

Message from Mrs Barr



Dear Parents

With this chilly weather, please do make sure your children layer up. Long sleeve undershirts can be worn under the uniform and a gilet certainly adds warmth underneath the school coat. There are also several types of school beanie hats that can be purchased, either from Perry's or the secondhand uniform shop.

As you know, our ethos is to provide your child with a sustainable and happy journey through their formative school years. It is never easy to negotiate life's ups and downs alongside hormonal changes, 11+ assessments, friendship issues and family dynamics, to name just a few. Therefore, I am delighted to be able to introduce you to Tooled Up.

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

This is an online service that works in partnership with the school, the parents and the staff to provide evidenced based resources that help cultivate resilience and meet the needs of families in an ever changing world. As a school we will be subscribing to Tooled Up and we will be holding a webinar to introduce you to our new initiative. Further information and an invitation to attend this event will be sent out next week.

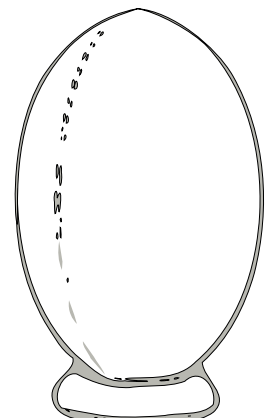
Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to one of our Chepstow parents, for going above and beyond in thinking of our staff's mental well-being. At the start of the term, yoga mats and blocks started appearing at the reception desk and in the gym, all in preparation for yoga sessions that had kindly been organised. The first week was untimely interrupted by our inspection, but this Wednesday saw staff being led into a state of relaxation and contemplation by an incredibly talented yoga teacher sourced and supported by the Chepstow parent. From all accounts it was a very well received and invigorating session, I am now looking forward to joining them next week.

As always, 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

Sport Fixtures

January 23 rd - January 27 th	Fixture Information		
Monday	Y6 Hockey vs NHP (All Children) Venue: Linford Christie Leave School: 1:30pm Return to School: 4pm	Y6 Rugby vs NHP (All Children) Venue: Chiswick Rugby Club Leave School: 1:30pm Return to School: 4pm	Y2 Football Tournament (Selected Children Only) Venue: Powerleague Shephards Bush, W12 7RW Leave School: 1:30pm Return to School: 4pm
Tuesday	Y4 Hockey vs NHP (All Children) Venue: Linford Christie Leave School: 1:30pm Return to School: 4pm	Y4 Rugby vs NHP (All Children) Venue: Chiswick Rugby Club Leave School: 1:30pm Return to School: 4pm	
Wednesday	No Fixtures		
Thursday	Y5 Hockey vs NHP (All Children) Venue: Linford Christie Leave School: 1:30pm Return to School: 4pm	Y5 Rugby vs NHP (All Children) Venue: Chiswick Rugby Club Leave School: 1:30pm Return to School: 4pm	
Friday	Y3 Hockey vs NHP (All Children) Venue: Linford Christie Leave School: 1:30pm Return to School: 4pm	Y3 Rugby vs NHP (All Children) Venue: Linford Christie Leave School: 1:30pm Return to School: 4pm	



Behaviour Badge









Reception	
Robin	Charles
Sparrow	Maia
Wren	Kristian
Year 1	
Pelican	Sophie
Penguin	Cole
Puffin	Alex
Year 2	
Kingfisher	Loli
Swallow	Sasha
Woodpecker	Maria Helena




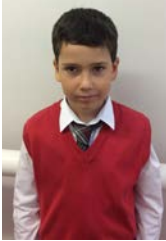


Year 3	
Shorelark	Xanthe
Skylark	Max
Woodlark	Elizabeth
Year 4	
Snowy Owl	Natalia
Tawny Owl	Charlie
Year 5	
Grey Hawk	Martin
Harrier Hawk	Alex
Year 6	
Golden Eagle	Sienna








Stars of the Week



Class	Name	Reason
Robin 	Margot Richard	For your fabulous work on your dinosaur wanted poster, well done for continually challenging yourself!
Sparrow 	Sebastian Stewart	For always being so kind to others – you are such a good role model to your friends!
Wren 	Rumi Krueger	For your super drama skills when stomping like a dinosaur. You were roarsome!
Pelican 	James Xaxiris	For his fantastic sentences using 'ar' words in phonics this week.
Puffin 	Ruby Taggart	For always working so hard and being fantastic at addition last week.
Penguin 	Isabella Fazzuloi-Barilla	For always being so polite and well-mannered.

