

A group of children are holding up hand-drawn masks. One mask is black and white with a face, and another is red with a face. They are all smiling and looking at the camera.

# Chilwell Chronicle

## Value - Honesty



Always be  
truthful and  
sincere

## Key Dates:

- Parents Advised of Reception Places - 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- Ramadan - 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022 - 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022
- April Half Term Holidays - 8<sup>th</sup> April - School finishes at 1.30 pm Friday
- Return to School - 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- Cultural Events in School - 27<sup>th</sup> April - 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022 (Children invited to wear clothes that are significant to their heritage)
- Bank Holiday - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022
- School Closed (Local Elections) - 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 (apart from Year 6 for Sat's Boosters.)
- Year 6 Sat's Begins - 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022
- Induction Evening - 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022
- BCC Transition Day (all children experience their new year)- 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear Chilwell Families,

As I look through our newsletter this month it is so lovely to see all of the positive experiences our children have been taking part in. From residential to swimming on site it certainly has been a fun-packed diary for Chilwell Croft!

As we seek to support our pupils to become positive citizens of the future we understand that experiences make up a big part of that education. Staff and pupils are working hard in their classes, and with you at home, to ensure that our children are robust in their primary education. As we move away from the cycle of lockdowns we are supporting our pupils to close the gaps that the pandemic has created. We would like to thank you for your support with reading at home. Reading each day is such a critical thing for developing minds as it opens the door to all other subjects and of course is such a wonderful experience to have. World Book Day is always such a happy time in school and included in this newsletter are some of the images from the day. As we strive to improve our children's start in reading through our phonics programme we are pleased to advise that Chilwell is starting the journey in moving to become a Read Write Inc School with our first whole school training event taking place in May. We will be providing more information soon about how this will support your child's learning and how the scheme will be carried out in school.

This month our school value is Honesty. We have been spending time together as a school and in classes reflecting on how honesty is such an important character trait as we show responsibility for our own actions and support others to do the same. We are supporting our pupils to understand that having honesty can sometimes be hard but is the right choice overall.

It wouldn't be right to write a newsletter this month without mentioning the wonderful swimming pool that we had on site! The corridors were buzzing with excitement as pupils took part and made fantastic progress in building water confidence and reaching swim lengths that we had never anticipated. The visiting swimming instructors had high praise for the determination, manners and resilience that our pupils displayed. Many thanks to the site team, office staff and all who supported our children in this project to enable this to happen we look forward to having the facility back again.

This half term we shall begin distribution of laptops to Chilwell Families to keep permanently do look out for emails regarding workshop dates for your child's year group advising when this will be taking place, many thanks to parents who have provided family views to support this important initiative.

Have an enjoyable break, stay safe.

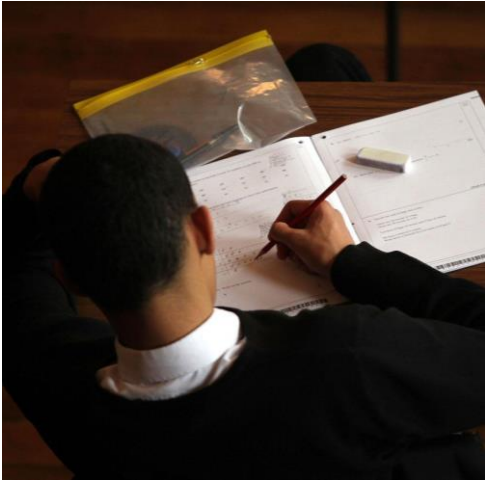
Mrs. Wragg and Chilwell Staff



## Swimming Pool

We were very excited to welcome Elite Sport and their temporary swimming pool to our site this half term. Progress for our children has been amazing during the two weeks with regular time in the pool building children's confidence and seeing many pupils reach good levels of swim lengths. There was a sense of excitement around the building with many children sharing their achievements proudly with staff and others. Both of the swimming instructors complemented the children on their determination and were sad to finish their time with us - we look forward to welcoming them in the future.

## Year 6



Our older pupils in school are working tirelessly to build their skills in preparation for the national tests which they are due to complete the week beginning May 9<sup>th</sup>. Our Saturday school booster classes have begun in earnest and are well attended by pupils who once again are showing their determination to do their best. We know that our children have made good progress, which is always the aim of learning. Thank you to all of the families of our year 6 pupils who are supporting them at home too. Please do speak with our year 6 staff if you have any queries at all regarding these assessments.

