



## OUR SCHOOL VALUES: RESPECT – UNDERSTANDING – PEACE – HONESTY – RESPONSIBILITY – TEAMWORK

October 2022

Autumn has certainly arrived quickly this year and all the trees here are looking lovely with shades of green and red. Our fabulous location also means it gets quite windy and chilly up here in the countryside, so please remember to send your children in with jumpers, cardigans and warm coats for outside play at break and lunchtimes. I wonder if it will snow next term?

### Kith and Kin, Vision Workshop

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Kith and Kin afternoon and Vision Forum. Thank you for all your ideas, we will put all the feedback together and share it on the school website. Some of the work will be displayed in the Computing room after half term. I hope, like John Burroughs, over the coming weeks you are able to find some time to "go to nature to be soothed and healed, and to have my (your) senses put in order."



### Phonics and Reading Workshop

What a super turn out for our Phonics workshop on Friday (I counted at least 50!). A great class of parents – I hope you are all feeling more equipped to support your children with their understanding of phonics, as they become confident readers with a love of books. Speaking of books, we are currently awaiting a large order of Read Write Inc. books, which are being purchased using funds raised by the PSA a year ago. Thank you all for making that happen. We hope to be able to buy more over the coming year.

### Introducing our Y6 Prefects

Our school prefects are selected from Year 6 pupils, following successful interviews and allocations of job descriptions. They have all agreed to be excellent role models, positive advocates of our wonderful school and to be impartial, encouraging and safety aware. They run some fabulous competitions throughout the year, so keep an eye open.

- **English** (*Read to Windmills*, *Story competitions*) – Amelia, Bailey, Temide and Maggie
- **Environment** (*Mop Award*, *Recycling Competition*) – George and Julian
- **Maths** (*School Maths Challenge*) – Shreeya and Senuki
- **RE and Well-Being** (*Christmas Competition*, *Promote Well-being*) – Cole, Isaac, Sid and Jayzon
- **Computing** (*KS1 Club Competition*) – Kara, Eran, Freya and Oliver
- **PE/ Sport** (*Break-time sports equipment*, *Sports / Fit4Fun Day*) – Tommy S, Archie, Leo and Ella
- **Creative Arts** (*Summer Term Talent Show*, *Production choreography*) – Clay, Ryley, Tommy B, William and Josh

## Black History Month

This week has seen us kick start our learning into Black History where we are looking at significant black people from history who, through their high aspirations, have had real impact. So far, the children have enjoyed an assembly which has sparked their fascination into the topic. Year 1 have filled their 'Honey Pots in the Box' boxes, Year 5 have been looking at the life of Katherine Johnson, who was an American mathematician whose calculations of orbital mechanics as a NASA employee were critical to the success of the first and subsequent U.S. crewed spaceflights. What an inspiration! We are looking forward to all the questions and learning opportunities in the coming weeks.

## Bulb Planting and Grounds Tidy Up

A reminder that next Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October we are asking for family members to join us for a school grounds tidy up and bulb planting. We have ordered a quantity of top soil which should make the whole process a little easier but urgently need some volunteers to prepare the ground with some weeding etc. and to help to move the top soil (wheelbarrows needed to borrow too please). Please contact the school office if you are able to offer even a small amount of time next week to help.



## Sport Updates

Wow! What a busy half term so far. This week saw our Year 5 and 6 boys team win their cup match 2-0 against Robertswood School on Monday. Then on Thursday our Chiltern League team played another game against Our Lady's School. The team played brilliantly and were unlucky to end up losing the game. We are so proud of how all the children have represented our school, they have shown great teamwork and responsibility.

## Values

In our Celebration Assembly, Josh nominated everyone who took part in football last week for demonstrating our school value of Teamwork.

Mrs Birley also nominated her class for the Teamwork that was so clearly needed and demonstrated, as the class created group planet mobiles. Fantastic work Y5!



## Toys

Please double check that your child has not snuck any toys into pockets or bags before you leave in the morning. Toys are not permitted in school (unless requested by their teacher) and can lead to upset if broken or lost.

## Chesham Schools Carnival

What a fantastic achievement - two members of our PSA (Mrs Jones and Mrs Symonds) picked up a cheque for over £900. This money has been raised from all the raffle tickets our fabulous carnival coordinators sold, from which a percentage is then returned to school. We plan to use this money to top up our Read Write Inc. reading books further still. Thank you to all those who took part with the organisation and also with the fabulous float. I am so looking forward to finding out the theme for this year's carnival and hope everyone gets involved for another great success.

## Exciting News

I was very excited this week to be interrupted by an equally excited child who came to tell me about a pigeon nesting (complete with at least one fledgling) in our school grounds! How fascinating is that! In Celebration Assembly we reflected on amazing achievement of all those who took part in the London Marathon and we hoped to have aspirations as high as theirs.

*If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.*

**Ecclesiastes 4:10**



Finally, the alleyway is now two way, so parents are now able to enter and exit via the playground. Have a good week everyone and let's hope for good weather next Monday for our bulb planting sessions!