

Overleigh St Mary's CE Primary School

MESSENGER



Friday 27th September 2024

Dear Overleigh Family,

We are now half way through autumn 1 and we have settled in really well to the new school year. A special welcome to all the new children and their families that have joined us.



PARKING

We are still troubled by a small minority of families who do not arrive sufficiently early enough to access the parking spaces directly opposite school but insist on doing so. Consequently, we have faced dangerous situations every day where drivers park or drive dangerously with regular near miss situations for children and their families. This is not acceptable. All schools experience difficulty with congestion and parking at the start and end of school days, currently the traffic diversions in Chester are making this worse for staff and parents alike. However, this means we all need to adjust accordingly and leave home earlier to compensate. It is not acceptable to aggressively beep your horn at the Headteacher or Mr Flynn to make us move because you are running late. Please show respect and patience so your child and everyone else is not made anxious or put at risk from your behaviour choices. Whenever possible please use the college carpark for drop off and pick up.

Mr Flynn will be giving warning notes to families who drive into the road at peak times and we will notify the police of registration details of those that continue to show a lack of consideration to others.

If you have secondary or college aged children that bike to school past Overleigh, please mention safety when doing this. We have had several children and staff clipped by bikes as well as cyclists themselves due to the speed they travel and their lack of due care and attention.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO WALK, WHEEL, DRIVE & PARK SAFELY AND CONSIDERATELY EVERY DAY!

CHESHIRE DIOCESE ACADEMY TRUST (CDAT)

As you will be aware we were due to convert to an academy and join CDAT on 01.10.2024. We consulted on this decision over a year ago and so it is very frustrating for us not to be moving forward as planned. The Head and school team have got everything ready that DfE, LA, Diocese and Department for Education require and worked across the summer to accomplish this.

However, the Local Authority Highways department and council are holding up the process. I am sure you will be particularly frustrated to learn this is due to the condition of the road directly outside school. It is an unadopted road and as such under the control of the Highways department. DfE and school have been told that there are many unadopted roads in the authority and consequently the LA cannot afford to maintain them all. This means they want the road to transfer to CDAT along with the school buildings and land. In essence, Overleigh is being made an example of by the LA and council due to lack of funding from central government. DfE, Diocese, CDAT and school are all absolutely clear that the road is not ours and it is not an asset of the school to pass with the conversion. On direction from the DfE, regarding what they describe as a highly irregular situation from Cheshire West, it seems we have an agreement that the road remains in control of the LA. However, they then have said they cannot action this before the deadline that was needed for the 01.10.24 conversion. There-

fore, our conversion date is now put back to 01.11.24 and consequently this has led to considerable work for the head and bursar as we have to repopulate all the HR and financial information the LA require before we can convert. In addition, the road remains in a critical state and is increasingly unsafe for pedestrians and cyclists.

Thank you to all the parents and governors that are supporting us in this matter by writing to the LA Highways department and MP / council members. We are doing the same at school and very much appreciate the support.

We will update you when we have more news and in the meantime all the payment systems remain the same and we set them active again.



Gardening Club

We have been busy bees again in the school grounds. This time we dug up our leeks and more potatoes and made them into a delicious soup. Well done gardening team and many thanks to all the staff that helped! Now the hard work starts in digging and turning our beds for the winter. At least the children have experienced the rewards of last year's hard work! We would welcome some adult volunteer time in the allotments as it is hard to get everything done in break times and many of us have very small hands and feet! If you can offer an hour as a one off or regularly

do let the office know. Special thanks for a very kind donation, that has helped to make our most recent work possible and all the more enjoyable. X



Parent / Teacher Meetings

Shortly, we will share information for booking onto meetings with teachers. These will be over Zoom in October and then in person again in March. There is more information later in this newsletter.

Friday Celebration Worship

From Friday 4th October we are going to hold celebration worship on a Friday in the school all as a trial. We know working parents and those with family over seas especially enjoy the zoom option for convenience and to enjoy the experience from afar. Therefore, we will trial a combination offer. So we will send a zoom link and have this open so you can join and experience some of the celebration or parents / carers can come in person. We will start as close to 9 as we can and see how it goes before making firm decisions regarding the way forward.





Harvest Festival

This Monday 30th September our Harvest Festival will be led by Daisy Meadows Class Y3. Meadows class parents are warmly invited to join us in the hall from 9am.

Thank you for the kind donations received this week. All of them go to the local Food Bank who are always extremely appreciative of our support. Any last donations can be brought in on Monday and then everything will be collected at lunchtime.

We regularly refer families to the food bank so it is lovely to support a cause that helps our immediate, as well as wider, community.

Sports Festival

On Tuesday, a group of upper KS2 children represented Overleigh at a sports festival. They tried and researched lots of different sports and health promoting activities. They had a wonderful day and it was lovely to receive praise about their behaviour and attitude from the organisers; Passion for Learning. The organisation is a charitable group who spread a lot of generosity and kindness in many schools in the region. We have a long standing relationship with them and are grateful for all their support. They are always keen for more volunteers or contacts.

Winter Clothing

We are very lucky to have such a big school but as it is surrounded by windows it is almost always too hot in the summer and too cold in the winter. Do please make sure your child has a school jumper or cardigan and a warm coat to wear. Please name these items!

PE kits can contain black jogging bottoms and an extra sweatshirt as most classes will continue with outside PE as long as the weather allows i.e. it isn't bucketing down!!#

Where at all possible please leave PE and Forest School kits in for the half term. This saves remembering each week. Please remember to label it with your child's name. Thank you.

