

Chadsgrove Newsletter

Headteacher's Message



Hello to all our wonderful families!

We approached this Christmas with much optimism in terms of being able to welcome you all into school to celebrate together and to resume some of our traditional Christmas activities in our usual format. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic and number of cases being reported upon nationally, we took the very difficult decision to keep some activities remote to protect the safety of children and staff. I am sure you will join me though in celebrating the success of the Christmas plays delivered remotely and congratulating staff for their amazing efforts in producing these performances! We will hold out hope for next year to be altogether for Christmas – what a celebration that will be!

The children have all enjoyed the Christmas activities we have been able to hold in school! They have certainly loved having 'Sleep'til Santa' back in full swing in their classes, performing in the Christmas Plays, seeing Father Christmas, wearing their festive jumpers, making posters, class Christmas dinner and much more!

Sadly this term we are saying goodbye to two outstanding and incredibly talented Teaching Assistants, Gail Kings who has been at Chadsgrove for 23 years and Jenny Rosser for an incredible 41 years! Both Gail and Jenny have dedicated their careers to our school and staff and children have benefited enormously from their expertise and passion. They will both be very much missed; however, we wish them a long, happy and healthy retirement! I am sure they will continue to be part of our school and hopefully may come back to do some volunteering when they get bored!

In my last Christmas letter, we were saying farewell to Amy Hockey as she was starting her maternity leave and now I am delighted to welcome Amy back! Amy will return to 9US for 3 days a week from 16th December. We wish Hayley O'Brien all the very best as she starts her maternity leave!

Thank you all so much for your support throughout the year with some very challenging times, this never goes unnoticed and is always appreciated. I would also like to say a huge thank you for all the raffle prizes that you have sent in for Christmas, as always you have been incredibly generous!

I hope you have a fabulous Christmas break and that you can share some wonderful quality time with family. Thank you for all your Christmas wishes and appreciation, it has been communicated back to school and gone out to all our staff.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to you all!

Deb Rattley



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Chadsgrove School Values
Welcoming Teamwork Friendship Trust Independence Fun

2LS

This term 2LS have been very excited helping to arrange a new Forest School shelter.

This has been funded through donations and is now complete and is been enjoyed by all pupils at Chads Grove.



We have also been enjoying lots of different stories. One of our favourite books is 'The Pooch With Too Many Toys'.

The author of the book lives locally, and he very kindly came to visit us. We had great fun listening to him reading his story to us!

3LS



3LS completed their 'All About Me' topic with a fantastic display. They have been working hard in art, independently making 'mini-me models' and then larger-than-life full scale models! We had lots of fun drawing around each other and painting ourselves. We are very proud of our hard work and it looks great on the board for everyone to see.



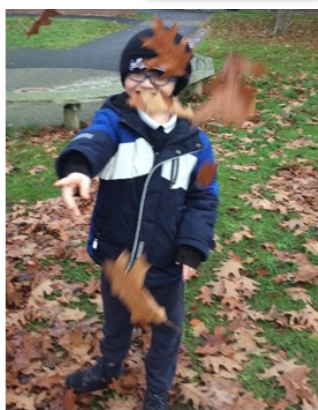
4LS

This term, we have really enjoyed getting messy with paint in Art & Craft! Our topic 'Getting to Know You', with a focus on 'Peter Pan', has allowed us to explore a range of paints and papers when creating our mark-making masterpieces. We have been working on choosing colours to use in our work, becoming more independent in mark-making, and choosing and using different mark-making tools. Look at all of our hard work!



5LS

This half term 5LS have enjoyed visits from the CBSO and had a chance to get involved with the music in all kinds of ways: trying out the instruments themselves, singing, dancing, controlling the music and simply listening.



5LS have been excited about their special PE activities, one for the Commonwealth Games in Bromsgrove and one in the school grounds.



We talked about what happens in December, then everyone helped to decorate the Christmas tree.



6LS

6LS enjoyed all things Pudsey for Children in Need! They worked hard to decorate their poster for the schools competition and... were the winners! Josh made some delicious cupcakes too!