Class	Name	Reason
Swallow 	Max Wall	For all your extra-curricular efforts in our Geography topic. We have loved sharing in the research you have done at home.
Kingfisher 	Ava Nena Tonchia	For always setting a fantastic example with your amazing attitude to your learning – keep up the great work!
Woodpecker 	Maxim Lisovskiy	For independently writing his explorer poem using alliteration and a variety of adjectives.
Woodlark 	Sam Barzilai	For his amazing work on Canopic Jars in our History lessons on 'Mummification'.
Shorelark 	George Eyerman	For his wonderful input about the mummification process and great illustrations of the process.
Skylark 	Louise Le Moine	For sharing all your superb knowledge about Ancient Egypt with such enthusiasm!

Class	Name	Reason
<p>Tawny Owl</p> 	<p>The Whole Class</p>	<p>To every child in the Tawny Owl class for working hard to meet all the expectations of year 4 and for being good role models to the other children at Chepstow House School.</p>
<p>Snowy Owl</p> 	<p>Theo Phottiou</p>	<p>For participating actively and enthusiastically in all our classes, especially during our English lessons on Theseus and the minotaur last week.</p>
<p>Grey Hawk</p> 	<p>Greta Pagani Guazzugli Bonaiuti</p>	<p>For always being such a kind and caring classmate.</p>
<p>Harrier Hawk</p> 	<p>Nate Bienkowski</p>	<p>For the enthusiasm he shows across all lessons, sharing his general knowledge with others to help them further their understanding.</p>
<p>Golden Eagle</p> 	<p>Hector Wilson</p>	<p>For his enthusiastic participation and wonder about the properties of mobius bands in maths.</p>

SPECIALIST AWARDS



French	Noah Simonsen	For his enthusiastic contributions, remembering the words taught and great singing.
Music	Maya Breaban	For her fantastic djembe tones and rhythms.
Sport	Aria Newman	For making a great start in tag rugby and showing great understanding and awareness in lessons
Drama	Louis Bonavero	Excellent work creating your Charlie and the Chocolate Factory character!
Art	Katerina Phottiou	For her fantastic use of light and colour when exploring the impressionists.



Art Department

Reception have been exploring the colour wheel and learning all about the primary colours: **Red**, **Yellow** and **Blue**! They had a go at painting their own colour wheel before exploring some art by artist Mondrian. His work using only the primary colours so we had a go at doing our own versions of some of his grid paintings!



Science Department

2023 has had an amazing start!

Our spring term began with so much to discover and investigate in our KS2 years!



In year 4, we've been learning about **ELECTRICITY!**

We were able to construct our own circuit and even represent them with circuit diagrams!

We can't wait to see what the rest of the term holds.

Science Department



In year 5, we've been learning all things SPACE!

We now understand how and why we have day and night, years and even seasons!

The pictures here show us making our Sun, Moon, and Earth orbit!

In year 3, we've found out so much about our SKELETON!

Did you know your skeleton helps your body make blood?

These pictures show us investigating our own growth which has helped us love our features even more!



Drama Department

What a busy start we have had in Drama this term!

It has been a pleasure getting to know the new year two and five classes, as well as the Penguins in year one.

The Penguins enjoyed learning the new word alliteration, and were able to identify examples of these. They are looking forward to starting their script work next week of *The Gingerbread Man*.

Year two practised their listening and talking skills about various objects they brought in from home. We all enjoyed learning about various football teams and Harry Potter books, and discussed how our interests make us all unique and special.



Year five also made an excellent start to their *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* scheme of work. Using various Drama techniques such as role on the wall, the children were able to delve deep into the characters feelings and compare the difference between what they showed on the outside verses the inside. This will be beneficial for their own character development over the next few weeks which we are all really looking forward to!



