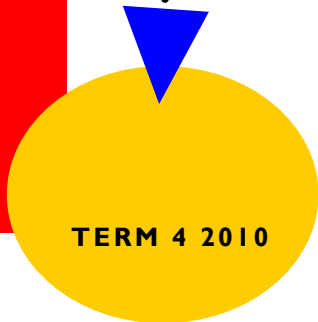




Chilworth House School Newsletter



TERM 4 2010

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Dates for your Diary:

Head Teacher's News

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back, I hope you all had enjoyable half term breaks.

Last term was disrupted due to the snow but lots of learning and exciting activities still took place and we are looking forward to an equally enjoyable (but less snowy!) time this term.

The redevelopment of Grooms Farm for our secondary provi-

sion is taking shape and we are anticipating that the accommodation will be open around Easter time.

After Christmas we changed our food supplier to Apetito. The new food has been a real hit with both pupils and staff. Please find attached this term's menu which has been put together in consultation with the pupils.

Recently you were sent a parent questionnaire to complete. We really

value feedback from our parents and it is useful for planning future developments in the school. We are still waiting for quite a few responses so please find attached another copy of the questionnaire which we would appreciate being returned by Monday 1st March 2010.

S. Garner
Acting Head Teacher

Term Dates

Term 4 Ends—
Thursday 1st April
2010 at 1pm

Pupils return to
school—
Wednesday 21st
April 2010

We discourage children being taken on holiday during term time. However, if this is unavoidable you should ask the school office for a holiday form and your request will be considered.

KS 1 & 2 Class News

Oak Class

It has been a very short term in oak class due to all the snow, but that hasn't stopped us from working hard and achieving lots. We have welcomed three new students to the class Jordan, Tyler and Luke. Everybody has settled in really well and Gordon has done a good job looking after them. Our topic was on space which we were all really interested in especially looking at and making model rockets. We had a great time at Thomley Hall which was the first visit for most of the class. They represented the school well on their first off site visit.

This term we are studying settlements and hoping to visit a castle!

Alder Class

Our topic last term was Countries and Cultures. We focused on France and the boys had fun learning about their geography, history and language. We also looked at French art and famous artists that have come from France. However, the boys' favourite activities have been those where they were able to taste French foods and attempt cooking French reci-

pes. Unfortunately the behaviour of all the boys has been poor compared to the previous term. We would like to build on this and work together in the term ahead. We know all the boys can do this, as they have before, and we look forward to a positive term with them. Thank you very much for your continued support.

Birch Class

Birch Class have had a really good term and have enjoyed the topic 'Lights, Camera, Action'. The class



have made and used pin hole camera's, created Hollywood Art, and filmed their own Super Hero film whilst wearing their capes made in Design Technology lessons.

Birch class earned a reward trip for excellent behaviour. We went to the local Bowling Alley and en-

joyed 2 games of bowling and a yummy lunch.

Maple Class

After the snowy start Maple class settled into their topic - 'Keen to be Green'. We looked at environmental issues including global warming, reusing and recycling. The boys produced some brilliant art work which can be seen on display in Mrs Garner's office.

As part of the RE curriculum we visited a Synagogue in Oxford. The boys did everyone proud and were incredibly polite and helpful. It was very interesting and we all learnt a lot.

Most of Maple class also took part in the football match against Holybrook in Reading. Again all the boys were brilliantly behaved and good sportsmen, both matches finished in a draw.



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**CHILWORTH HOUSE
SCHOOL**

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KS1 & 2 Curriculum News

In our Swallow curriculum this term our Value is

Our SEAL theme this term is Good to be Me

The topic for Oak Class is Settlements

The topic for Birch Class is Greeks

The topic for Alder is Once Upon a Time

The topic for Maple Class is Victorians

Please find further information regarding your child's curriculum this term attached. Parents are encouraged to support their child's learning by reading with them regularly. Suggested activities which link to the current topic are made each term.

Maple class is swimming on Mondays this term. Please ensure that your child brings their swimming kit in each week.

Pastoral News

Hi Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and lets hope we get a full term in with no snow days!!

Lunch Time Activities this term; Football Training, Rugby Training, Volley Ball, Bench Ball, Computer Club, Craft Club and back by popular demand - Party Games and Pet Club.

We will be choosing a school pet this term and the boys will be responsible for the care of it.

Indoor shoes are supplied to the boys either slippers or plimsolls. If the boys purposely damage these I will ask parents to supply new ones. I appreciate your understanding on this matter.

Please can I remind Parents/Carers if your child is absent from school, could you please call the school before 9.30 a.m. Once again, thank you for all your ongoing communication and support, it really makes a difference.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any concerns or issues that you would like to discuss regarding your child.

Many thanks

Jackie Read

KS3 Class News

KS3 News

Cedar Class

Cedar class have had an exciting term, and are looking forward to the challenges ahead. The class enjoyed learning more skills at Forest Schools, undertaken in the school grounds, whatever the weather! The weather also could have been a handicap at the Longridge Activity Centre, but in spite of the snow and ice a full term of activities was enjoyed by all the boys, including the team building projects which help foster team spirit.

The vehicle maintenance class at SKIDZ was well appreciated by the boys in a very cold workshop; it's a real lesson in life skills, as everyone should know how to change and maintain tyres, carry out simple body shop repairs, and be able to undertake fundamental car maintenance.

