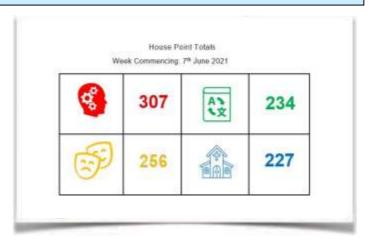


Newsletter Friday 25th June 2021





Message from Mrs Grainger

With the obvious disappointment of the Covid rules not changing, we have given thought to how we can facilitate transition to the next school year.

Parents/carers will receive confirmation of their child's new class and teacher in the annual report to parents and carers on Friday 9th July. Your child will be told of this during the day and the next year class teacher will aim to pop into your child's current class to introduce themselves. This will be very brief, ensuring social distancing and our bubbles are maintained. You will also have the opportunity to book a time to have a phone call with your child's current class teacher to discuss their report, please ensure you return the booking form that will be sent home with their report.

The teachers will film a short piece in the new classroom to introduce themselves and the classroom. Children will be shown these films in their current class.

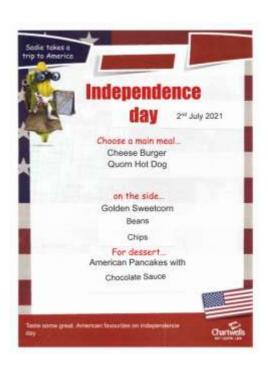
Children in Reception and Year 2, will take a school tour with their current class teacher, to see the new part of the school they will be based. This will include where they come in and go home, the classroom, toilets, dining hall and playgrounds.

If restrictions lift on 19th July, we hope to spend a short amount of time in new classes in the last week, details of this to be confirmed nearer the time.

Year 6 children are engaged in transition of varying kinds, organised by the high schools, over the coming weeks. It's both daunting and exciting moving to the next phase of education – Good luck!

Sports Week 5th - 9th July 2021

We have decided this year to organise a sports week for the children, not a day. The children will wear sports kit and house colours for the whole week and partake in events within their bubble. They will also have a taster of some Olympic activities such as Kata, Curling and Boccia. Activities will generate points for their house, and an overall winner will be shared during a celebration assembly on Friday. Unfortunately, parents/carers are unable to attend the events as they are spread throughout the week, but at least we can be sure that these plans will not be disrupted by varying Covid guidance.





What has your child been learning about in class this week?

Years 1 & 2

This week, we have continued to read the story of The Good Dinosaur and have made changes to the problems in it. We've come up with our own problems and then rewritten the story with them in. During maths, Apple and Elm have continued to learn about money and Cherry class have begun learning about mass and have weighed different items using grams and kilograms. During theme, we have designed our sockosaurus puppets and Apple class have made theirs following their design. Cherry class will make theirs on Monday so please make sure that your child has an old adult sock in school.

Cherry class had a lovely treat on Wednesday morning from Lichfield Garrick. Jonny and Robin from the Garrick came into school and played different games with the children and then asked for their ideas for their upcoming Christmas show. The children had lots of fun!



Years 3 & 4

Years 3 & 4 have had a mixed week with Maple class working in the computer room to complete their computing work whist Sycamore and Chestnut have been in the classroom doing their regular mix of reading, writing, maths and theme work.

We have had fun investigating shadows and made the most of a sunny Wednesday. It was great to see how the shadows changed in length over the course of the day prompting some interesting discussion over the possible reason for this.

Please look out for a letter regarding our Greek Olympics/Feast afternoon scheduled for Thursday 8th July. Children have made some pleasing progress in times table practice. We recently explained that we don't learn tables just for a test - they are so important as we use them in so much of the maths we do. Please help us by helping your child with this home learning at least 10 mins x 5 per week.

Years 5 & 6

Years 5 & 6 have this week really progressed with their text and are enjoying finding new things out about Skellig and Mina.

In writing, Year 6 have written some instructions from Mina to Michael. Year 5 have been writing explanation texts about their spy gadgets in preparation for writing our spy thriller narratives next week.

In maths we have continued to solve problems related to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Theme has been focussed on using vocabulary relating to computer technology and what a network is. We have also been focusing on algorithms and using logical thinking skills to debug any errors.

In addition to all this, Year 6 have written about last week's Mission, Survive and Thrive as well as continuing with their Be Awesome Go Big transitioning to high school work.

Grow Your Own Potatoes – National Competition

Earlier in the year Chadsmead entered the national Grow Your Own Potato (GYOP) competition. Two different varieties of seed potato were supplied. A national variety, called Casablanca, which was grown by all schools in the scheme and a regional variety called Piccolo. The aim was to assess the harvest from each potato type and to grow the biggest crop. 15 weeks later the results are in!!! The differences between the two varieties were quite apparent.



Casablanca (picture left above) produced a crop of 43 round potatoes totalling 1.65kg, an average weight of 38g. On the other hand, the 39 piccolo potatoes, totalling 600g, were oval in shape, with an average weight of just 15g, significantly smaller that Casablanca. Maybe the clue is in Piccolo's name? If we wanted a bigger crop I think we would always choose Casablanca as our seed potato. However, it's over to the school kitchen for these potatoes for the all-important taste test!

September Paperwork

We will be sending home data collection sheets and collection arrangement forms ready for the new academic year – please can you complete the paperwork and return to school before we break up to ensure a smooth transition in September. Thank you for your support.