Music Department

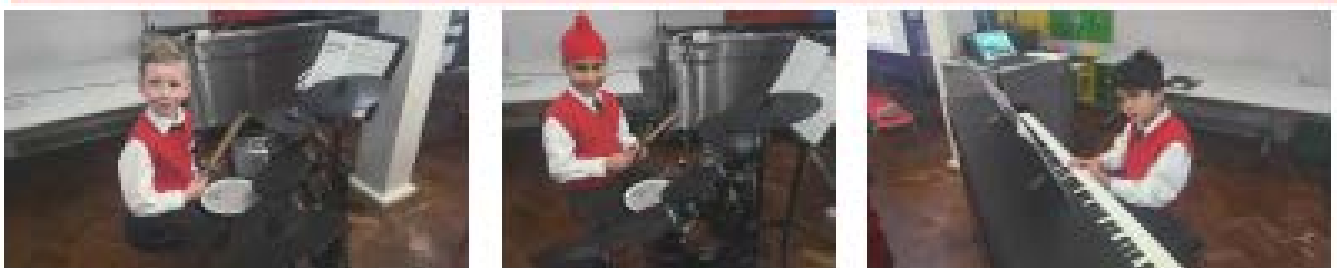
We have had so much fun in music this week! In year 3 we have been learning all about West African music traditions. We have been learning to play different tones on the djembe and listening to master drummer, Mamady Keita. We are learning to play rhythms from "Kuku" a popular piece from the Ivory Coast.



Year 6 have been discovering big band swing style. We watched a recording of the Glen Miller band performing "In the mood", learning about the historical context of the music as well as how to perform swing rhythms. We were exhausted by the energy of the big band musicians, the incredible dance moves, and professionalism of the performances. We learnt about chromatic scales as we performed our own swing style song.



Our fantastic new drum kit has been put straight to good use with amazing assembly star performances from Aekom and Jude. They were joined by Lucas, who performed the Russian Dance beautifully on the piano. Well done all of you!



Sports Department

This week in gymnastics the children have started to develop their core gymnastics skills of balance and co-ordination using the beam and vault to test their balance and landings safely from jumps. Some of the children showing more advanced skills have begun to look at cartwheels on the beam and backwards walkovers using support.

In hockey the children have been looking at correct hold of the hockey stick, moving at a low level and how to do so without hurting the back. The KS1 children have also been looking at the push pass across a variety of distances. The KS2 children have been working on tackling and shooting under pressure during game play.

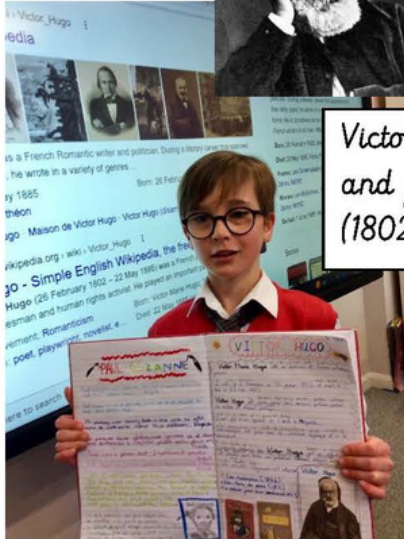
In tag rugby this week the children have been working on tagging and simultaneously defending their own tags in individual games as well as working within small teams to collect tags under pressure. The KS2 children have been working on safe tackles.

Due to the freezing weather and un-safe slippery surfaces outside some of the children also took part in some relaxing yoga stories indoors.



French Department

We've had some wonderful entries in the French scrapbook. They contribute to widen the scope of the French lessons, adding a cultural element to language learning. Thank you to all those who go beyond the Eiffel Tower and the croissant to share something new and different about France and French speaking countries.



Victor Hugo, writer and politician (1802-1885)

Lev, Harrier Hawk



Paul Cezanne, Painter (1839-1906)

Stella, Harrier Hawk



Rebecka, Wrens, made some pancakes at home.



Laure Manaudou, Olympic swimmer (1986-)

Isabella, Harrier Hawk



Lebanon (Le Liban) is a Middle Eastern country where Alex is from. Arabic is the official language but French and English are also widely spoken.

