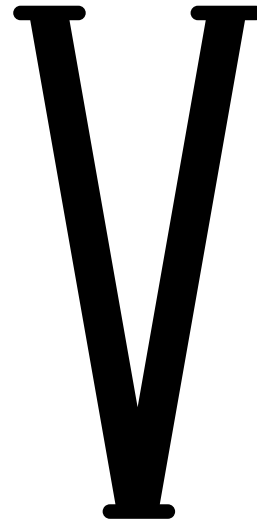


We really got started with our topics this week and loved finding out more about Ancient Greece and its many myths. We learnt about Ancient Greek gods and their fascinating stories as well as very interesting mythical creatures from Greek mythology.

In English, we created comic strips based on Theseus and the Minotaur and really impressed our teachers with our precision and attention to detail.

In maths, we revised place value focussing on place value and Roman numerals.

In geography, we continued learning about climate change and found out a lot about fossil fuels. We learnt new vocabulary such as renewable and non-renewable and were fascinated about the news about the Ozone layer healing. We hope we continue to work hard on making the world a better, less polluted place to live.



# Year 5

In English this week, we have been looking at biographies and our author of the term – Michael Morpurgo. After a fact hunt to find out more about him, we then looked at the features of a biography and created our own pieces of writing about him. Did you know that he used to be a teacher and invent his own stories for the class before becoming an author full time? We’re looking forward to reading one of his books, Kensuke’s Kingdom, starting next week.

Our PictureNews question this week was all about resilience and managing under pressure – which seemed appropriate with the 11+ process looming and a busy week of inspection! We looked over our Zones of Regulation toolkits again and discussed strategies that we have tried and tested over the last month. Our class sensory box has been a big hit and it was interesting to note that different things work for different people because we are all unique. Although we all agreed that we love the weighted neck pillow- someone said it was like wearing a hug!

We’ve started two new topics in geography and history and are looking forward to learning about Alaska and the Mayan Civilisation respectively. We wonder if they might inspire any holidays?!



Some people find squeezing a stress ball or toy can help.

Talk to someone you trust about how you are feeling.

Think about something you like or are looking forward to.

Make sure you get a good night’s sleep.

Write down or make a list of how you are feeling.

Use breathing techniques to help you feel calm.

Take a break and do something you enjoy.

Have a reward for overcoming/facing the stressful situation.

Remind yourself of the things that are really important to you and focus on them.

Exercise.

Squeeze a stress ball or toy.

Writing down how you are feeling and what your stressful situations are can help. Making a list of things you need to do can provide focus and help you prioritise.



**Have you ever used any of these strategies to manage stressful situations?**

**Which do you think would help you? Are there any that you feel would make your situation worse?**

**Can you think of any other strategies you might use?**

# Friends of Chepstow

Happy New Year to everyone!

A new year means new opportunities and we are excited to announce that back by popular demand and even greater inaugural success in 2022, is ♠♣CASINO NIGHT! ♠♦ So please SAVE THE DATE for Thursday 11th May - more details to follow.

On that note, we need your help. A night like this relies on the generosity of Chepstow House parents.

In order to make our silent auction a reality, we are seeking unique and interesting items to auction off. In previous years we've had contributions like a one of a kind piece of art, movie premiere tickets or the very popular, Head for a Day!

And if an in-kind donation isn't possible, monetary donations, large or small, are always greatly appreciated, as well. Alternatively, we are always on the look out for parents or companies that can help provide wine, champagne, flowers, etc for the actual night.

Your contributions will be vital to helping us succeed in planning this year's Casino Night. With your generous donations, we will no doubt reach our goals, in support of St Mary's Children's Fund, Stand By Me, and the Chepstow Bursary.

Please feel free to find this on class list or email us at [Friendsofchepstowhouse@gmail.com](mailto:Friendsofchepstowhouse@gmail.com).