In class the boys have been developing listening skills listening to the reading of 'Animal Farm' by George Orwell; they have also been given the opportunity to carry out their

own class reading.

In maths and Science the class has shown a lot of enthusiasm in advancing their skill levels, and the Science lesson in particular have demonstrated a real keenness within the class for more knowledge.

Willow Class

Willow class's educational programme for last half term included some 'new' subject areas: History and Comparative Religions (RE), and a 'new' teacher: Mr Palin. The class welcomed the possibility of moving on into largely unexplored parts of the curriculum, and are looking forward to an even greater expansion of learning opportunities when we move to Groom Farm in the not too distant future.

Off-site activities for Willow class were limited over the course of last half term, but as a new half term dawns this will change, and they can look forward to regular trips to 'Skidz' in Banbury to undertake motor car maintenance, and to Longridge Activity Centre in Marlow, to participate in an outdoor pursuits programme (as well as engaging in 'Forest

Schools', an on-site 'survival' programme).

I think we are all (pupils and staff) looking forward to the day when we can move, from what is essentially a shared environment, to a new school which is designed specifically for us, as Key Stage 3/4 provision. In the meantime we (the staff group generally) will continue to make every effort to work together to improve the educational skills and abilities of the youngsters in Willow Class.



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KS3 Curriculum News

Being closely involved with the refurbishment of Grooms Farm and the creation of our new secondary or upper school remains a major source of excitement for both pupils and staff. The challenging weather conditions that we have endured this winter and unforeseen difficulties with the project have resulted in an extended completion date. It is now envisaged that our current Key Stage 3 cohort will move across to the new school during Term 5. Four large classrooms have been created within the main house. These rooms offer plenty of light from windows that have wonderful views across the surrounding countryside. They are also spacious and will be equipped to a very high standard. Interactive whiteboards have been ordered for each classroom with supporting projectors. Much thought has been given to classroom design and furnishing and we plan to order individual work stations for each of our pupils as opposed to conventional desks. Plans have been drawn up for phase two of the development—the conversion of the outbuildings into additional teaching areas and a hall. These plans will be discussed with the local Planning Officer in March. We feel that the proposal will compliment and add to that already achieved. If passed it would allow us to timetable more practical subject areas on site as opposed to off site. The build quality and resourcing of the project is again to a very high standard and will extend the breadth of our provision.

Mr. K. Larsen, Deputy Head teacher

KS3 Pastoral News

Hi Parents/Carers,

Welcome to term four! I hope everyone has had an enjoyable break and are ready for the term ahead. Last term the 'green' pupils were rewarded with a trip to Heathrow F1 Go Karting where they raced against staff in 200cc go karts with a top speed of 40mph! Needless to say the pupils had a great day beating the staff and were a pleasure to take out. This term's 'green' trip is still in the planning stages for 4 boys, more news will follow. Could I also remind people that correct uniform is an important yet easy way for pupils to gain points all contributing to green status and uniform includes black shoes or black trainers!

Unfortunately we have made the decision to ban mobile phones from being brought into school as it is a distraction to the pupils and staff with the possibility of inappropriate material being exchanged between pupils. If by accident a pupil does bring a phone into school and does not hand it to the teacher/teaching assistant prior to the morning meeting it will be confiscated till the end of the week. Please support us in keeping phones at home. New and exciting stuff due to start this term with the introduction of "Tough Issues Tough Choices" a programme designed to engage young people in groups to think about and debate tough social situations which they may face in everyday life. The programme uses some

thought provoking photos and realistic teenage role-plays (realistic use of language) covering topics from joyriding to alcohol and drug abuse. Some pupils have seen the materials and discussed the topics and appear as enthusiastic as the staff taking part! To avoid unauthorised absences, can we please remind parents/carers to contact school in the morning in the event of your child being absent for whatever reason. As always we would like to thank you very much for your communication and ongoing support of the school.

Elaine Kinnell

Johann Bagoban

KS3 Pastoral Care Team

Whole School News



Pupils' Mobile Phones

In last term's newsletter I announced that the school have made the decision to ban pupils from bringing in mobile phones to school. This is because there have been several incidents involving phones with inappropriate content.

Pupils do not need phones at school or in the taxis as drivers and escorts have phones if there is an emergency.

Despite the previous information and repeated announcements to pupils in assemblies, phones are still being brought to school.

We ask for parents to support this and request that mobiles are **not brought to school**.

If they are they will be **confiscated**.

Haiti Earthquake Appeal

On Friday 29th January pupils wore hats for 'Hats for Haiti Day', we raised £37.00 which was donated to DEC.ORG Haiti Earthquake Appeal.

Football match

On 28th February KS2 pupils made their way to Reading for a football match against Holybrook School. Everybody played really well and the score was a draw - 2-2.

Drumming Lessons

Last term in our music lessons provided by Oxfordshire County Music Service the pupils have had the opportunity to learn to play African Drums. They are thoroughly enjoying this and it will continue this term.

Chinese Activity Day

On 12th February KS2 enjoyed a Chinese Activity Day to mark Chinese New Year. Pupils took part in a carousel of activities which included making kites and tasting Chinese food!!