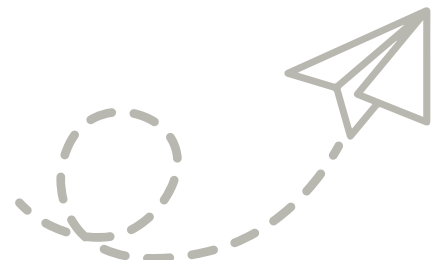
Alex, Puffins

Little Chepstow

It's been a very chilly week at Little Chepstow but that has suited us just fine! Both groups are still learning about Winter and a visit by Jack Frost was just what we needed. The children now know exactly what frost is and how it differs from snow. Much fun has been had in the playground, skating around and 'ski-ing' down the hill. It has also been the perfect weather to enjoy a nice warming hot chocolate outside.

Both groups engaged in winter baking with the Field Mice making special snow flake shaped biscuits and the Dormice, yummy krispy snowballs. Penguins have been freed from ice, polar bears lost in shaving foam and warm colourful bobble hats made out of felt squares.

We also had some children from Rolfes nursery school visit for a playdate. It was lovely to welcome them and to be able to show them our wonderful school.



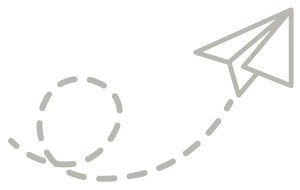
Reception

The reception children have had lots of fun outside this week excavating dinosaur eggs and fossils.

In our creative lesson we made dinosaur silhouettes with a beautifully painted watercolour background. What fabulous artists we have in reception!

In maths the children used the counting on method to answer addition problems. We made a giant number line and took it in turns jumping along it to find the answer.



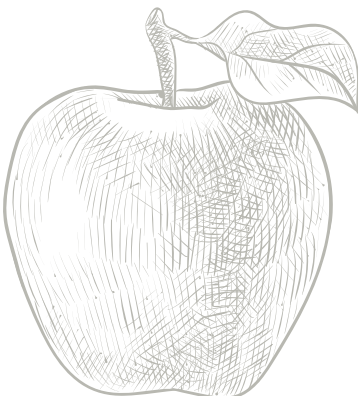


Year 1

As it gets colder outside, year 1 have been working hard this week in their classrooms!
In geography, the children have been able to explore the location and names of the countries that made up the United Kingdom. In maths, we have been practicing subtracting two numbers using a variety of methods.

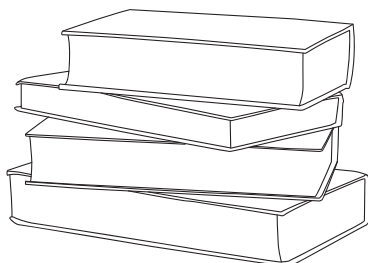
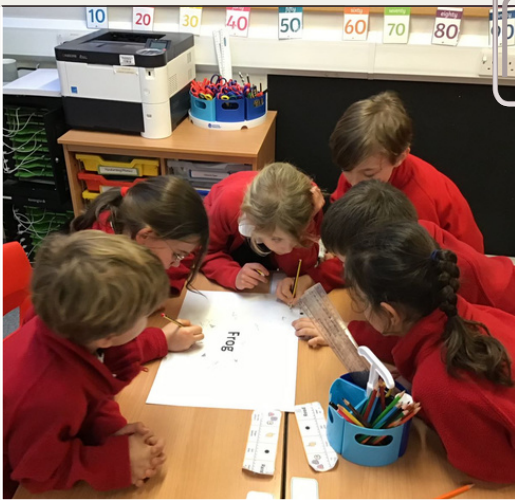
In English, the children have been engrossed in looking at the features of non-chronological reports and researching facts about their class bird to complete their own. Next week, we will begin writing them making sure we use all of the features we have learnt this week.

Finally, we have become scientists this week, creating our own experiment to look at the properties of different materials.