Attendance & Punctuality

Thank you to all children and families for working hard to get to school on time for doors opening. There has been a huge improvement this half term—well done to all! Lets keep it up please. Just a reminder 10 1/2 day absences may lead to a financial penalty.

These will be initiated for any term time absence from September, even if you put the holiday form in before end of July. We did repeatedly share these rules in the summer.

Our Attendance Class Heroes have been busy with Mrs Martell promoting positive attendance to their peers. In addition, the first runners are off in the Overleigh 100% Dee Horse Racing Cup, which is our class attendance competition this year. The children have named their horses in relation to their class author and their characters from their books. Mr Darcy was a popular choice for Y5!



In Love and Peace,
Miss Emma Drew

Key Dates For 24-25

Wed 2nd October	Y6 Parents Residential Meeting 5.00pm School Hall
Mon 14th to 16th Oct	Y6 Residential at Barnstondale
Mon 14th-Thurs 24th Oct	Zoom Parents Meetings
Thursday 24th Oct	Last Day Autumn 1 3,20pm Finish
Friday 25th October	INSET DAY SCH CLOSED
Monday 4th Nov	INSET DAY SCH CLOSED
Tuesday 5th Nov	First Day Autumn 2 Values Day: Hope
14th & 15th Nov	Anti-Bullying & Anti-Harassment Focus Days
Friday 20th Dec	Last Day Autumn 2 2.15pm Finish

Class Assembly Autumn Term 1 Dates:- 2.30pm unless stated in the school hall

Monday 30th September: Daisy Meadows Class Y3 Harvest Festival <u>8.55 am</u> in the school hall
Tuesday 1st October: Jane Austen Class Y5
Tuesday 8th October: Anthony Horowitz Class Y5
Tuesday 15th October: Jeremy Strong Class Y4
Tuesday 22nd October: Michael Morpurgo Class Y4

Academic Year 2024-2025 continued:

Monday 6th Jan	INSET Day for Staff
Tuesday 7th Jan	First Day Spring 1 Values Day: Respect
Friday 14th Feb	Last Day Spring 1 3.20pm Finish
Monday 24th Feb	First Day Spring 2 Values Day: Integrity
Friday 4th April	Last Day Spring 2 2.15pm Finish
Wednesday 23rd April	First Day Summer 1 Values Day: Service & Stewardship
Friday 23rd May	Last Day Summer 1 3,20pm Finish
Monday 2nd June	First Day Summer 2 Values Day: Thankfulness
Tuesday 22nd July	Last Day Summer 2 2.15pm Finish
Wednesday 23rd July	INSET SCHOOL CLOSED

Gardening Club Appeal



Gardening Club has really taken off this year and we are gaining more and more interest amongst the children. We were looking for some help with Gardening Club on two levels.

Firstly and unfortunately, the damp weather has taken its toll on some of our flowerbeds and we need some strong wood for the planters. If anyone has any scaffolding planks (or similar) to donate then we would be very grateful. Please let Miss Drew or Mr Flynn know if this is the case.

Secondly, we are looking for any volunteers with a bit of time to spare in the school day who might have an interest, or expertise, in helping us maintain and further develop our quad gardening experiences for the children. Please again let Miss Drew or Mr Flynn know if this is the case.

Year 6 Barnstondale Residential Meeting

The Year 6 Barnstondale Residential Meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd October in the main school hall at 5.00pm. Access can be gained through the main hall doors at the front of school. This is the perfect opportunity to find out about Barnstondale, including information about the location, activities, timings, what they need to bring, key contact numbers (which will be sent out in addition to the meeting) and other general information about the visit. If you are unable to attend, then please let the Year 6 team know and they can forward you the powerpoint presentation being used at the meeting. Hopefully, all your questions can be answered then. In preparation for the meeting, you will have received a contact details/medical/dietary form. We have to fill this in for any residential so please get these back as soon as possible.

Any specific medicines required for the trip (not CALPOL, as school will take this) need to be handed to the office in a named container the week before the residential to allow us to be fully prepared to leave punctually on the morning of the 14th October.

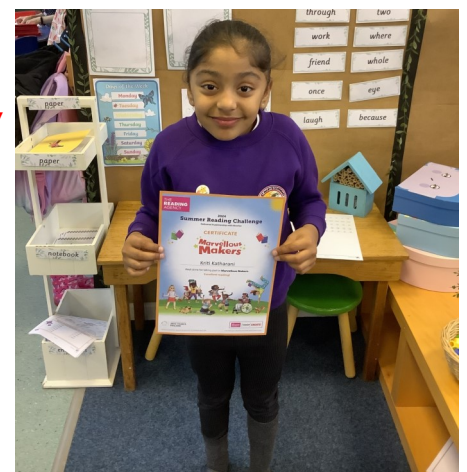
Further details will follow for any children not attending the residential.

PE Kit and Participation

Thank you for your support with PE kit this term. There has been a vast increase in the number of children bringing the correct kit to their lessons this term. As the weather becomes more inclement, children can wear black joggers and a warm sports fleece or sweatshirt for PE lessons. Our aim is to exercise outside whenever possible for PE. Thank you also for sending in notes or letting the teacher know whenever children are unable to participate in PE due to medical reasons. It is really important that children do participate in PE unless there is a strong reason not to.

