

Chapmanslade School

Newsletter

18th February 2022



Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents,

Well, that was an unexpected end to the term! It was a difficult decision to close last night, although the right one as Wiltshire made the decision to advise their schools to close early this morning. The unexpected closure has caused a few changes to today's plans – please see below for details about interim reports and parents evening slots. Year 6 revision guides were also scheduled to arrive today, but we will now look out for these after half term.

It has been a productive and busy last couple of weeks in school. It has been great to get back closer to normality in school, with a significant reduction in Covid-19 cases. We have managed to hold our first long-awaited School Council meeting – the councillors already have some lovely ideas, which we will continue to explore next term.

Sadly, we say goodbye to Maxi this week and wish him all the best at his new school. I can confirm that I will continue to act up in Mrs Chapman's absence for the beginning of next term. I will continue to teach in Oak Class on a Monday and Mrs Fitzsimmons will continue to teach in Oak Class Tuesday – Friday on a supply basis until further notice.

Last week, we enjoyed an assembly from Fun Science, who will be running our science club next term. This club filled up quickly! If you would like to be added to the waiting list, please email info@fun-science.org.uk. If there is lots of demand, we are more likely to be able to run another club soon.

On Wednesday, we were visited by Mark from Newland Homes to tell us all about the new housing development. It was great to see the plans (especially the new play area!) and to see some of our learning in the real world. We were shown how the houses are all sustainable and how they are environmentally friendly, linking in with geography learning. Linking in with science, we were shown how the houses generate electricity and how new habitats will be created for animals and insects. One of these habitats will be a bee hotel made by a class at Chapmanslade! Each class now has the materials to design and make a bee hotel next term. At least one of these will go in the show home garden in April. We plan to visit the site to see this in the future.

Redwood Class made us proud on Wednesday with their performance at the West Wiltshire Dance Festival in the Bath Forum. Their Doctor Who inspired dance impressed all and was truly unique within the dances from other schools that performed the event theme of *Back to The Future*. Well done to Redwood Class! Thank you to Miss Dyer, Mrs Allen and Mrs Knight, who have been working hard to choreograph the dance over the past term.

Yesterday, Oak and Redwood classes enjoyed a music technology workshop from Conductive Music. The workshop consisted of combining Music and Technology, as well as making other strong links across the curriculum: some of the history of Music & Technology and Mathematical coding. Children were each given a 'microbit' which they could connect to their laptops via a USB. The children were then taught how to code the 'microbit' via an online app and this enabled them to make their own music which could be played through the chip. The children thoroughly enjoyed their sessions as they had never had experience with this sort of technology and were thrilled to be given the opportunity. Blossom and Willow's workshop was supposed to be today, so will be re-arranged, hopefully for next term.

Interim Progress Reports were due to go out today. These will now be sent out on the first day back after half term, Monday 28th February. Parents Evening slots were also due to be sent out. These were in the process of being finalised and will now be sent out early next week due to the files being in school. So far, we have been able to accommodate all parent's requests for slots.

I wish you all a peaceful half term break, and especially hope everybody is able to stay safe in this extreme weather. Thank you once again for your continued support this term.

Yours sincerely,
Mr Cottrell

Upcoming Events

Parent's Evening - 1st & 2nd March

Information has been sent out regarding our Parent's Evening on Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd March from 3:30 – 6pm. If you need to change a timing or haven't signed up yet, please email admin@chapmanslade.wilts.sch.uk as soon as possible. Please note that due to the school closure today, dates and time slots will be emailed out early next week. Please do talk to your child's class teacher in the meantime if you have any questions or concerns about their learning.

World Book Day – 3rd March

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. Pupils are invited to come to school dressed up as a book character. Matravers School have kindly offered to judge best costumes on the day too. In the lead up to the event, we will also be running a competition. We are challenging pupils to share their love of reading by sending in a photo of them reading their favourite book in an interesting, wacky or wonderful location! The winner will be announced on World Book Day. If pupils would like to take part, all you need to do is send one photo to worldbookday@chapmanslade.wilts.sch.uk before the 3rd March.

Lions Concert - 31st March: Oak Class

We are happy to announce that we will be participating in this year's Lions concert run by Matravers School, which will be held as a virtual event this year. Oak Class will visit Matravers to perform and record their song on the morning of 31st March. They will start rehearsing for this as soon as we return!

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - Green Canopy Project

We look forward to celebrating the Queen's Jubilee this year. We hope to participate in the Queen's Green Canopy project by planting a tree. More details to follow...

