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***March 2019***

www.chesnutlodge.net

**CHESNUT LODGE SCHOOL**

*School Newsletter*

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| **Staff changes for the Summer Term**  As many of you will know, Mrs Helliwell is expecting her first child in May and will be taking maternity leave from the beginning of the Summer Term. Mrs Helliwell intends to return to school in the New Year 2020.  Miss Shelley has decided to move on to a new challenge and will be leaving Chesnut Lodge at Easter. We wish her well in her new venture.  Both posts are currently being advertised and replacement teachers will be in place for the beginning of the Summer Term. | Image result for SignalongSignalong  Signalong is the signing system used in school to aid communication. All students are encouraged to learn and use signs so that they can communicate more effectively with their peers. Mrs Jones is planning two Signalong sessions for parents, at school on Tuesday 26th March, the first starting at 1pm and the second at 4pm. Each session will last one hour.  Please contact school if you are interested in attending. | |
| **RRSA**  **(Rights, respecting school award)**  International School Meals Day 14th March 2019 - Italian Theme  World Water Day 22nd March - Water challenges set for the day ( on average a child walks 2.5 miles in Africa and Asia to fetch water) we will be hosting a challenge to see how much water we can gather in a range of containers over a set distance for each class.  Both days link to –  Article 24 *“Every child has the right to best possible health, including good diet and clean water”* | Hello from class P1.  This half term we have been enjoying playing and learning in our toy shop in class.  We’ve been writing shopping lists and using coins to buy toys, we all especially like to be behind the counter in charge of the cash box.  We will soon be planting some French marigold seeds, saved from last year’s flowers, as our enterprise project and will be growing and selling these in the summer term. | |
| Last half term we looked at Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland. We did lots of things for it. We made sculptures and collages. We made the sculptures out of cardboard, making different characters. All the sculptures were displayed in the shopping city. We used the computers for the collages and practiced our computer skills. We read the whole book in class which everyone enjoyed, I really liked the bit when Bill got shot out of the chimney. We also wrote character descriptions about the evil Queen of Hearts, and the polite young Alice. At the end of term, we had a Mad Hatter’s Tea party, where it was always 6 o’clock! For World Book Day, we dressed up as different characters from the story, and made potions, jam tarts, and edited ourselves into a picture of the tea party. We also played croquet which the Queen of hearts won of course.  Jake Noscoe, Secondary 2. Image result for alice in wonderland  Alice in Wonderland (2010) wallpaper called Alice in Wonderland Line Drawings | | |
| WE NEED YOUR HELP!  This year we are fundraising to give our pupils a new, re-designed, long-lasting, multi-purpose **Sensory Garden.** The school council have worked with staff to design a brand new sensory garden. It will feature a range of areas for scientific discovery and investigation, a multi-level road for mobility and wheelchair practise, wind and water and light elements, weird and wonderful seating and planting areas and much, much more.  After a year of planning we are now ready to start some hard-core fundraising for this amazing (but large) project. As well as supporting us in school with coffee mornings and Christmas Fairs we are looking for help from the whole school community with fundraising in any form. Can you help us by…   * *Recommending us to your place of work for charity donations?* * *Taking part in a sponsored event with the school?* * *Holding your own sponsored event (run, dance, bike ride, skydive, bungee jump… anything goes!)?* * *Selling cakes or other treats to family, friends or colleagues?* * *Donating raffle prizes?* * *Sharing school posts online to raise awareness of our fundraising?* * *Signing up to “Easyfundraising” for all of your (and your family and friend’s) online shopping.*   [*https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/chesnutlodgehalton/*](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/chesnutlodgehalton/) *click on “support us”*  Look out for fundraisers in our newsletters, texts and online and help out where you can. Our fantastic sensory room is testament to what we can achieve together for our pupils –let’s do the same again! | | **Sensory Garden Update**  Thank you to everyone who has supported any of our fund raising ventures over the past term. Your support has been very much appreciated.  Our last fundraiser, was the Coffee Morning last week which raised £357.  Our current total is £36,500 and we are currently waiting for responses to a number of grant bids.  For regular updates, check the school website, or follow us on Twitter. |