Reading Superstars

It is fantastic to see the amount of rainbow reading badges already being claimed this year. Please keep encouraging your child to read regularly and also remember that you can add in any reading they complete in their reading diaries to let the teachers know about everything that is being read. This will lead to them achieving their rainbow readers badges regularly. Meanwhile, Kriti in Bond Class has won a competition outside of school for her Summer Reading Challenge over the summer break. Here she is celebrating in school with her certificate and medal. Well done, Kriti!



Head Pupil Selection

Our head pupil elections for 2024-2025 will be up and running soon. We will introduce it to the children in school and then we send details of what you need to do to stand for the role.

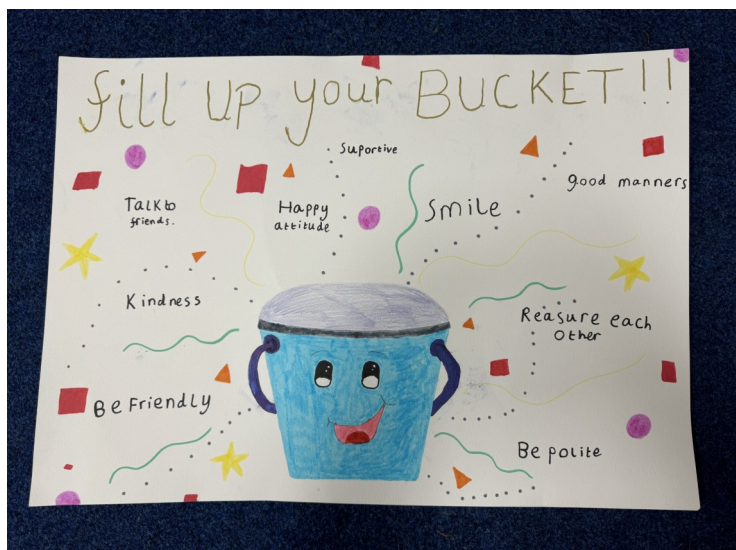
It is open to any child across school from Y1 to Y6 to enter in to. The first phase involves applying for the role. The second stage is a short presentation to an independent panel to decide who the four candidates will be. The four candidates then usually have a deputy running alongside them for their campaign and all the other children who entered into the process will then be placed in one of the parties to help run the campaign and try to share their ideas with their candidate. This hopefully gives everybody a chance to stay involved from the beginning to the end. Last of all, the four main candidates will need to prepare a speech for a whole school assembly to listen to. There will then be an election by the children of the school who will all be entitled to one vote.

The panel, in the second phase, will be different to last year's panel to allow any of the children who were unsuccessful in the past a fair opportunity to put forward their case again to a different set of eyes and ears. Last year the panel was Mrs Dickson, Mrs Beaumont and Mr Longworth.

The candidates and quality of presentations from so many children were exceptional last year and the whole election was run as an election should be run with each candidate respecting the others and trying to fully include all the children in their parties in the campaigns.

By the end of campaigning last year, we had a brilliant head pupil in Jess, who was determined to add some extra playground equipment into school for the younger children. She researched loads of potential equipment, additional funding and even people who could conduct a site survey for us. Eventually, Jess' appeal was supported by the PTA who have included all Jess' ideas into their plans and funding and are looking to install that equipment at some point in the coming year. Well done, Jess, and thanks as ever to the PTA for a listening ear and ongoing support.

So look out for this exciting opportunity coming soon to the children.



Secrets to Success

We've had some wonderful work coming in for our Secrets to Success Autumn Term 1. Here is an example of a beautifully presented and well thought out piece of work from Logan in Year 6. You thoroughly deserve your Autumn Term 1 award, Logan, as do the rest of you that have already completed your first task. Remember it's not too late to join in if you haven't done so already.



King's School Invitational Tournament

A group of our Year 6 children took part in the football and netball tournaments at King's School this week. Both teams performed superbly with the football team finishing a very creditable 3rd in the whole tournament and the netball team finishing likewise in their competition only losing out on 2nd on goals scored. The children behaved brilliantly throughout being supportive of their own team mates and respectful towards the opposition and officials. They were a credit to our school, not only in performance but in representing our school. Well done everyone involved and thanks to our PE leads Miss Morgan and Miss McFaul for their excellent organisation. We will try and pop a netball photo in the next newsletter.

Parent's Meeting Zooms Whole School

As in every Autumn Term, the first parent meeting is by zoom. This is then followed up with a face to face, and review of work, meeting in the Spring Term. The booking availability for these zooms will be made live on Monday 30th September on SCOPAY. We encourage parents to please only book one slot per child as this will allow every child to have a slot on the day. We understand that in some cases there might be a need for a parent to book a separate slot to the other parent for personal reasons. Please could you let the office or class teacher know if this is the case and a convenient time for you and the teacher to meet can be arranged.

Although there is a 15 minute slot booking form, the actual meeting should take 10 minutes and the extra five minutes is to allow staff to be on time for the next meeting. If after 10 minutes you feel that you still have more to discuss then the teacher will arrange to continue the conversation at another time.

Our teachers look forward to meeting you on the day. Thank you for your support and understanding with this.

Pop-Up Shops are Back

Our pop up shops are back up and running. All items are free of charge so come along and have a look if you feel you need some items for your child.

Weds 23 rd Oct	2:45-3:45pm
Fri 15 th Nov	9-10am
Weds 4 th Dec	2:45-3:45pm



Good quality second-hand clothes and school uniform available

Simply bring along a shopping bag and help yourself!



