



CHURCHFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mrs. D Beardsmore BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. C Pattison BA (Hons)

"Be the best you can be"

Part of the Collective Vision Multi-Academy Trust

24th September 2023

I hope you are all having a good weekend. I have travelled to Lancashire to celebrate my father-in-law's 80th birthday – it is always lovely to catch up with family.

Last week, we took part in National Fitness Day arranged by Mr Sinclair. It was a fantastic day and all children got involved in the fitness activities – some staff too. A big thank you to Mr Sinclair for organising and to the children for giving the activities 100%. (Pictures will appear on the website – www.churchfields-chesterton.staffs.sch.uk)

I am sad to say that we have said goodbye to Mrs Woodcock, one of our fantastic and very dedicated lunchtime supervisors, who has worked at Churchfields for over 18 years. I am sure you will join me in wishing her a happy and fulfilled retirement.

RAAC

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and, as a result, areas in affected spaces will be vacated. We wanted to inform you that we have had a survey completed and **we have no RAAC in school.**

Dismissal

To help with dismissal at the end of the day MRS MEEK'S class will be dismissed from the main yellow doors (centre of school building) this is so children do not need to wait on the stairs. Staff will be out tomorrow to direct parents if they are unsure

Holidays

Over the past few weeks I have received many requests for holidays during term time.

The Department for Education's stance on holidays is that they are NOT permitted in term time. Requesting holidays because it is cheaper to go in term time is not a valid reason, neither are celebrations abroad considered a necessity. Holidays should be taken in holiday time of which we have plenty of weeks available. These include 1 weeks Autumn half term, 2 weeks Christmas, 1 week Spring half term, 2 weeks Easter, 1 week Summer half term and 6 weeks in the summer. Taking holidays in term time mean children quickly fall behind with their work and may require extra support to catch up.

Parents taking holidays **without discussing it first or informing the school** in advance (at least 14 days before travelling) **could** result in fixed penalty fines being issued. This is £60 per child and parent rising to £120 per child and parent if not paid in 28 days. A polite reminder that this is a fine and goes to the local authority – school does not benefit from this money in any way.

Parents may request leave of absence for exceptional circumstances. A form needs to be filled out and submitted so I can make a decision.

I will only consider granting permission for a request of leave of absence where the child:

- a) has attendance of 96% or above for the term previous,
- b) is not likely to fall behind with their work,
- c) has not requested any other leave of absence that year,
- d) there is an acceptable exceptional reason for this request,
- e) does not have any statutory tests at that time.

REMINDER

On **Thursday 28th September** the children in Reception – Year 6 will receive the flu vaccination – consent forms to follow. The space needed by the vaccination team means we will need to **close Nursery** for the day as this area will be used by the NHS vaccination team.

PLEASE – can you ensure that all items of uniform and school coats have your child's name clearly in them. We have had a sort out of lost property this week, but many of the items did not contain names which has made it very difficult to return to the correct person.

School dates

Autumn Term 2023

Term Starts: Wednesday 6th September.

NURSERY CLOSED 28th September 2023

End of Half Term: Friday 27th October

Holiday: Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November

Teacher Training Day 3: Monday 6th November

School Starts: Tuesday 7th November

Term Ends: Friday 22nd December.

Holiday: Monday 25th December to Friday 5th January

Spring Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 8th January

End of Half Term: Friday 9th February

Holiday: Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February

School Starts: Monday 19th February.
Term Ends: Friday 22nd March
Holiday: Monday 25th March to Friday 5th April

Summer Term 2024

Training day Monday 8th April
Term Starts: Tuesday 9th April
May Day: Monday 6th May
Y6 **statutory SATs** testing Monday 13th – Thursday 16th May (Y6 **MUST be in school**)
End of Half Term: Friday 24th May
Holiday: Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May.
School Starts: Monday 3rd June.
Term Ends: Thursday 18th July
Training day Friday 19th July
Holiday: Monday 22nd July

Stars of the Week

Nursery	Emily Currie for always smiling and being a breath of fresh air
Reception Mrs Locker	Alarya Carnall for her excellent participation and recall all week
Reception Mrs Nixon	Leah Shaughnessy-Corrin for fantastic yoga skills on world fitness day
1B	Daisy-Mae Dale for being very independent and responsible
1M	Leo Fox for working hard in all subjects
2B	Gabriel Avram for his excellent attitude to learning
2M	Tanisha Birks for always demonstrating the school values
3R	Keira Kirk for always being the best she can be
3S	Max Harper for being a super role model
4B	Gabriel Birchall for being very responsible and always exemplifying our school values
4S	Jenson Dale for always trying his best
5L	Kadie Brown for consistently demonstrating excellent effort in each lesson
5S	Ella Rose Petrillo for always being helpful and considerate
6C	Lawson Critchlow for always being a dedicated, focused and active learner
6S	Leah Cofax for excellent work in mathematics

Head Teachers awards

NURSERY Arabella McDonald for always being the best she can be

RECEPTION Lynn Carter for settling into Reception with confidence
Y1&2 Savannah Platt for always being the best she can be
Y3&4 Penny Bennett always being the best she can be
Y5&6 Marcie Elliot for excellent progress in mathematics

Attendance

Y6 best attendance for year so far 98%
Y2 best year group attendance of the week 97%
Attendance best class this week = 6C 99%
We must also praise: Reception Mrs Nixon and 1B on 96%
Reception Mrs Locker and 2B on 97%
1M, 2M 3S, 4B on 98%
Whole school attendance for the week is 96%

Team of the Week	Team of the term, so far
R 1,941	R 3,142
Y 1,275	Y 2,415
G 1,067	G 1,999
B 1,717	Y 2,644

Any general queries or if you are unsure who to contact – office@cfp.school or headteacher@cfp.school

Thank you for your continued support,

Diane Beardsmore
Headteacher