

Chilwell Croft Academy NEWS

Autumn 1 2015 – Issue 11



Dear Parents/Carers

We are coming to the end of the first half term and there are lots of good things to mention! Our new members of staff are all settling in well and the childrens' behaviour continues to improve. Our pupils are all enjoying being part of a 'House' system. Our houses are all named after famous Birmingham people; Benjamin Zephaniah the poet, George Cadbury (chocolate!), Denise Lewis, athlete and Lisa Clayton, the first British woman to sail single-handed round the world.

The work we are doing with behaviour is also having a positive impact in attitudes to learning in the classroom.

A big 'thank you' to all those parents and carers who came to parents evening on 6th October. As always it is lovely to see you in school, supporting your child's work and learning. Thank you also for completing our questionnaires, you said some very positive things about the school. Here are a few examples:

"I'm so happy about the school and the teachers. Well done to all of you. Thanks."

"My children are very excited to come to school every day."

"My son is very happy at Chilwell Croft because the teachers are the best."

"I have seen my child progress in this school and he has only been here for one year. I'm glad I chose this school for him. I give credit to the teachers and staff."

Mr Lambert Headteacher

COMMUNITY

Attendance is currently 94.66%

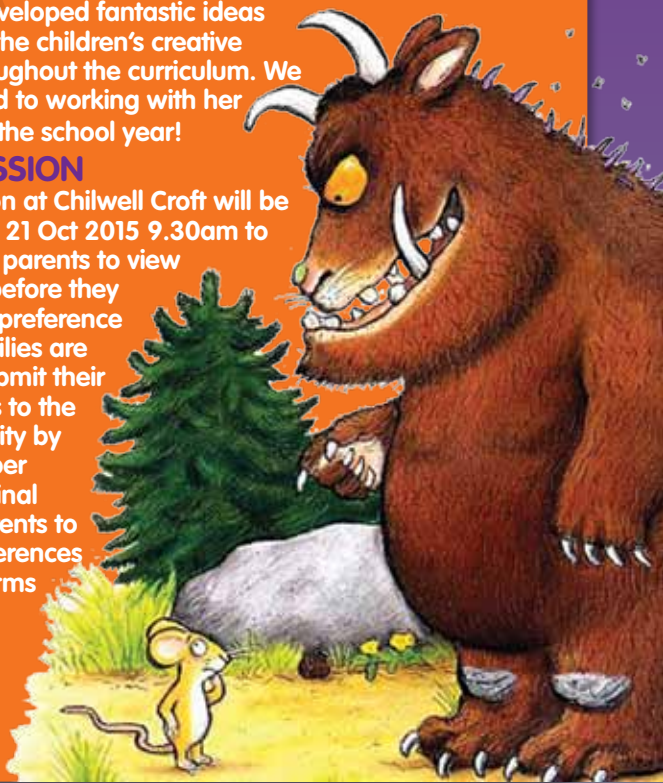
We would like to thank parents for sending your children to school on time and for your continued support.

RECEPTION

It has been fantastic this term meeting all of the new children that have started in Reception. They have settled in well and are now ready to begin their journey through Chilwell Croft Academy. This term we have started our writing and focused on stories such as The Gruffalo and The Hungry Caterpillar. The children have also started to develop their counting and number recognition skills. It has been a pleasure to introduce Jo to our Early Years Team who has developed fantastic ideas to improve the children's creative writing throughout the curriculum. We look forward to working with her throughout the school year!

OPEN SESSION

Open session at Chilwell Croft will be Wednesday 21 Oct 2015 9.30am to 11.30am for parents to view the school before they fill out their preference forms. Families are asked to submit their applications to the local authority by 4th December 2015. The final date for parents to submit preferences online or forms to the Local Authority is 15 January 2016.



Aston Neighbourhood Police Team Twitter: [www.twitter.com/Astonpolice](https://twitter.com/Astonpolice)

If you are a twitter user please consider following us @Astonpolice. We routinely upload information and photographs about what we are doing in the neighbourhood. It is a fantastic way of keeping up to date.

If you require further details, please call 101 ext: 841 6312



YEAR 1

It has been a very exciting half term in Year 1!

ENGLISH

In English, we have been looking at stories from familiar settings. We chose stories by Jill Murphy and we have greatly enjoyed reading her books, like 'Peace at Last' and 'Whatever Next'.

We thought up questions to ask characters and some children were 'hot seated,' where they had to get into role as Baby Bear.

MATHS

In maths we have been learning to measure using different measures like cubes, hand spans and metres. We have used practical equipment to find pairs to make 5 and 10 and we have been adding and subtracting numbers.

We have also learnt about time, thinking about the order of the days of the week and reading and recording o'clock times.

HISTORY

We have enjoyed learning about the Titanic in history.

We learnt about why it sank, compared the cabins of the rich and poor travellers and thought about the emotions of the people on the ship.

SCIENCE

Our science work has been all about animals. We have looked at where animals live, what they eat and how they are similar and different. We visited Ash End Farm and were able to feed and stroke lots of different animals. We also saw a barn owl and some children were very brave, letting it land on their arm!

RE

In RE we thought about asking questions, what sort of questions we can ask and where we can find the answers, being curious and valuing knowledge. We found out that Christians and Muslims get answers to their questions from their Holy Books.



YEAR 2

ENGLISH

In English this half term we have been learning all about Toy Story. We began the unit with some drama, where we acted out different scenes from the story. We have enjoyed writing about the characters and their actions and feelings throughout the story. We have also been describing different settings in the story using exciting vocabulary. At the end of the unit we wrote our own stories with a twist – we created our own toy at the end that helps to save Buzz and Woody!



