



Chorleywood Primary School

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Friday 26th May 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had lots of exciting events this half term including trips, visits and extra curricula opportunities. The children and staff have all continued to work really hard.

Residential Trips

Year 6 and 4 had a really fantastic time on their residential trips. These opportunities are only possible due to the dedication and commitment of the staff who accompany the children, many thanks to them.

Y6 Windmill Hill



"The morning that we departed for PGL I felt ecstatic but also upset to say goodbye to my family; it felt like all of my emotions had got jumbled up in the washing machine."



Firstly, we unpacked our overflowing suitcases into the cabins that we were staying in for the week. Then we went outside to meet our team leader.

For the rest of the week we were split up into our activity groups doing thrilling and adrenaline-racing activities: giant swing; rifle shooting; all aboard; tunnel trails and zip wire. However, my favourite activity was abseiling. At first I was so nervous I nearly didn't try! As I began my descent I closed my eyes, but then I started to really enjoy it.

I was lucky enough to have my birthday at PGL! It was magical as the whole class sang "Happy Birthday" to me whilst I blew out my candles. All in all, PGL was an amazing experience that I will never forget."

PGL by Amelie

"PGL was a great experience. I loved all aboard, climbing, abseiling and the zip wire. All aboard was when you had to get four people onto a tiny wobbling plank. In my group of four that went up together, three of us reached the top and two of us stood up. Climbing; you had to climb up a tall wall and abseil down. Abseiling; you had to climb up a mesh metal staircase to the top of a towering tower, and abseil down the side. Zip Wire; you were sturdily clipped on and then you jumped off the platform and plummeted to the ground.

Our rooms were great. All five of us were playing cards and making funny jokes for us all to laugh at.

I loved PGL!!!"

PGL by Lottie

Hudnall Park Y4



“At Hudnall Park we had lots of exciting activities, including low ropes course, den building, bug hunts and many more. At night time everyone was very, very excited but eventually everyone fell asleep!” - Lottie

“We learnt about minibeasts and created sculptures. We completed a low ropes course and den building too. Every day we did mammal trapping, and it was lots of fun!” - Tiya

“We did so many enjoyable things. These included mammal trapping, river study and low ropes course. It was so amazing. I loved it so much!” - Seamus

“I enjoyed low ropes because it was all about teamwork and being there for each other. I also liked running down the hill!.” - Rida

ENTHUSE STEM learning grant

I have been working with six local primary schools and St Clement Danes to secure some additional funding to further develop the teaching of science. As the lead school I submitted an application for a £12,000 grant from STEM Learning. Following over one hundred applications we were shortlisted to the last fifteen, with only ten grants available across the county. I then had to submit a second application with an action plan and additional



information. I am delighted to announce I received an email last Friday to confirm we had been successful. This is such an exciting opportunity and we are looking forward to leading this two-year project.

THINKING GARDEN

A parent came to see me about the possibility of creating a "Thinking Garden". Ms Davies and I had also spoken about this possibility. This would be a calm and special place that children, staff and parents could go and have an opportunity to reflect and think about cherished memories. The emotional wellbeing of our pupils is fundamentally important and we feel that this space will be a way of celebrating life and letting our children know that various emotional reactions to significant life events are okay. I have spoken to the School Council and they really like the idea; therefore, I am setting a whole school homework for any child who would like to help us design this area. We are planning for all classes to be involved in its construction. Design ideas are to be handed in by Friday 9th June.



General Election

As you are aware we will be holding our own General Election in school on 8th June. Children in Y3-6 are expected to vote and pupils in R-Y2 will have the choice whether to vote. In assembly I have spoken to the children about having an understanding of party policy is essential. I have explained that even for adults this is a difficult decision-making process! I passionately believe that children thinking about how their beliefs and values can shape decision

making is a very important part of the educational philosophy at Chorleywood Primary School.

SATs

I wanted to thank the Y6 and Y2 children for their hard work in preparation for, and during the SATs. There is always a lot of national press related to the SATs, often negative, and I wanted to share a few comments from the Y6 pupils.

"The breakfast was AMAZING; the teachers were very encouraging and supportive; it was fun!"

Grace, Remi and Gianna

"We had so many extra playtimes! It was one of the best weeks"

Corey and Riley

Cycling

The Y6 pupils demonstrated outstanding resilience during their cycling proficiency, in possibly the wettest week of the year.

World War II day



On Wednesday 24th May, Year 6 went back in history to May 1940! The children dressed as evacuees and spent their day living as a 1940s war child. They cooked using rations, made their own rag rugs, explored spitfires, dug for victory and listened to many 1940s songs! They used their

gas masks and shelters whenever the air raid siren was signalled and wrote thought provoking letters back home.

RHS Wisley

A MASSIVE congratulations to Aditi who represented our school at RHS Wisley yesterday as part of the "Budding Gardeners" competition.

Aditi in Year 5 is the winner for Chorleywood Primary and built her garden at RHS Wisley on 25th May. The theme this year is to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the publication of Enid Blyton's Famous Five books. Aditi designed a garden with tunnels, boats, flowers and water. It incorporated sensory plants in different shapes and textures. It is a 'madness of the senses.'

Judging is on Friday 26th May so we wish Claire and Aditi all the best!

The competition is on over the half-term from 26th May -



4th June. Any children and parents or staff wishing to go and visit just need to give the name of the school at the main garden entrance for free entry. A map for schools is attached, however, please visit the Royal Horticultural Society website www.rhs.org.uk/Wisley for more details and directions.

Attendance

As part of our ongoing drive to raise attendance we will be taking all the children who obtain an attendance figure of

97% or above on a free trip to reward them. We will be taking the children to Watersmeet Theatre to watch "Sing". This trip will be on Wednesday 12th July. Pupils eligible to attend will receive a letter with further details after half term. Can I reiterate that the children not eligible to attend the trip will undertake off-timetable activities in school.

Parent View

Can I please encourage parents to complete the online Parent



View questionnaire. I would also like to remind parents if they have any queries or concerns to please speak to their class teacher in the

first instance; any issue or incident that we are made aware of we will deal with in partnership with you. Many thanks to the parents who have sent in testimonials they wanted to share; the staff really appreciate the positive feedback.

Musical Arts Afternoon



On Friday 14th July at 1.30pm we will be showcasing all the wonderful musical talent at Chorleywood Primary School. This is a wonderful celebration of our musical success over the year. If your child learns a musical instrument out of school, is working at a "public performance" level and would like to perform please let the school know by 24th June. **IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU INFORM THE OFFICE OF YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THIS EVENT SO WE CAN**

ARRANGE THE CORRECT NUMBER OF SEATS. TICKETS WILL BE ALLOCATED IN ADVANCE FOR THIS EVENT.

Due to the sheer volume of pianists, they have already performed at their own concert in March.

School Council

19th - 25th June is Refugee Week. The School Council want to support this event by collecting hygiene kits and food too.

We will therefore be collecting during this week if you would like to donate to this worthwhile cause.

HYGIENE KITS:

Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, small towels, razors, wipes

FOOD: Grains, canned goods, salt, spices

Have a lovely half term, fingers crossed for a sunny one! We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 5th June.

Kind regards,

Mrs Roberts

Headteacher