Donations welcome - please take to the school office

We are in need of Autumn/Winter wear, particularly for girls of all ages and boys age 4/5, 5/6, 9/10

We would also like to set up a fancy-dress rail to reduce the need to buy new outfits and reuse where possible - if you can help and have any items at home please drop off at the school office!



Online Safety Information Session

This session is delivered virtually so can be watched from anywhere!
We will share the link with you privately.

Current trends – what children are doing online and what apps/games are popular amongst children.

Understanding the Risks – a look at the risks associated with using technology, in particular when using social media, online gaming & live streaming.

What can you do? – suggestions on how you can support your child with their online lives and what parental controls are available to help you.

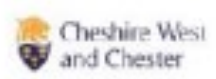
Further Support – signposting to services that are available to help you.

**WEDNESDAY
2ND OCTOBER
2024**

4PM – 4.45PM



**INCREDIBLE
EDIBLE
HANDBRIDGE**



The Big Community Garden Celebration Event!

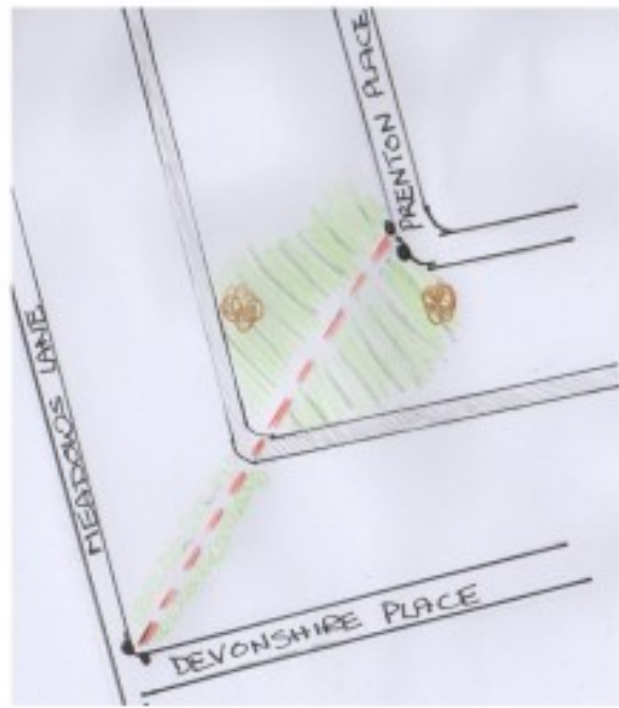
Sunday 29th September,
12 noon to 4pm at
The Arches Community Garden,
Handbridge, CH4 7DW.

Free fun activities for all the
Family - with Chester Zoo's
Networks for Nature team.

Bug Hunt! Raffle!

Food and Refreshments.

Come and explore your new
community garden. Everybody
welcome.



*"They can cut all the flowers
but they cannot keep the spring from coming"*

Pablo Neruda

BEFORE



NOW





Online Safety Newsletter

Oct 2024

iOS 18 Launch

Apple have recently released their latest operating system, iOS 18. iOS 18 offers lots of new features (some are restricted to newer phones) but one feature that you should be aware of is the ability to now lock and hide apps.

When an app is locked, Face ID, Touch ID or your passcode will be required to open it. This also means that notifications will no longer be shown for that app. Additionally, apps can now be hidden so they can only be accessed through a hidden apps folder that is also locked. This new feature illustrates the need to have regular chats with your child about what they are using their phone for.

Vault (secret) Apps

Have you heard of Vault Apps? They are basically secret apps that are concealed by looking like a normal, less conspicuous app. For example, one of these apps looks and works like a working calculator when opened, but when a passcode is entered, it reveals photographs, videos, documents and contacts. One way to prevent your child from using these apps is to ensure parental controls are set up so you can review all app purchases. You can find out more here:

- <https://www.bark.us/blog/find-hidden-apps/>
- <https://www.safes.so/blogs/vault-apps/>

Mobile phones: do you know the risks?

We know that children having access to a smartphone can expose children to risks including:

- Viewing inappropriate content
- Excessive screen time/use, which in turn can affect their mental health and sleep pattern.
- Contact from inappropriate people/grooming
- Cyberbullying
- Spending money on in-app purchases/scams



What effects do mobile phones have on children's mental health?

Compass discuss the research around this important topic, outlining the positive and negative effects that mobile phones have:

<https://www.compass-uk.org/services/compass-changing-lives/what-effects-do-mobile-phones-have-on-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health/>

EE launches Age Guidance

EE has launched age guidance for smartphone usage to improve children's digital wellbeing. In summary, they recommend that children under 11 should use non-smart devices, for children aged 11-13, they advise that if a smartphone is used, then parental controls should be enabled and access to social media restricted. Finally, for 13-16-year-olds they still recommend that parental controls are implemented and appropriate restrictions set up. You can read the full guidance here:

<https://newsroom.ee.co.uk/ee-launches-age-guidance-for-smartphone-usage-in-drive-to-improve-childrens-digital-wellbeing/>

Could you delay when your child is given a smartphone with Smartphone Free Childhood?

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age:

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

What device?

When you think it is the right time for your child to have a phone, then Which? provide an overview of some options available:

<https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/mobile-phones/article/buying-a-first-mobile-phone-best-dumb-phones-and-smartphones-for-kids-aA03C3Y8aTzr>

Instagram: new Teen account features

You must be over 13 years of age to set up an account.