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| **Whizz Kidz wheelchair mobility**  We have been looking into being able to provide another opportunity for our students who are wheelchair users to practise their wheelchair mobility in a safe space with professional training.  Whizz Kids have voiced that they may be able to support us on this, so we are just trying to find out how many parents might be interested and able to support with this if it were to run as an after school club.  If you are interested, please let Cheryl know in the school office. | Secondary 1 has enjoyed learning about Alice in Wonderland and even got to take part in an Alice in Wonderland inspired world book day. Our favourite part was getting to join the whole of secondary for a tea party.  This term our class have been learning all about instructions. We have been following and writing instructions on how to make lots of tasty recipes, we especially enjoy getting to make and taste these recipes!  Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich royalty-free peanut butter jelly sandwich stock vector art &amp; more images of peanut butter and jelly sandwich | Dates for your diary  **Friday 22nd March 2019**  World Water Day  **Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th April 2019**  Cinderfella – performed by Chesnut Lodge School Inclusive Drama Club and Nursery @ 6.30pm  **Friday 5th April 2019**  School closes for the Easter Break (3pm)  **Tuesday 23rd April 2019**  STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL  **Thursday 2nd May 2019**  School Photographer – please make sure students are looking their best for their annual school photograph!  **Monday 29th April 2019**  Governor planning day 10am – 2pm in the meeting room  **Friday 24th May 2019**  School closes for half term (3pm)  **Monday 3rd June 2019**  STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL  **Tuesday 11th June 2019**  Full Governors’ Meeting 1pm  **Friday 28th June 2019**  Last day for Year 11 students  **Tuesday 2nd July and Friday 5th July 2019**  Swap days – students move to their classes for the next school year  **Friday 19th July 2019**  School closes for the Summer Break (3pm) |
| **Foundation Stage**  Our topic this term is new life which covers the season of Spring, new baby animals and growth.  We have looked at lots of stories about animals and their babies, our favourites being ‘Owl Babies’ and ‘The very hungry caterpillar.’  We have looked at the work of Vincent Van Gogh and his Sunflowers, we have planted sunflowers and have learnt how to take care of them. We have also planted our very own herb garden.  We are very excited for our class trip on the 27th March as we are going to the farm to see and feed lots of animals and their babies! | |
| Recently the nurture group at Chesnut lodge invited their parents/carers in for a visit. The children had previously voted on an activity they would like to share with their parents/carers. The activity chosen was an exciting Science Experiment which involved lots of fizzing. You may have now guessed that the children had chosen to make a volcano using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda. Both the children and parents participated in the experiment with varying rates of success☺.  After all that hard work the children made tea and toast for their parents and showed them some of the exciting things we do in Nurture.  If you would like to try this experiment at home here’s the recipe, Approx. 2 tablespoons of washing up liquid, 2 teaspoons food colouring, 2 tablespoons of bicarbonate of soda mix them all together in a small plastic cup and add the white vinegar and stand back ready for the eruption (remember to always ask an adult to help you).  Image result for smiley face clip art  Clare, Sally and the children from the Nurture Group | | **Wheelchair and Walking Frame Activities**  Greenbank Sports Academy are running a multisport session offering physical activity and socialising opportunities that are fun and enjoyable.  Saturday 11am – 1pm every other week.  Age: 5 – 18 years  Contact: Mark Palmer 0151 280 7757  Siblings - £3 per session  Physically disabled participants – Free!  Image result for wheelchair Image result for walking frame for disabled child |
| **Health Drop In Session**  Karen Sherburn (school nurse) will be holding the next Health Drop In session on Wednesday 27th March in the morning. If you would like to meet with Karen, please phone the school office to arrange a time slot.  **Food industry uncovered – Parent Workshop**  **Flustered by food labels?**  **Baffled by branding?**  **Puzzled by portions?**  You are invited to a workshop in school on Monday 18th March at 9.15am run by the Fit4life team.  The 30 minute workshop will show you some of the tricks used by food manufacturers to convince you to buy and over-eat their products. It will help you to see beyond the front of the packaging and understand the information on the back of the packet to help to see what’s really inside the food we eat.  **www.haltonhealthimprovement.co.uk** | | **Sporting Success!**  Primary 2 & 3 proudly represented Halton at The Primary Panathlon held at Greenbank Sports Academy on the 7th March. The children competed in boccia, relay races, slalom, table tennis, football and were placed third!  Students from Secondary 1 and 3 represented Halton in the Secondary Panathlon challenge at Greenbank Sport Academy on 14th March.  Quotes from the day:  “Excellent day, I did table tennis and football” (Connor)  “I did really well in the table tennis, winning 11 - 7, and in the standing jump covering 111cm” (Lucy)  “Amazing day, as always, you were pushed as far as you could go.” (Declan) |
| **Cinderfella**  Chesnut Lodge School Inclusive Drama Club and Nursery have been busy rehearsing a performance entitled ‘Cinderfella’ which they will be performing on Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th April at 6.30pm in the school hall.  Tickets are £1 each and must be bought in advance.  If you would like to purchase any tickets, please send money into school in an envelope, clearly labelled  F.A.O. Gaynor O’Grady.  Image result for drama | | Primary 3 are enjoying their 'singing in the rain' topic and are reading 'The Tiny Seed' and 'Oliver’s Vegetables'. They have planted their own vegetables and will be looking after them, helping them to grow over the 1/2 term. They are just waiting for some sun!  Fresh vegetables |