MATHS

We have been working really hard in Maths this half term! We have been comparing numbers using the greater than less than signs, partitioning numbers into tens and ones, adding 3 one-digit numbers together, measuring using rulers and metre sticks and solving lots of word problems! We have also enjoyed learning our times tables and will continue to practise these throughout the year!

SCIENCE

In Science we have been learning all about living and surviving. We have looked at the life cycles of frogs and butterflies, what animals need to survive and what we need to eat to keep us healthy. We have also planned and conducted our very own investigation into how exercise affects our bodies, particularly our heart rate!



YEAR 3

The children have worked very hard and settled well in year 3.

ENGLISH

In English we have been looking at stories with familiar settings. To inspire the children we looked at Toy Story and used the characters from the film to help create our own story. The children really enjoyed exploring the character, the possible settings for their stories and the mishaps that could occur. The children planned and wrote their own story, placing the characters in exciting adventures.

MATHS

In Maths we have been working on place value of a number and using this to help us add and subtract mentally, practically and by using new written methods. The children have grown more confident with numbers and are willing to attempt to answer even if they are unsure they are right.

SCIENCE

Our Science topic this term has been Animals

including humans. We have focused on healthy eating and food groups including what nutrients foods contain and the affects they have on the human body. Children have enjoyed exploring practical experiments where they have had to compare food packets and investigate the healthiest and unhealthiest drink.

TOPIC

Our topic this term has been the Stone Age. The children seemed to know quite a bit of information about the Stone Age, however were unclear on the major differences between the Stone Age and present day. The children enjoyed extending their knowledge by

watching video clips, looking at artefacts and designing their own tepee.



YEAR 4

In year 4 this half term, we have been studying:

ENGLISH

The children have been learning to write recounts using first person and past tense. They have also been learning to add descriptive vocabulary to their writing. Their recount was based on the true story of a school girl called Dolkar, who has to journey to school along a frozen river.

The children are also learning to write a story that is set in an imaginary world. They have used the film 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' as a starting point for this, to write their own stories based on the same theme.

MATHS

We have been learning how to partition numbers up to 5 and 6 digits and using this knowledge to order numbers, round them to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 and add and subtract using the column method. This has also involved carrying and exchanging digits. The children have then used all of this experience to solve number puzzles.

TOPIC

Our topic this half term has been Ancient Egypt. The

children have really enjoyed learning about the people and customs of this time including gaining knowledge about how the pyramids were built and how mummies were made.

They have also participated in some Ancient Egyptian art lessons with Miss Robinson and Miss Ellis, which were really fun and exciting.



YEAR 5

Year 5 have started the year well!

MATHS

This term children have enjoyed further developing their understanding of place value to help them solve complex problems. They have demonstrated their ability to add and subtract decimals during a recent trip to the local 'Aldi school shop'.

ENGLISH

The children have been very keen to showcase their understanding of persuasive language in a letter to Simba based on the film The Lion King. They have challenged themselves to use alternative synonyms and antonyms to express their emotions in their writing.

SCIENCE

Our scientists have investigated a range of materials by identifying and comparing their properties. They also predicted and tested materials to identify which were conductors and insulators of electricity.



YEAR 6

The teachers in year 6 are very proud and impressed with the start that the children have made to their final year in primary school. They have been working incredibly hard in all areas of the curriculum and are already showing progress in their learning.

MATHS

In maths the children have begun by focusing on place value, number work and problem solving, within English lessons we have designed a spy gadget based on the film 'stormbreaker'; we have then worked together to write a non - chronological report about the gadget with some fantastic results.

TOPIC

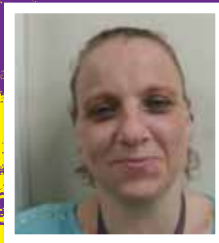
During our topic lessons we have focused on religious stories with meaning to us, in RE, and we have been

studying the Mayans in history. Alongside all of this we have been on 2 exciting trips to Birmingham Nature Centre and West Midlands Safari Park and have been consolidating our understanding of the 5 British values. We are looking forward to a successful year and are encouraged by the start that the children have made.

THE YEAR 6 TEAM



WELCOME NEW STAFF



Karen Rowley
General Assistant



Rahela Begum
Lunchtime
Supervisor



Gulzar Vasta
Reception - Class
Teacher



Razmin Kamali
Year 1 - Class
Teacher



Ruhena Begum
Release & Support
Teacher



Charlie Bayliss
Sports Coach



Kurtis Pottinger
Sports Coach



Anna Marek-Sokoli
Lunchtime
Supervisor



Janna Saif
Lunchtime
Supervisor

PE - BASKETBALL & NETBALL

This week in PE at the end of the lesson 6N took part in a little house tournament playing a basketball/netball hybrid game.

Zephaniah House turned out to be the overall winners earning themselves a house point each.



THE CREDIT UNION

Would you like to join the Credit Union?

The Credit Union welcomes everyone and is a great way for you or your child/ren to save their pocket money. Your money is safe because it is regulated by the FSA and the volunteers who run the Credit Union have to be approved by the FSA. You can save as little or as much as you like. When you join you'll pay an annual membership fee that's not usually more than £2. So why not come along and see Dorothy? She is in school every Thursday morning and will be able to tell you more about the scheme.

TERM DATES 2015-2016

Autumn Term 2015

Half Term: Monday 26 October 2015 – Friday 30 October 2015

Term Ends: Friday 18 December 2015

Spring Term 2016

Teacher Days: Friday 4 December 2015

Please remember children return back to school on Monday 2 November 2015.



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