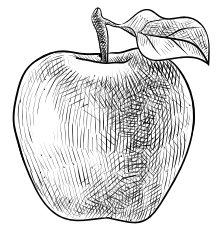


Year 2

We are so happy to be back and in the swing of things! Spring term has been off to a great start, and we know that it will only get better! This week was full of fun hands-on learning. In Geography we learned all about islands, specifically the British Isles. Who knew there were so many small islands around our one big island! We used our atlas skills to name and labelled different islands, learning all about the equator and how some islands are hot, and some are cold! In science we learned about reversible and irreversible change. First, we made our predictions, then we tested to see if melting chocolate, toasting bread, melting ice, and popping popcorn were reversible or irreversible changes! Yum, the smell of popcorn and melted chocolate was a bonus! In literacy we used our rhyming skills to write rhyming poems about ourselves. Our teachers were very impressed with our creativity! Who knew rhyming could be such fun! In maths we are back to learning addition! We are so excited we can show off our previously learned addition skills and grow and develop them even more! In PSHE we learned all about how to be safe when crossing roads and road safety. We know that being safe is very important at Chepstow and that includes when we are outside. We are having so much fun and cannot wait to see what is in store for us next week! We are sure there will be more fun activities and challenges. We can't wait!



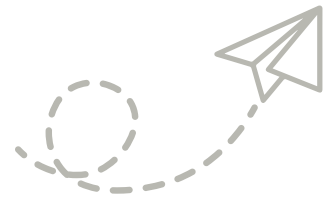
Year 3



An exciting week of learning for Year 3. Firstly, thank you Skylarks to such an entertaining assembly! We are loving our history and geography lessons as we continue to learn all about Egyptians. We discovered so many interesting facts about the River Nile and mummification. How is your general knowledge on the River Nile? Did you know it provided natural salt to help Egyptians with the mummification process? In Geography we are continuing our exciting exploration of tropical rainforests and this week looked at their different canopy layers. We have learnt which animals and vegetation grows in each layer. Maths has been challenging and we are working hard on subtraction which is making us revise column addition and lots of different problems. This week in literacy we have been working on our persuasive skills and have worked on creating advertisements. We can't wait to continue our learning next week!



Year 4

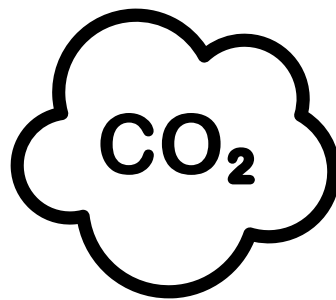
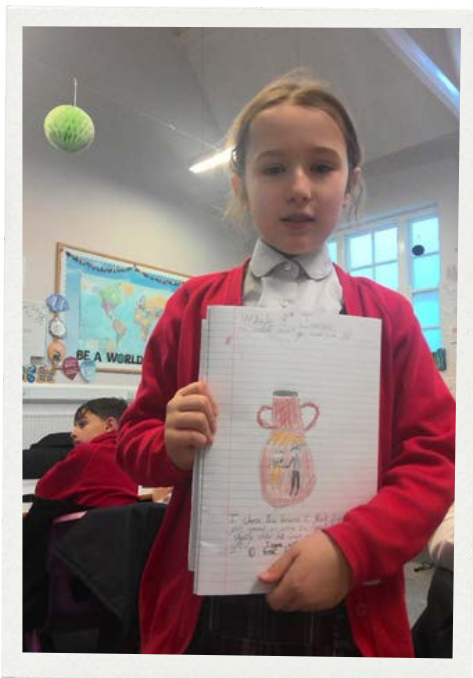


This week we have worked hard on Greek mythology. We analysed the features of the Greek myths we had studied in class and started retelling the story of Theseus and the Minotaur. We are looking forward to writing our own versions of the myths next week.