Instagram is used to post photos and videos as well as send direct messages, make voice/video calls and send disappearing messages. Users can also upload to 'Stories' (which disappear after 24 hours), broadcast live and upload reels (short videos).



Teen accounts – NEW feature

Instagram have introduced Teen Accounts to try and create a safer experience for them. With a Teen Account, who they can contact is limited and the content they access will be set to the most restrictive setting to reduce exposure to sensitive content. If a teen would like to override any of these settings, then they will need their parent's permission by setting up parental supervision. These changes will be in place for all new users straightaway so any users that sign up that are under 16 will automatically be given a Teen Account. Existing users will be moved over to Teen Accounts over the next couple of months (in the UK).

Supervision settings – new features

Instagram already offers a supervision facility, but they have added to the features to include:

- The ability to see who your child has messaged in the past week (you will not be able to see the contents of these messages)
- The option to block your child from accessing Instagram at certain times e.g. during school or at night.
- The ability to see what topics your child has chosen to see.

Read the press release from Instagram, which outlines all the upcoming changes: <https://about.fb.com/news/2024/09/instagram-teen-accounts/>

You may not be seeing everything!

Did you know that you can hide your stories and live videos from specific people so your child could be uploading content but restricting your account from viewing it?

Safety Features

Ensure your child knows how to report posts and people, how to unfollow and block people, delete and turn off comments. View here: <https://help.instagram.com/269765046710559>

Make sure your child understands that there is a risk that content they upload can be shared with others without their permission as other users can screenshot it.

More information

- Visit the family centre to learn more about the features available: <https://familycenter.meta.com/uk/>

Learn Through Play with Sesame Street

The Sesame Street website has a whole host of resources, activities, and games from supporting with learning ABCs to discussing tough topics such as grief.

<https://sesameworkshop.org/>

Expert Approved Apps for Learning at Home

On the Google Play Store, you can find a list of expert approved Apps for learning at home suitable for children up to the age of 12.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/category/FAMILY>

Be aware of what you share

Get Safe Online have produced a set of tips to help you avoid oversharing and outlines what the consequences might be if you do:

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/whatdoyoushare/>

Staying safe online with Google Families

Google have a one stop resource to help you and your family stay safe online. It includes how to set up parental controls and important steps on how to keep your children safe online. You can find out more here:

<https://families.google/>

Friday Certificates 20.09.24



Class	Value	Comment
Carle Miss Evans	Compassion	Sam has started Reception with a wonderful attitude. He is keen to learn each day and is excited to share his ideas and stories with the class. Without asking, Sam helps children to hang their coats on their pegs or help wash their hands before lunch. He is always keen to lend a hand around the classroom and I know I can look to him to do the right thing. Well done Sam on a super start to Reception!
Butterworth Miss Burns	Love	Eden has had a fantastic full first week in Reception, her friendly nature has helped her make many new friends and helped her settle into her new class. Eden is kind to others and works well with all children. What a great start to our school year Eden, Well Done.
Bond Mrs Birchall Mrs Barnes	Integrity	Madison is settling well into Year 1 life and has a lovely smile on her face at all times. Madison is helpful in the classroom and always tries her best with the activities set. Well done Madison, what a great start.
Nicoll Miss Noakes	Wisdom	The Star of the Week in Nicoll class is Emmie for the Christian Value of Wisdom. Emmie's impressed me so much this week with her hardworking attitude in English. She's produced some excellent sentences about Nibbles the Book Monster and her handwriting keeps getting better and better. Well done, Emmie!
McKee Miss Morgan	Respect	Martin is a new pupil at Overleigh and he has been nothing but a delight to have in McKee class since the beginning of the new academic year. Martin has settled in amazingly, making lots of new friends and has picked Overleigh's school rules and routines quickly. He is always displaying hard work, and kindness to everyone around him, including all the teachers. I am so pleased you have joined McKee Class Martin, and I look forward to the rest of the school year. Well done Martin!
Gravett Miss Griffiths Mrs Jones	Integrity	Josh sets an excellent role model to his friends by listening, following instructions and making the right choices. He is an absolute pleasure to have in our class and we are so proud of how well he has settled in to year 2. Well done Josh!
Hughes Miss Hunter	Love	Lila is a super friend and a very thoughtful member of Ted Hughes class. Over the past couple of weeks Lila's care and eagerness to help has shone each day, and her actions of love and kindness haven't gone unnoticed - Lila has picked people up when they have felt down. I have appreciated Lila's help around the class and her friends and class have all benefited from her actions. Thank you for being such a wonderful member of our class Lila!
Meadows Mr Mander	Love	Stefania is always kind and considerate to others, helping and supporting them. She has been particularly caring this week when others have needed it. We're so lucky to have you in our class.
Strong Mr Skinner	Wisdom	Elza is someone who is kind, caring and helpful. In class, she always tries her hardest and always arrives with a huge smile on her face. We are very proud of all that Elza has achieved thus far in Year 4, particularly in English lessons where she has made a real effort with her handwriting and sentence structure. Well done Elza!
Morpurgo Miss McFaul	Integrity	Ivy has been working extremely hard this week, even taking the time to help others who need it without being asked. She has been ready, respectful and safe throughout the entire school day and she has been helping others to do so as well. She has entered Year 4 with a readiness to learn and I can always trust that she is getting started on set tasks, straight away. Keep up the hard work, Superstar!
Horowitz Miss Holdstock	Integrity	I can always count on Lucile to be doing the right thing both in class and on the playground. She is always listening, tries hard, supports her peers and is extremely kind to everyone. You are a shining role model for everyone, Lucile. Well done
Austen Miss Axam	Respect	Teddy has launched himself into learning this year with such great enthusiasm. He is loving our topic of space and teaching me many new things too. Teddy has contributed to all of our class discussions and is showing that he is ready, respectful and safe. Well done, Teddy
Jeffers Miss Jones	Integrity	Aamira has been trying her very best in class and will constantly put her hand up to share her answers. She has really hit the ground running for Year 6, with a positive attitude to everything she does. She also has been looking after her peers, and will go out of her way to make sure they are ok. Well done Aamira, you are a positive role model for all!
Blackman Mrs McGoldrick Mrs Dickson	Wisdom	Please can we nominate Lyla for wisdom. Even in these few weeks, we have noticed a great increase in her confidence to share her thoughtful, creative ideas across the curriculum, She is always focused, always keen to contribute and always works her hardest. Well done Lyla.