## King Edward School - Partnership

We were pleased to be invited to attend the King Edward's School Maths Challenge along with a number of other primary schools. Taking place in the school's impressive main hall our children weren't overwhelmed by their surroundings and fantastically achieved third position ahead of a number of other schools. Superb Mathematicians one and all! We were also delighted with how they represented our school in terms of behaviour and manners - well done to Rahima Moustapha, Mohammed Adem, Sude Naz Buyuksekerci, and Salman Beshir

Additionally, we have also hosted a languages workshop here at Chilwell which our Year 4 children led by teachers and sixth formers from King Edward's School. This was building on our Spanish knowledge - children were encouraged to develop their conversational Spanish role-playing day to day activities such as choosing and ordering items in shops. These opportunities to develop our learning with excellent practitioners is such a fabulous experience for our children and we are happy to have formed this partnership with King Edward's School.



## Shakespeare Week

Last week was a national celebration of all things Shakespeare, culturally a national icon, the rich language of Shakespeare's plays enables us to explore challenging language whilst building understanding of how author's create fantastic texts and plays. As ever our children have challenged themselves and not been put off by what can be very tricky texts. We have linked this to our drama and speaking lessons so children have been able to explore how language can express how we feel and describe the world around us. Also, Shakespeare is a lot of fun! The children have enjoyed creating masks together in key stage one and it has been lovely to hear their explanations of their decisions in choosing how the masks are going to look.



## World Book Day

Always a positive day in school this year was no exception with children and staff choosing their favourite characters to dress up as. But of course all of this fun is really about enjoying a good book and thinking about reading! Ms Akhtar's Reading Café was regularly visited on that day with children choosing different genres that they would not normally pick. With choices such as comedy, science-fiction, horror to name but a few there really was an extensive menu with pupils being tempted to try reading material that they normally wouldn't consider. Guided by our pupil leadership team pupils really enjoyed the opportunity to have a taste of many books.



Chilwell Croft Academy have been part of Nature Friendly Schools which is a ground-breaking project funded by the Department for Education and the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) with support from Natural England.

Since last April 2021, the project has been developing teachers' confidence and ability to drive forward outdoor learning. It has been a fantastic opportunity for our children to get closer to nature benefitting their learning, health and wellbeing, and care and concern for the environment. It is fuelling creativity and a sense of adventure, allowing children to experience the joy that nature can bring.

Pupils in Year 4 are benefitting from at least an hour spent outdoors every week, experiencing wildlife on their doorstep and further afield in new landscapes. Our school grounds are being made greener and we have an enhanced forest school area with equipment for den making and gardening.

As part of the project, Year 4 pupils had an amazing opportunity to attend an overnight residential trip at Preston Montford in Shropshire. The pupils enjoyed exploring outdoor team games, habitats, and activities such as orienteering, pond dipping and campfires. It was a fantastic experience that enabled the children to participate in outdoor adventures as well as learning independent skills of making their own beds and organising their own lunch.



## Red Nose Day

A BIG THANK YOU for your contributions for this wonderful charitable event!

Chilwell Croft raised a wonderful £270.00!!



**RED  
NOSE  
DAY**

## Sports at Chilwell Croft

Children have been involved in a number of tournaments this term including attending activities at Aston Villa Football Club. This term children competed in a dance competition, GOALS football tournament, STEM football competition, Basketball tournament, and Girls Football Tournament. We are always proud of the positive way that our pupils conduct themselves at these events and believe that the benefit of sports events is broad including supporting each other as a team and acknowledging talents in others. Well done to our dance representatives who were placed second at the event, all that hard work in rehearsals definitely paid off!



## Laptops

As a school we are pleased to advise that we shall be distributing a laptop to each family for them to keep and retain for family usage. Families will be contacted by year group to attend school and receive their device. If families still have a school laptop this will need to be returned to be exchanged for a newer model. Guidance will be given on parental locks and privacy controls. These devices will not be managed by school moving forward and we strongly recommend that families ensure safe internet usage by placing suggested controls on. We know that the children enjoy the educational apps used in school and hope that this will support them.

Thank you to the families who attended our Internet Safety workshop in school, this was really informative and helped those who attended to understand how we can support children to engage safely on the internet and how to protect themselves.





## Household Support Fund

The school's pastoral and office team were pleased to be able to support families with the Household Support Fund where 70 families were able to access the Birmingham City Council application.

### Parent Group

We have been pleased to host parents weekly on site to take part in a number of arts and craft activities and enjoy the opportunity to have a cuppa and a chat. Following this initial course parents are now taking part in our English as an additional language course. We are pleased to support these activities on site/ Do contact the office for further information.



We wish everyone who are observing, a Ramadan Mubarak. It is not often that the holiest seasons of Islam, Christianity and Judaism converge closely as they do this year - Passover, Easter and Ramadan.

The convergence of Passover, Easter and Ramadan remind us that we really do belong to each other, that our diversity is part of what makes us, us.