

Chaucer Junior School
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Headteacher - Mrs A. Upton

NEWSLETTER – 15th February 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

We have had a wonderful Term 3 with lots of exciting things taking place in school:

- Y3 have been learning all about natural disasters and have enjoyed making volcanoes and carrying our eruption experiments.
- Mrs Smith and children from Y4 along with parents had a fabulous time at our annual visit to 'Young Voices'. This is a project involving various schools in which the children sing and perform as a mass choir at the Genting Arena Birmingham.
- Class 4LP and 4SW have been working on their Theme 'Playlists were they have been learning about songs through the ages.
- Y5 has been working hard on their Theme 'Star Gazing' and have been writing Tim Peake's biography. Class 5HS have also been looking at homelessness and will be visiting the Arena Hub to help with providing clothing for homeless people.
- Y6 have been learning about World War 2 and the children had a very informative morning with Mr Broadhurst who shared his knowledge.
- As part of our values based curriculum, Chaucer Junior school, has introduced in January and February the value of 'resilience' to our pupils, the ideas of bouncing back from difficulties, as part of this we have looked at resilient celebrities, creating dream boards which include challenges for the pupils to complete in the year ahead. In conjunction with this, every class has had the opportunity to experience a Glow Day: (go learning outdoors in wellies) the children and staff have embraced the challenge of dressing appropriately for the weather and learning outdoors including maths, English, orienteering, a plant picture quiz, coordinates, team building games, bird feeders, creating nature paint brushes and fairy homes. The children have loved being outdoors and have each enjoyed a hot chocolate and biscuit whilst positively glowing in the fresh air. During the afternoon Debbie Stayt (park ranger) has kindly led the children on an exciting scavenger hunt in the grounds of Victoria Park, where they have used natural resources to create a face. The benefits to educating the children outdoors in the fresh air are huge, both physically and mentally. All of the children were positive about Chaucer Junior School's first ever glow days and enjoyed building their own resilience and loved learning in our natural environment.

Raising Aspirations! – When I 'grow up'

Week beginning 25th February 2019 will be the start of a whole school piece of work on Raising Aspirations – When I 'grow up'.

We want to discuss with children what they may wish to do when they are older and also share with children other possible jobs/careers they may not be aware of. Inspire them to dream big but also make them aware of the pathway to that dream job!

We have invited in many different speakers during this period who have a variety of interesting jobs to inspire our pupils. Check out facebook/twitter and the website during the first two weeks after half term to see our exciting and inspiring visitors.

Two other events during this exciting period will be:

1. Friday 8th March in connection with 'World Book Day' – Dress up as the person you would like to be when you are older. This could be a character from a fictional book or autobiography or it could be someone they know who inspires them Mum, Dad or perhaps a coach.
2. Tuesday 19th March at 2.45pm When I 'grow up' showcase – Come in at the end of the day to your child's class so your child can share their new aspirations and fabulous writing produced.

Staff Changes

This term we are saying goodbye to staff and hello to some new ones! Midday supervisors Mrs Tansley and Mrs Titchmarsh have left both left us recently, we would like to thank them both for their contribution and commitment to the school, they will be missed but we wish them the best of luck for the future.

We would like to welcome our new Midday supervisors Mrs Fretwell, Mrs Harker and Mrs Annable on to the Chaucer Team.

Thank you/Congratulations

1. Thank you to everyone who attended a very informative Online Safety Afternoon with Traci Good.
2. We would like to thank everyone who attended our first ever family quiz night last week. It was fantastic to see so many of our families together enjoying the evening and having fun. We would like to thank Miss Stallard for organising this event and the PTA for helping obtain prizes for this event and all the sponsors who donated prizes. Thank you for your support.
3. Once again thank you to parent/carers who have given up their time, to walk with or help in any way with the various activities throughout this term.

Diary Dates

Mon 25 th – Fri 1 st March	-	Aspirations Week
Thursday 28 th February	-	Y3 Animal Magic
Tuesday 5 th March	-	Themed Lunch Menu – Pancake Day
Friday 8 th March	-	World Book Day dress up day 'When I Grow Up'
Monday 11th March	-	INSET DAY
Tuesday 19 th March	-	When I grow up Writing Showcase afternoon for Parent/carer 2.45pm
Thursday 14 th March	-	Lego Learn Y3 Parents (information to follow)
Thursday 4 th April	-	Maths Open Classroom (information to follow)
Tuesday 9 th April	-	Chaucer Bake Off (information to follow)
Thursday 2nd May	-	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN (Polling Station)
Friday 3 rd May	-	Y5 visit to Alton Towers (information to follow)

Term Dates

Term	Start	Finish
Term 4	25 th February 2019	12 th April 2019
Term 5	29 th April 2019	24 th May 2019
Term 6	3 rd June 2019	22 nd July 2019

Inset Days

Monday	-	11 th March 2019
Friday	-	24 th May 2019
Monday	-	22 nd July 2019

Polling Station Thursday 2nd May 2019

Bank Holiday Monday 6th May 2019

Year 6 SAT's Monday 13th May - Friday 17th May 2019

Year 3/4/5 - Assessment Week Monday 17th June - Friday 21st June 2019

Yours sincerely

A.Upton
Headteacher