Friday Certificates 27.09.24



Class	Value	Comment
Carle Miss Evans	Compassion	Willow always ensures that all children have a friend to play with. She always includes other children in her games and sets a great example on the playground. She shows empathy to others in her class and around the school and has beautiful manners. She has settled well into Reception and is an example to all. Well done Willow for a fantastic start
Butterworth Miss Burns	Wisdom	Viraat has tried really hard this week in his Phonics and English lessons. He is now able to independently listen for and spot the sound in words and has even started to blend short words together. I am really proud of the Ginger-
Bond Mrs Birchall Mrs Barnes	Integrity	Kriti for an amazing attitude to learning. Kriti consistently puts in maximum effort into every aspect of the curriculum. She is working extremely hard and we are very proud of her. Well done Kriti, you are an amazing member of the
Nicoll Miss Noakes	Respect	Seth can always be seen listening respectfully in class and on the carpet. Seth is kind and polite to other children, as well as grown ups around school. Well done Seth for such a super start to Year 1!
McKee Miss Morgan	Integrity	Harriet has been working hard in all her lessons. She has been really trying hard in her reading, and is making great progress. Well done Harriet! Keep up the hard work.
Gravett Miss Griffiths Mrs Jones	Wisdom	Elise has made wise choices this week by listening to feedback and adapting her work to improve it. She has produced some beautiful pieces of writing and we are so proud of her!
Hughes Miss Hunter	Respect	Jakub is a super respectful member of Ted Hughes class! He is always one of the first to have his eyes to the front and waiting to listen intently. It is so lovely to see, and it is great that he listens so well and is actively involved in lessons. This week, Jakub has been a super scientist and has impressed me by showing a keen interest in finding out about different types of rock, he did a great job exploring. Well done Jakub!
Meadows Mr Mander	Integrity	Flo has been working really hard this week, even when she has found it a bit tricky. She always has a big smile on her face and enjoys her learning. Well done Flo, keep it up.
Strong Mr Skinner	Wisdom	Serena is someone who is kind and conscientious - always setting a positive example for her peers. In class she tries her hardest in her work and does so with a huge smile on her face. In particular, I've been proud of the presentation and quality of the work that she has produced in English lessons where we are currently writing our own Greek myths. Well done Serena!
Morpurgo Miss McFaul	Wisdom	Charlotte has been working extremely hard in all the tasks that she has been asked to do. She enjoys learning nice things and finding ways of learning that work the best for her. She has not only been working hard in school but also at home, doing extra maths practice and reading with her grown ups when she has a bit of extra time. She has been starting her tasks the moment she is set them and this has helped improve her work overall. Keep up the fantastic work!
Horowitz Miss Holdstock	Integrity	Jack is an all round superstar. He is always doing what is expected of him, not only being the perfect role model for the younger children but also working extremely hard in all lessons. Keep up the hard work Jack. You are a star!
Austen Miss Axam	Respect	Charles has been so keen to participate in all lessons, helping other people and generally showing an excellent attitude in all of our subjects. His enthusiasm is to be commended. Well done Charles.
Jeffers Miss Jones	Love	Will B always comes into school with a love for learning, I have even noticed how much of a love for Reading he has developed! This is fantastic to see. He will always follow the classroom and school rules, and will encourage his
Blackman Mrs McGoldrick Mrs Dickson	Wisdom	Lewis has come to Year 6 with such a great attitude to his learning and is trying his hardest every day - whether working independently or in a group. We've been so impressed with his effort in Maths this week. Keep it up Lew-

Nursery



Silly
soup



Exploring
natural
materials



Building
aeroplanes



Balancing

Year R

What a fantastic few weeks we have had in Reception!

The children have enjoyed learning a new letter sound 'phoneme' each day and have begun to apply their phonics knowledge into their...

Gingerbread man writing!



We have been practising writing the grapheme with sand, paint and flour!

Year R

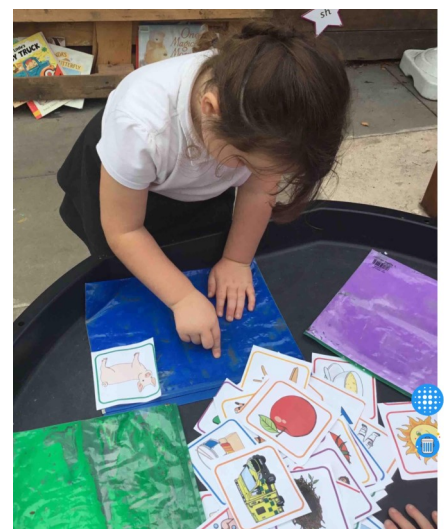
What a fantastic few weeks we have had in Reception!