Swimming: Willow Class - Term 5 & 6

We will be resuming swimming lessons for pupils in terms 5 & 6 for Willow Class only (at present). We will send out more information about this in the near future. We will also be looking for parent volunteers to help us with this on Fridays between 9 – 11am.

Chapmanslade School's 150th Birthday!

Following our community project, making our wonderful altar cloth, we will be celebrating the school's 150th birthday later on this year. We look forward to sharing more information about our plans soon!

General Notices

Parking and Travel

There have been several complaints about parking outside the school recently at drop-off and pick-up times. Please do park considerately, especially adhering to the painted white lines. If you are able to walk to school, please do. After half term, PCSOs will be visiting to help raise awareness of the importance of safe parking in our school community. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Nut Allergy Information

Nuts are allowed in snacks and lunch boxes because there are no children or staff with serious nut allergies. If this information is incorrect (based on information provided by parents in the data collection sheets) please contact Mrs McCall in the school office immediately using admin@chapmanslade.wilts.sch.uk

Driveway Safety

Please use the church yard to access the school and Busy Bees Preschool when the main school gate is locked rather than walking up the steep school drive. This is particularly important before school when many children are going into Busy Bees Breakfast Club just as school staff are trying to turn and park cars in the narrow space available. Please help us to keep children and cars separate.

Communication

If you have any concerns at all about your child's academic progress or pastoral care, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher as soon as possible. The adults in your child's class will do everything they can to help. The quickest way to resolve any concerns is to speak in person to your child's class teacher. You are welcome to request a meeting (or a telephone call from the teacher) by emailing admin@chapmanslade.wilts.sch.uk but please do not write long emails. We much prefer to meet with you in person to avoid any misunderstandings. You are also very welcome to catch Mr Cottrell, teachers and teaching assistants on the driveway to discuss small concerns or to make an appointment.

Ofsted Parent View

Parent View gives current parents a voice and helps prospective parents to understand what it is like to be part of the Chapmanslade School community. Have you completed the survey yet? We value your feedback! Over the years, feedback from parents has prompted us to improve the information on the school website, to rewrite our anti-bullying policy and to introduce class newsletters. All of the team here want to help to make your child's experience of school as positive as possible, and we can do that if we understand what we do well and what needs to change.

If you disagree, or strongly disagree, with any of the statements on Parent View, please give us the opportunity to make things better by talking to your child's class teacher, or to Mr Cottrell, before you complete the survey.

Volunteers

Can you spare an hour or two a week to come into school and listen to readers? If so, we would love to hear from you. Reading aloud regularly to an interested adult is the quickest way for children to achieve fluency in their decoding and competency in the skills of comprehension. We would love to hear from parents, grandparents, friends or neighbours. Please contact the school office on admin@chapmanslade.wilts.sch.uk if you can help.

Uniform

Pupils should have a waterproof jacket or coat in school every day as we try to get outside even when it is raining. Please ensure that items of school uniform, particularly sweatshirts and cardigans, are clearly named. If the name is written in ink, please check after each wash that the name is still visible. This helps us to quickly reunite pupils and their belongings!

Diary Dates

Date	Time	Event
18/02/22		School Closure due to Storm Eunice
		Conductive Music Workshop for Blossom and Willow to be rescheduled
		End of Term 3
28/02/22		Term 4 Begins
		Interim Reports Sent Home *Change of date
	3:15	Football Club
01/03/22	3:15	Archery Club Yr3-6
	3:30	Parents Evening
02/03/22	3:30	Parents Evening
03/03/22		World Book Day - Dress up as your favourite book character
		World Book Day - Photo Competition Close
	3:15	Fun Science Club
07/03/22	3:15	Football Club
	3:15	SATs Club
08/03/22	3:15	Archery Club
10/03/22	3:15	Fun Science Club
14/03/22	3:15	Football Club
	3:15	SATs Club
15/03/22	3:15	Archery Club
17/03/22	3:15	Fun Science Club
21/03/22	3:15	Football Club
	3:15	SATs Club
22/03/22	3:15	Archery Club
24/03/22	3:15	Fun Science Club
28/03/22		Blossom Class Trip to Butterfly World
	3:15	Football Club
	3:15	SATs Club
29/03/22	3:15	Archery Club
31/03/22	9:30	Oak Class to Matravers to record Lions Performance
	3:15	Fun Science Club
	TBC	Lions Concert Performance
04/04/22	3:15	Football Club
	3:15	SATs Club
05/04/22	3:15	Archery Club
07/04/22	3:15	Fun Science Club
08/04/22		End of Term 4
25/04/22		Term 5 Begins