

# Chilwell Croft Academy

# NEWS



Summer 2015 – Issue 9



## Dear Parents Carers

This half term has seen children from Chilwell Croft have a residential experience for the first time in recent years. 32 Year 4 children went to Woodlands Adventure Centre. They had a great time, having the chance to do various things such as an assault course, zip wire, raft building, canoeing and orienteering. Their behaviour was, of course, excellent! You can read more about it later on in this newsletter.

We are always trying to find different ways of working with parents, families and the community. We are hoping to have a fun day at the end of the Summer term, so look out for the date. In the meantime, please see the message below from Mark James and fellow parents.

**Mr Lambert - Headteacher**

## Friends of Chilwell Croft

Would you like to become part of a new and exciting parent group called 'Friends of Chilwell Croft Academy'?

Friends of Chilwell Croft Academy are a group of parents with common experiences and goals, working with and supporting Chilwell Croft Academy and the community in general.

If you are a parent who would like to join this group on our quest to create associations, strengthen relationships, and develop bonds within the community, please contact the school or one of the following parents:

Mark James, Cecelia Hamzaoui  
Adashia Elliston

*Thank you!*

**All Parents**  
Last week our whole school attendance was 95.11% keep it up!

## RECEPTION

This half term in reception we had a fantastic visit to the Sealife Centre in Birmingham.

Whilst we were there we saw some beautiful fish and an enormous turtle called Malachi.

The children loved the sharks and stingrays too. Back at school we were able to write all about our visit and with Andrew the artist we drew amazing fish pictures.

In maths we have been using language relating to time, and have explored our daily routine. We have started to explore weight and capacity, and are beginning to use language relating to this too.

The children in reception are also working hard on practicing and remembering their High Frequency Words, and are using these in their reading.



## RECEPTION INTAKE SEPTEMBER 2015

The closing date for the return of acceptance slips for Reception Sept 2015 places was 30th April 2015. If you have not returned your slip please do so as soon as possible in order to avoid losing your place. If you have not yet applied for a Reception place in September 2015 please obtain an application form from school or contact School Admissions direct on 0121 303 1888.

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

**In ENGLISH**, we have been looking at Traditional Stories. We have learnt how to use lots of adventurous vocabulary to write setting descriptions, character descriptions and our story of Little Red Riding Hood. We have also enjoyed role play activities to understand and explore the characters of Little Red Riding Hood and the big nasty wolf.



**In MATHS**, we have been learning about measuring weight and length using STANDARD MEASURES (kg, cm and m). We have been learning our times tables and looked at multiples of 2, 5 and 10 which we used to help us solve real life problems. We also looked at money. We had to recognise and know the value of different coins and decide which coins we could use to make different amounts.

We used counting on to help us work out missing number addition and subtraction calculations.

**In TOPIC**, we have been learning about the great life lived by the famous leader, Nelson Mandela. We role played what life was like during Apartheid in South Africa.



**In SCIENCE**, this half term has been all about 'GROWING PLANTS.'

To learn more about what plants need to grow, we visited Park Lane Garden Centre where we saw different types of plants, what they need to grow and survive and how to look after them properly.

**It was a fantastic learning experience!**



# YEAR 2

A massive well done to all the children in Year 2 who have worked extremely hard assessment week!

## Topic

Our focus for this term has been about Rosa Parks - civil rights leader. From this the children have created posters and acted out scenes to understand how she may have felt. Children have enjoyed finding out how things have progressed.

## Science

In science this term, we have been learning about plants. Children have enjoyed identifying and explaining the different functions of the parts of plants and have been finding out about how plants disperse their seeds.

# YEAR 3 Maths

So far this term both sets of maths groups have been focusing on interpreting and presenting data using bar charts, pictograms and tables. The children have enjoyed gathering their own information in a tally chart, based on questions they asked their class mates and then presenting their results into a bar chart.

## English

For the first part of this term, the children have been learning to write their own information texts based on a penguin they had created. The children were fantastic at making up some amazing facts about where their penguin lived and what special qualities it had. As a result of this, their final piece of writing on their unique penguin was excellent! As we move into the second half of the term, the children are learning to write a persuasive letter based on the film 'The Iron Giant'. The children thoroughly enjoyed acting out some scenes from the film.

## Topic

This term the children have been learning about World War 2. They have been very excited about this topic and have been asking lots of relevant and interesting questions. So far the children have learned about the Blitz and what happened during an evacuation. They really enjoyed making their own gas masks too.