The children have enjoyed learning a new letter sound 'phoneme' each day and have begun to apply their phonics knowledge into their...

Gingerbread man writing!



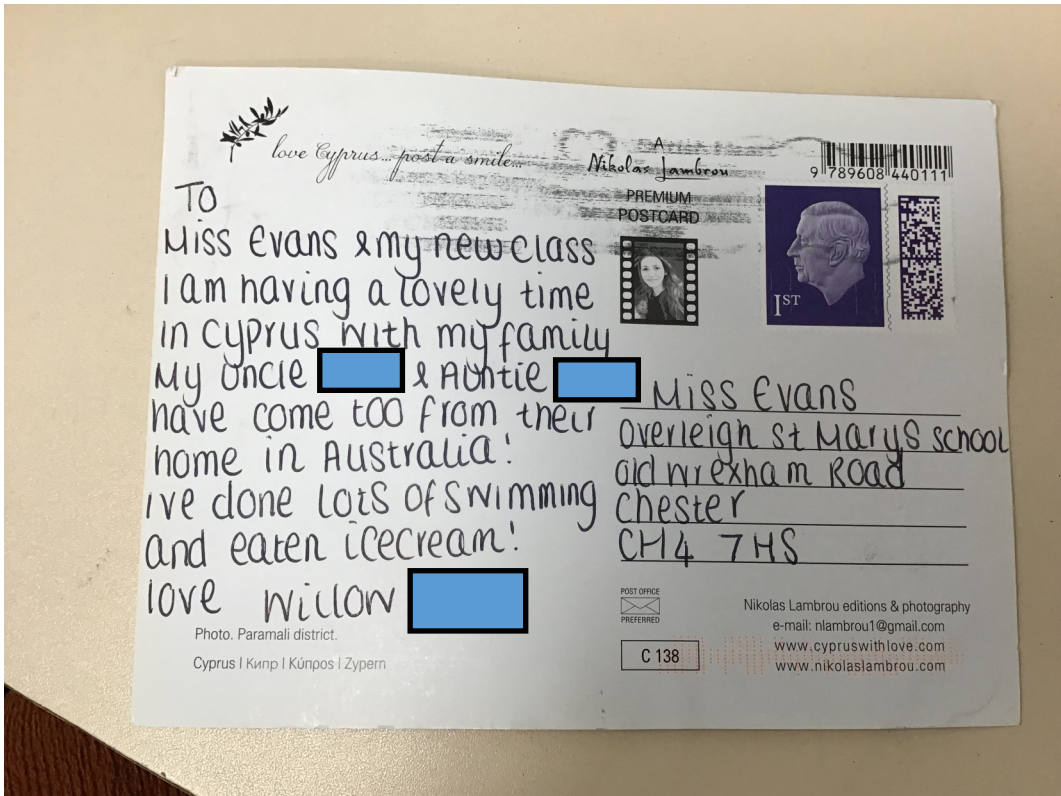
We have been practising writing the grapheme with sand, paint and flour!



Year R



Last week Miss Evans and Eric Carle class received a post card from Willow. She had been to Cyprus during the summer holidays and sent a postcard telling us what she has been up to. How lovely!



Year 1

In Science we have been learning about plants. We went out into the Peace Garden and looked at the different plants. We found buttercups, daisies, dandelions and lavender. We discussed the different features and talked about what they needed to survive in that environment.



For our Science lesson, Miss Drew and Gardening Club kindly dug us up some overgrown spring onion plants to have a look at. The plants were huge and we could clearly see where we needed to label the roots, stem, leaves and flower.

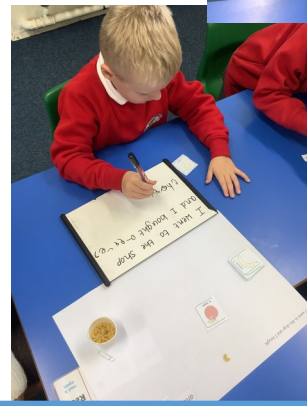


Year 2

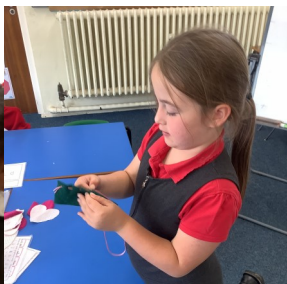
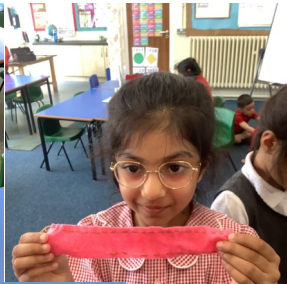
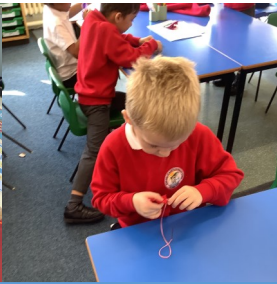
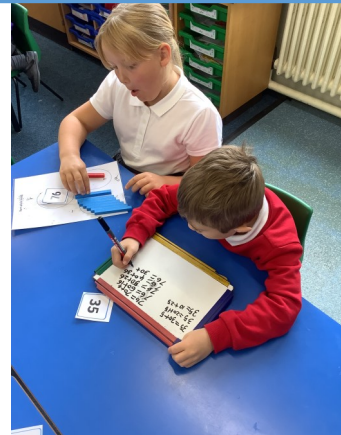


We have performed puppet shows to retell the story of Little Red Riding Hood.

