



A word from Mrs Majcher:

Welcome to our new monthly newsletter.

I would like to begin by saying how welcome the whole school community has made me feel since my arrival in January. It has been great getting to know the children and yourselves at the gates, both in the morning and afternoon. Cheddington School is such a lovely building and set in beautiful grounds, it is a pleasure to arrive every morning. And then there are the trains ...

In this newsletter, I have set out a lot of information as I wanted to let you know about the numerous aspects of school life this term. There is a lot to read but I hope it is useful for you to know so that you can talk to your children about it.

Young Voices



The school choir recently attended Young Voices on 13th January at the Birmingham Resorts World Arena. It was a great success and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Please see some wonderful feedback below that we received:

Young Voices was an amazing experience. I had the time of my life! Everyone there was very kind, friendly and passionate about singing. My favourite part was when Heather Small from M People came on singing 'Proud' and 'Moving on Up'. She asked the choir, "Have you made yourselves proud?" We went wild! Also, Urban Strides Interactive and the BeatBox Collective came on to dance and beatbox to loads of songs. Urban Strides danced with Andy, our virtual dance coach. The BeatBox Collective were amazing. The sounds they can make are phenomenal. We each had a torch and a young voices T-shirt. In between songs, we waved our torch around. We had a big banner representing Cheddington School. I am one hundred percent going to do it again. Thank you, Miss Pughe, Mrs Poulson and Mrs Hopper.



Daily Assemblies

On Mondays we begin our week by focussing on learning and celebrating our new Learners of the Week. These are children who have really impressed their teachers and are given medals to wear for the week. We are currently awaiting the arrival of our bespoke medals. Head Teacher Awards are also handed out to deserving classes for their excellent behaviour around the school. We have just started our Apple Pie Attendance Award to boost our school attendance. Every time all the children are in for morning registration, then a slice of apple is coloured in. When the pie is complete, the children are rewarded with a free dress down day. The value leaves are also given out.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays are key stage assemblies and Thursdays are singing assemblies.

Our Friday assemblies are class assemblies at 2.40pm, with our special Bronze Apple Certificates being given out as soon as they have been earned! The apples are awarded for super learning, behaviour and any other ways that the children have impressed their teacher/adult. When 20 apples are collected, then a Bronze Apple Certificate is awarded. Parents and carers of the class in question are warmly invited to join us. A reminder of this term's assemblies can be found here.

Every half term we will have a special Good Learning Assembly which will celebrate the good learning happening in every class. The display boards are ready and waiting for the learning. I would like to thank Mr Frankum for putting and covering the boards up for me so promptly. The children whose learning has been selected will each receive a Good Learning Certificate.

Assemblies with Reverend Howard Robson and Reverend Andrew Krauss

In an effort to widen the children's experience and work within our local community, we have reached out to Reverend Robson and Reverend Krauss, who were very happy to take an assembly for us on a monthly basis here at school. Our first assembly this term will be on Wednesday 8th March. We will also be going to the church for an Easter service as usual on Thursday 30th March.

Our Front Entrance

This is currently undergoing a little makeover. The recycling boxes have been moved, so if you bring in any items to be recycled then please hand them over to the office. We are unable to accept batteries and pens as currently we are struggling to find a suitable recycling facility. A display board will be put up celebrating children's learning. The trophy cabinets have been moved in so all visitors can witness our successes. A lick of paint will also refresh the walls. If anyone has any unwanted houseplants they would be very welcome.

Book Donations

Thank you to all who have kindly donated reading library books to the school. We are now at full capacity and so will not be accepting donations until further notice

Break and Lunchtimes

At the end of each break the children are no longer lining up and being led back into school by their teachers. Following the second whistle the children are asked to walk back to their classrooms where their teachers are waiting. This saves us approximately 15 minutes a day and therefore lengthens our learning time. We are currently looking into making our lunchtime procedures more efficient also.

High Viz Jackets

We are awaiting the arrival of our bespoke Hi-Viz jackets. Staff will be wearing these jackets every time they are outside with the children. This ensures that staff can be easily seen by both the children and any adults.

Curriculum Newsletters

We hope you enjoyed reading what your child/ren will be learning this term. These newsletters are written by the teachers on a termly basis to give you as much insight as possible into what your child/ren will be learning and how you can further support them. A copy will also be available to download on the class VLE.

School website

We are currently looking into revamping our website. Watch this space!

School Uniform

Please ensure that children wear black trainers to school.

A gentle reminder that earrings must be small studs only, which must be covered up with tape for PE lessons. If possible, it would be even safer if earrings were not worn to school.

A New Reading Scheme

I am very excited to announce the arrival of Collins Big Cat reading scheme to our school. Reading is the key to all skills taught. This will make a great difference to the children's reading as we have purchased the complete scheme, which means there will be continuity and progression throughout the school.



Please be patient with us as we stamp, cover, categorise and store the books. Staff will also undergo training before the children are given a book to read. There will also be parents meetings to discuss how to help your child with their reading. The dates for these will be communicated soon. These books are designed to be read with an adult. Children will continue to have access to class and school library books as before. I would like to say a sincere thank you to the PTA who have very kindly agreed to co-fund the scheme with us.

A New Handwriting Scheme

All children have been introduced to a new simple joined up handwriting scheme. I have modelled the teaching of handwriting to Years 1 to 6. These lessons will be daily with a focussed study of a handwriting pattern at a time. Handwriting is an essential skill required at all levels in life and should be taught directly in the primary stage.

Stay Safe on Line

We have been alerted to some children having access to apps which are not designed for their age range. Keeping children safe online is essential so to help you please go to nationalonlinesafety.com which discusses the many apps which are available.

PTA

The PTA will be holding a Valentine's Cake Sale on Wednesday 8th February at 3.15pm in the School Hall. Please find a poster attached for more information – the cakes are 50p each. All donations are welcome. Uniform (new and preloved) will also be sold at the event as well as lost property being out, so please come and have a look.

If you still have any Christmas jumpers at home that your children have outgrown, the PTA are collecting them again this year. Simply drop any donations into the school office, then we'll store them ready to sell in the run up to Christmas 2023.

Drumming Lessons

Our drumming teacher Marc Danecker has advised that he has a couple of spaces available both 20 or 30 minute sessions if anyone would be interested in learning drumming. He can also offer joint lessons if 2 friends were interested in learning together. If you're interested or would like more information, please feel free to contact Marc on 07884437038 or email info@mdmusiclab.co.uk.

Dates for your Diary

3rd February: Y5 Class Assembly at 2.40pm

10th February: YR Class Assembly at 2.40pm

3rd March: Y4 Class Assembly at 2.40pm

10th March: Y3 Class Assembly at 2.40pm

13th March: PTA Uniform Sale in the School Hall from 2.45pm.

17th March: Y2 Class Assembly at 2.40pm

24th March: Y1 Class Assembly at 2.40pm

30th March: School Easter Service at St Giles Church

31st March: School closes at 1.30pm for Easter

18th April: School reopens for summer term

* Please note that for the class assemblies, you will need to arrive via the front entrance by the school office. Due to limited space, please can we ask that only a maximum of two adults per family attend.

Thank you for your support and patience.

Mrs Majcher and Staff



Join us for a
**Valentine's
Cake Sale**

**Wednesday 8th February
3.15pm
School Hall**

**Donations gratefully
received via School Office**

**No nuts please, donations
in named containers**

All items 50p each

See you there!

