



Headteacher: Miss N Bill

22nd September 2023



## CHALTON LOWER SCHOOL

www.chaltonlower.co.uk

School Year 2023-2024

NEWSLETTER NO: 3



Central

Dear Parents



**Stars of the Week** : Great Academic Work

**Emeralds & Amethysts:** Kasee & Harry

**Rubies and Sapphires:** Brooklyn & Henry

**Diamonds:** Myles

**Value of the Month**

Respect



**Sports Stars of the Week**

**Emeralds & Amethysts:** Taylor

**Rubies and Sapphires:** Holly

**Diamonds:** Ethan

### **School Council**

Elections for the School Council were held last week and the selected children were informed on Monday, with them receiving their badges in our celebration assembly today.

The school council will meet regularly to discuss any student concerns or explore ways on how to improve the school, including reviewing school policies. They will discuss ideas for fundraising and be involved in marketing projects. They will also act as mentors for the rest of the children and be there for them if they need help or have any worries. We know these children will represent Chalton Lower School brilliantly and be great advocates! Congratulations to Ava, Harry, Ivy, Angelina, Kasee, Isla, Junia, Amarah, Josh & Holly!

### **Children's Learning**

I have really enjoyed seeing and hearing all about the children's amazing learning this week. In Diamonds Class the children have started to learn their letter sounds. In school we use the Twinkl phonics programme and Miss Grahame introduced the sounds a, s, t and p to the children. They really enjoyed forming the letters in glitter and sand trays and explored a variety of letter and sound games. As part of their learning in Understanding the World they talked about people in their family and people who are special to them. In Key Stage One this week the children have been looking at poetry in their English lessons. They have been thinking about how to read poetry aloud by ensuring that they use expression. They have also been identifying rhyme and alliteration. In their PSHE lessons this week they have been learning how to stay safe online and have thought carefully about who they communicate with on the internet. In Key Stage Two the children have continued their topic work on The Stone Age. They learnt all about Cheddar Man who was Britain's oldest complete human skeleton found in Gough's Cave in Cheddar Gorge, Somerset. The children created their own fact sheets to describe what Cheddar Man was like and where and when he was found. In their PE lessons this week they enjoyed learning football and rugby skills.

### **Online Safety Reminder**

Modern technology and the internet are wonderful tools if utilised correctly. However, they also have an element of danger when using them and it is extremely important to remain proactive to ensure that the children know what to do to remain safe online. Online safety is a very important part of keeping the children safe at Chalton Lower School. We have extensive security measures in place in school, which are monitored both internally and externally, to help to safeguard the children from any potential dangers or unsuitable material. All of the children are taught about online safety in a variety of ways through their PSHE lessons, through our computing curriculum and in assemblies. We do however understand that much of the children's use of the internet will occur at home, away from the school filters. We can only be successful in keeping the children safe online if we work together to ensure that our online safety message is consistent. We would like to remind all parents about the importance of sharing online safety messages with their children at home. Below are some websites which you may find useful:

- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-to-do-if-your-child-has-seen-something-inappropriate-online/>
- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/parents-guide-to-watching-videos-online/>
- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

### **Pupil Premium Funding**

All children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 are eligible for a universal free school meal, but schools receive extra funding called Pupil Premium for children from families who receive a qualifying benefit. The school then uses this funding to help purchase extra resources and to help these families with subsidising payments for school trips etc. If you have recently had a change in financial circumstances you may be able to apply for Pupil Premium funding for your child/children. The qualifying benefits to receive Pupil Premium funding are:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

If you think you meet the Pupil Premium eligibility criteria, please call Central Bedfordshire Council on 0300 300 8306.

### **Christmas Card Project**

We sent home information last week about creating your own Christmas cards with your child/ren. If you can help your child at home to create a lovely Christmassy picture and send this back into school, these will then be used to create your own personalised Christmas cards/gifts. If you need any additional template sheets, please email Mrs Chapman (chalton@chaltonlower.co.uk).

Designs will need to be returned to school by **9<sup>th</sup> October 2023**.

### **Governor Vacancy**

We have received one application for the Parent Governor position and as there were no other applicants we would like to officially welcome Emma Jones to the Governing body. We now have 3 new Governors - Emma, along with our Co-opted Governors; Charleigh Coleman and Jessica Goldsmith (Attrill).

### **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

We are delighted to announce that we will be holding a coffee morning on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023** in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. In conjunction with this we will also be opening the classrooms for parents to come in and see their children at work. Please feel free to drop in between 9.00am and 10.30am. You can donate for this very worthwhile cause via our school donation page:

<https://coffeefundraising.macmillan.org.uk/fundraising/cm23033360> or you can donate on the day. Cake donations will also be very greatly received.

### **Diary Dates**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September – Diamonds Class Nature Reserve

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September – Macmillan Coffee Morning 9.00am-10.30am

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Diamond Class Nature Reserve

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Festival at the Village Hall PM (more details to follow)

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Year 1&2 Multi-skills sports festival (more details to follow)

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Year 3&4 Faith Tour (more details to follow)

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Parents Evening (more details to follow)

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Year 3&4 Stone Age Day! (more details to follow)

Yours sincerely



Miss Natalie Bill  
Headteacher