What a busy start to the year we have had in Year 2!



We have used macaroni to learn about commas and we've explored partitioning numbers in different ways.



We have even learned how to sew!

Year 3

In History, we have started looking at the Stone Age.

We looked at how long ago the Stone Age was and what the stages of the Stone Age are.



In Science, we have been looking at different kinds of rocks. We sorted them by appearance, texture and tested them to see if we could work out if they were igneous, metamorphic or sedimentary.

In Maths, we have been working on our place value knowledge up to 1000. We have been making, partitioning and comparing numbers using our knowledge of place value.

Year 4



We have been having a wonderful time learning all about both Ancient and Modern Greece.

In English, we are creating and writing our own myths and in Art, we are exploring Greek pottery.



In PE, the children have been learning the rules of hockey and developing their teamwork and agility skills.



Year 5



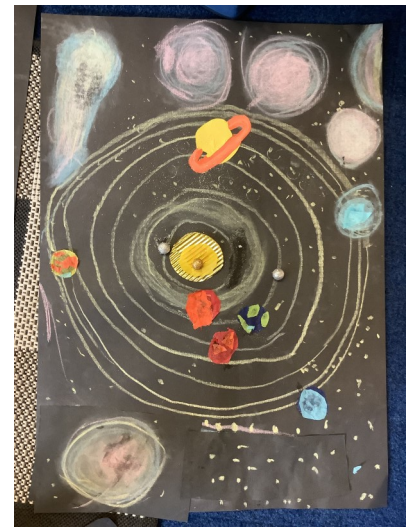
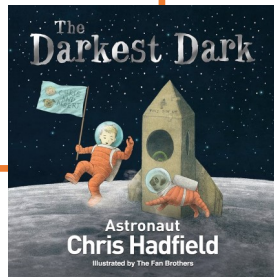
We have had an excellent start to Year 5!

The children have adapted to the new year group brilliantly and tackled the work with open minded attitudes.



Our English text also links to Space. It is called *The Darkest Dark* - the story of astronaut Chris Hadfield and his dream of being an astronaut.

The children created freeze frames from scenes in the book.



Our Science focus for this half-term is Space. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the solar system whilst sharing their already existent knowledge,.

Take a look at the solar systems that we made last week! Can you spot any planets?



Year 5



In music we worked on music with a feeling of three and a feeling of four. We made sequences of movements inspired by Morris dancing while keeping to a steady pulse.

Year 5

During our English sessions, which link to *The Darkest Dark* by Chris Hadfield, we wrote diary entries from the viewpoint of Chris.

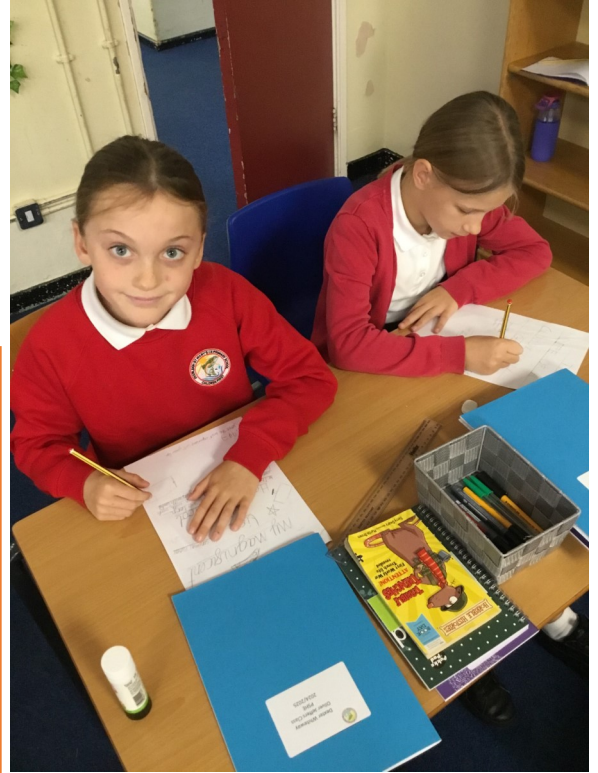
This is a brilliant example of the fantastic writing skills our children have. Well done Alice!

21st July 1969

Yesterday was wonderful. It was the day of the Moon Landing. After months of reading about the Moon landing, the day finally arrived. My parents and I ran next door. There was so many people all piled into one small room staring at the television. The only television on the entire island! I found a spot behind the sofa where I could see. I looked at the TV, which was black and white, and I was incredibly filled with excitement. A man then flickered onto the TV. "Tonight we will see one of the greatest events of time live!" said the man, "Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin will become the first men on the moon!" We then heard a loud bang as the P rocket landed and the two men stepped out. I don't really remember what happened next because I was so lost in thought. I do remember Neil Armstrong saying, "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." I think that some day that will become a famous quote. Since that night, I am no longer afraid of the dark. In fact I love it. Now I'm one step closer to going on the moon. No longer will I sleep afraid of the

Year 6

Year 6 have had an excellent start to the year!
They have all come into school with such a positive attitude and are enjoying their learning already!



Here are some photos from our Values Day and first week back at school.

The children enjoyed exploring *Begin Again* by Oliver Jeffers and produced some lovely work.

All the children in Jeffers class really enjoyed showing this work off to their friends and family, who came to our class assembly!