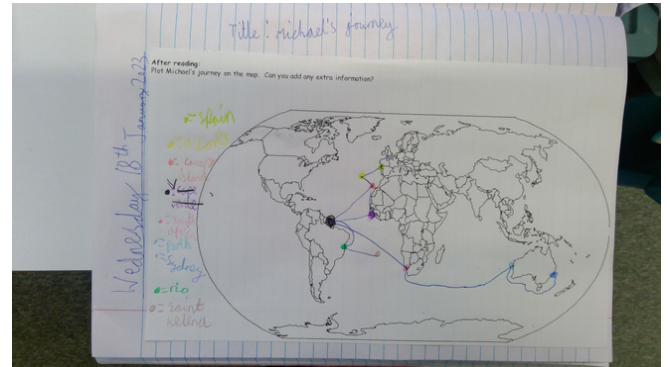
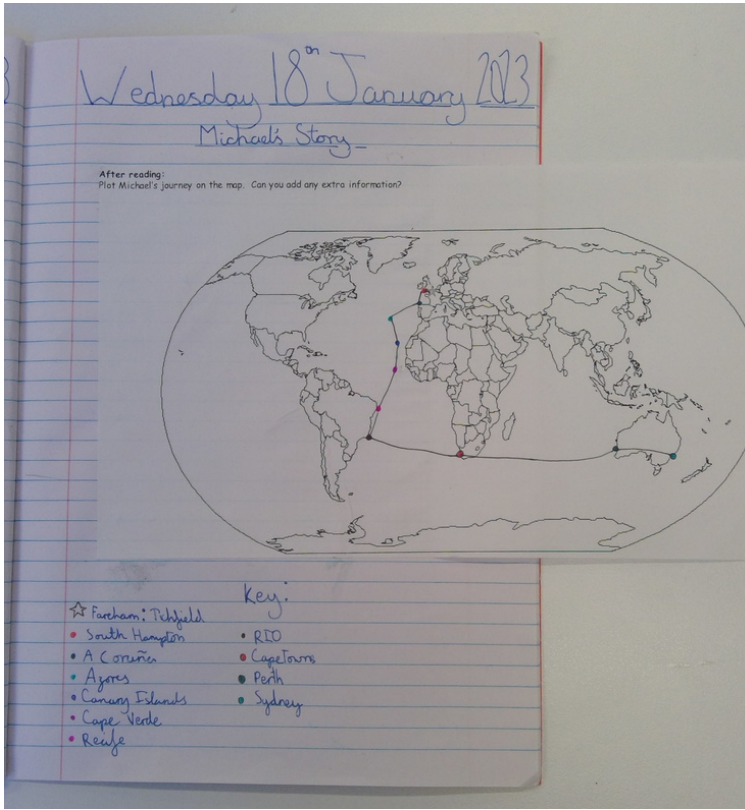
In Geography, we learnt about the carbon cycle and how every living thing is made of carbon.

In maths, we learnt how to add and solve word problems with decimal numbers. We practised using our place value knowledge to set calculations correctly.

In history, we studied Ancient Greek pots and made inferences about daily life at the time. We then designed our own pots with our favourite facts about Greek life.



Year 5



We've loved starting our new book in English this week – Kensuke's Kingdom written by Michael Morpurgo. We listened to the first few chapters and created a graph to show the main character's emotional rollercoaster as his parents lost their jobs and then decided to buy a boat to travel the world. We used laptops and atlases to look up the location of the countries they sailed to on the Peggy Sue and plot them on a map, and we wrote postcards to Michael's friend Eddie to update him on all the exciting sights seen. We were shocked to hear about Michael and Stella being cast overboard at the end of chapter 3 and began our own podcasts to discuss the dramatic events. You can listen to them on our SharePoint pages!

Friends of Chepstow

This week we met with school, who introduced us to Tooled Up, an online database of evidence-based resources for parents and teachers on all aspects of parenting, education and family life. Chepstow House have subscribed to this paying platform, and parents will all be given individual logins to access. We are excited by this initiative and are sure it will help many in our school community. Look out for more info in your Friday emails. Parents will also be invited to an online Tooled Up workshop on Wednesday, 1st February.

On the note of wellbeing and mental health, we are also very thankful for a fellow Chepstow parent who has organised a weekly yoga session open to all teachers. These started this week, and we gather Mrs Barr will be joining the next one!

And finally, with February half-term quickly approaching, we have decided to host a Second Hand Kids Ski Wear Sale at school on the morning of Friday 27th January (exact details to follow). So please do use these next few days to look through your closets and donate any good condition ski items your children may have grown out of, that otherwise may be sent to the recycling dump! We are grateful for anything but no helmets please!

Happy weekend to all!