# YEAR 4

## English

This half term, in year 4, we have been learning about stories with dilemmas. We have started reading the first Tracy Beaker book as a class and watched the first episode of the television series. The children have found this very interesting and have written some lovely stories.

## Maths

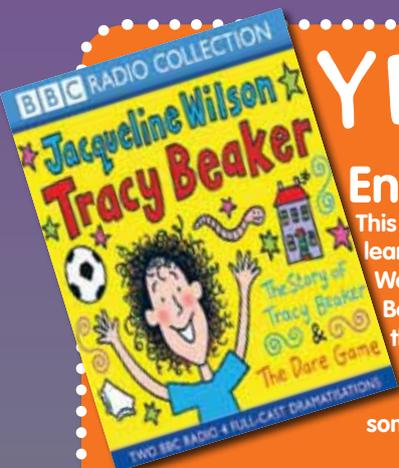
In maths we have been learning how to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. The children have also been learning how to use written methods of addition and subtraction, with some children adding up to 5 digit numbers. The children have been learning to add and subtract money which is helping the children to use decimal points.

## E-safety

The children have taken part in some very important e-safety lessons this half term, which have taught the children how to stay safe online and also how to use the internet appropriately. These lessons have been really fun and the children have a better understanding of how to use the internet safely.

## Residential Trips

Year 4 have been so excited about their trip to the Woodlands centre for their residential trip. They have taken part in raft building, orienteering, ziplining, canoeing and completed an assault course.





# YEAR 5

## English

In English we have been learning about play scripts using the film Shrek as our inspiration. After looking at the purpose, organisation and layout of a play script the children performed role play and improvised dialogue for various scenarios. Through becoming the characters the children realised the importance of stage directions and knowing how to speak a line you are performing. Children planned their own play script for a new Shrek adventure set in Ancient Greece, linked to history. The children have thoroughly enjoyed taking on different roles and using drama to showcase their talents.

## Maths

In Maths, we have been learning about the value of numbers. We have looked at how to convert different units of measurement such as kilometres into metres and grams into kilograms. We have also compared fractions developing the children's ability in explaining which is bigger.

## Science

In science, we have been learning about Earth and Space. As part of this topic we visited the National Space Centre in Leicester to learn more about the Earth and our galaxy. The children loved exploring the site and learnt many new facts which helped them further in their learning and they had the opportunity see a full size rocket.

## Topic

In topic, the children have become researchers and have found out many exciting and amazing facts about Ancient Greece and its legacy. They have investigated artefacts and compared ancient and modern Olympic events and traditions.



# YEAR 6

During the half term the children in Year 6 have been focussing most of their time on preparing for the SATs tests. It has been fantastic to see their continued good humour and enthusiasm during the numerous afternoon, booster and Saturday sessions. During this period, the children have been learning in a variety of ways: through ICT, creating games, baking and supporting each other.

The Year 6 teachers are very proud of their attitude to learning and the way that they have all shown incredible determination to succeed.

Alongside this the children have begun their athletics unit in PE, participating in activities such as sprinting, long jump, triple jump and javelin. During ICT sessions they have started a unit on E-safety where they begin to understand how to become safer members of the online community.

Finally, we are looking forward to our trips to both Drayton Manor and Kingswood activity centre which will be a fitting reward for the consistent high standards of attitude and focus. Well done.



# The Big Hoot at Chilwell Croft Academy

We are delighted that Chilwell Croft Academy is taking part in a Birmingham-wide, public art event called The Big Hoot. The Big Hoot, organised by Wild in Art and Birmingham Children's Hospital, will see over 200 decorated owl and owlet sculptures grace the streets and shopping centres of Birmingham during the summer months.

A whole school competition to design the Chilwell owlet is currently taking place, with the winning entry, selected via a children's secret ballot, due to be announced over the coming weeks. Our artist-in-residence Andrew Tims will work with groups of children to transfer the winning design onto the owlet sculpture.

We will keep you informed of how our owlet develops and of course let you know when The Big Hoot launches across the city.



## ALL PARENTS

Thank you to all parents who continue to support school to help to improve attendance.

Our Attendance Workshop gave parents tips to improve their child's attendance. Thank you for coming.

Promoting Happier Parenting Course finishes on 17th May 2015. If you would like to be considered for the next course contact Miss Young.

Leave in Term Time – Please contact school before booking your holiday in term time.

## SUMMER TERM 2015

Half Term Holiday:  
Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May (1 week)

Monday 1 June to Friday 17 July 2015



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