



Where we learn and achieve together, where we dare to be different.

Aspiration, Courage, Respect, Kindness, Curiosity

March 2023

Message from the Headteacher

It certainly has been a busy term, having had the privilege of reading the Pathway Newsletters I know there has been an incredible amount of meaningful and engaging learning going on across the school. In February, we were delighted to finally welcome Ofsted. We were hoping that by now we would be able to share the report with you, however, we are still waiting for it to come through. Despite the pressure and current media coverage surrounding inspections, we were pleased to have the opportunity to show them the great work that goes on at The Chiltern School.

Thank you to all pupils, staff, parents and governors for all your hard work, support and kindness.
Happy Holidays.

Easter Egg Hunt

The children in Early Transitions have enjoyed an egg hunt with their parents this week. The children collected paper eggs from around the playground and then swapped them for chocolate ones! They also enjoyed a variety of Easter themed sensory tuff tray activities including problem solving how to get the chicks out of the frozen eggs, fried egg splats with silly soap, mark making and dropping water to make patterned eggs and playdough exploration with Easter shapes. We also had a cosy reading corner with books about Spring and Growing. A great time was had by all!





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Therapeutic Team Update

The Therapeutic team work mainly in the classroom with the teaching staff, observing pupils and working to develop the best communication and sensory integration/processing practices into the daily experiences to meet the individual needs of each child. This term we have started to deliver a targeted Lego Club to small groups of pupils who particularly need support with comprehension of language, vocabulary, listening to each other, patience and teamwork. This is proving to be a positive experience and fun for all involved.

We are starting to identify each child's predominant sensory processing style using this to help us understand how this affects the way they learn. The four predominant sensory processing styles we are using are;

- sensory avoidance
- sensory cautious
- sensory explorer
- sensory impulsive

In addition, we support staff to learn more about interoception and how they can support pupils. Interoception is the ability to recognise internal bodily sensations and feelings, such as when we need to use the toilet, are hungry, feel hot, cold, tired or in pain. This internal sense helps us all manage our own bodily needs, feel comfortable and begin the process towards independence, which is so important for our pupils.

Our team of therapists and their team have offered individual appointments for all parents of pupils in the Early Transition department. We intend on continuing this work after Easter. If you would like more information about therapeutic approaches used in school and how your child is supported by our team, please talk to your child's teacher. The teachers know your child best and will contact the therapeutic team if they need more information.



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Ramadan, Holi and Easter

Pupils have been learning about and participating in Ramadan, Holi and Easter celebrations this half term. If you are celebrating, we send you peaceful wishes and hope you have an enjoyable time with those close to you.



Parent Coffee Mornings

On 4th May we have organised a coffee morning for our parents and carers at Kids in Action 9.30am - 11.00am, parents will meet at Kids in Action to find out more about what they provide. [Kids in Action Children's Charity](#)

After the success of the focussed coffee mornings we will be running some more across the summer term. **Thank you for your feedback.**



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Camels Class Trip to the Thames - Enriching the curriculum with educational visits and journeys,

Less than a year ago, our Camels class found transition tricky and struggled to even transition to the playground. However, after supported work with their team and resilience, they have successfully now travelled to London.

Everyone in the class had a really great day, despite the weather. They were enthusiastically telling everyone about their learning which was linked to rivers and compared the Thames to the river Ouse on another trip the week before.

In Leo's words “ **it was so much fun, I forgot we were even learning!**”

Watch out if you are in London over the Easter break. Owen told a member of staff all about the “**sharks we had seen in the river!**”





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Spectrum Arts

Phase 1 Semi-formal pupils were very lucky this half term to have Jade and her team from Spectrum Arts come to facilitate dance, music and drama sessions linked to our theme 'Life at sea'. Resilience, determination, and creativity are words that come to mind to describe our day. The pupils worked extremely hard and developed their social interaction and personal development skills while also learning to manage new experiences.





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Cress Home- School Project

Next term we are looking forward to a cress growing competition! Pupils will come home with the resources to plant and grow their own cress. You will be provided with all the resources and instructions and we'd like to encourage you to help your child plant, grow and use their cress alongside the booklet. If you have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher.



Families United

This half term, Panda and Leopard Class had the opportunity to visit The Families United Network to engage in a day of developing friendships, interactions and communication through play. FUN provided a large space full of exciting play-based learning, including soft play, ping pong, bowling, role play, small world activities and an area for football and scooters. Pupils developed their understanding of safety as they transitioned to the mini buses and then to the play centre, with adult support. For many pupils, it was their first opportunity to attend a school trip and in doing so they experienced an activity to increase their independence and are wanting to know when they can go again!



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Attendance

Thank you to our families for the efforts made to liaise with us around your child's attendance. It's been helpful to meet and speak to parents.

Absence for Eid and other religious celebrations

Pupils celebrating Eid will be able to take one day's absence for this celebration. Please ensure you notify us of any absence which is taken for religious observance to ensure that we can authorise this.

General reminders:

If your child is going to be absent, please let us know before 9.00am via the following:

Email: attendance@chiltern.beds.sch.uk

Text: 07860 055 246

Telephone / Voice Message: 01582 866972

If your child has a medical appointment, you will need to send a copy of your medical evidence, this can be an appointment card, letter or confirmation text message. Please submit to attendance@chiltern.beds.sch.uk



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Wishing you a lovely holiday

Happy Easter and Ramadan Mubarak to those celebrating over the holiday. We hope this time will be peaceful for those of you who are celebrating and for those of you who are taking some time to enjoy the school holiday.

Spring is a great time for all of us to appreciate our surroundings, enjoy nature and reflect on what we are grateful for.

Thank you to all of those parents, carers and families who have sent our staff Easter, Spring and Ramadan holiday wishes, we are very grateful for your kindness and support.

Dates for your Diary

Dates	Event
Monday 17th April	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 18th April	Pupils return to school
Friday 21st April	St George's Day
Friday 28th April	Eid celebration
Monday 1st May	May day bank holiday - school closed
Monday 8th May	Kings Coronation Celebration
Friday 12th May	International Nurses Day
Friday 19th May	National Numeracy Day
Friday 26th May	Buddha's Birthday - meditation and calm focus
Monday 29th May	May half term
Monday 5th June	Pupils return to school



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Friday 9th June	Pride Awareness
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PLEASE NOTE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR FURTHER
DETAILS.