We have been getting into the Christmas spirit and have made and decorated some Christmas baubles. We also really enjoyed decorating the classroom and kept an eye on the naughty Elf!

7LS



7LS really enjoyed their Outdoor and Adventurous Activity for this term, which was to take part in a sensory walk around the school track and sensory garden.

There was certainly lots of 'awe and wonder' evident as they explored the exciting sensory stimuli along the way!



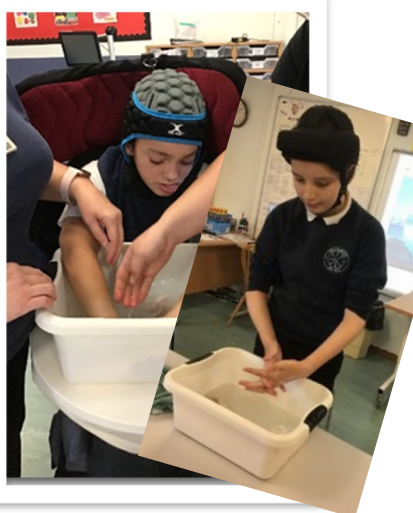
8LS



8LS have been working hard in Food-tech making our very own pizza! We used all of our senses while deciding what toppings to put on the top. Yum yum.



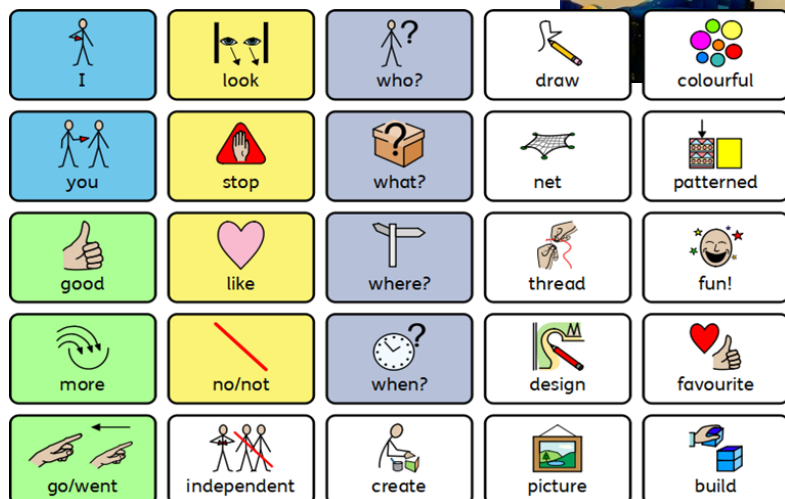
We have enjoyed doing lots of super counting in Maths, using building blocks to help us add up tricky sums. This was a special Pudsy bear worksheet for our children in need day.



It is almost Christmas time and the weather is getting much colder. 8LS have been making sure they wash their hands regularly until they are squeaky clean. We are keeping all of those naughty germs away!

9US

9US have been creating some amazing, inspirational and original artwork during their Thursday morning art lessons. They have been working with Sally Harper from Meadow Arts, funded by The Paul Hamlyn Foundation and supported by Worcester University and The House of Imagination.



Together we are learning that independent exploration and creativity is taking us on some amazing journeys. Pupils have made clear choices, threaded, tied knots, weaved and used drawing and painting skills to make a brilliant collaboration. We have included an 'Assisted Language Display' so that all pupils can talk about the work they are seeing.

9US Positivity

This half term we have focussed on engaging in learning with a focus on Positive Mental Health.



Farah has enjoyed her maths activity counting items to put on a pizza as the start point of learning division.

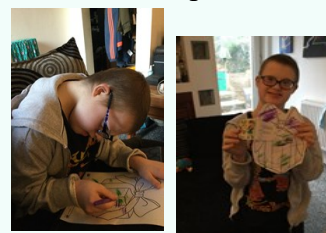
Morgan came 2nd in our cupcake competition for Need or Children .



Jack enjoyed exploring the sensory garden with Gekko Boy



James wasn't able to be in school but he still helped us with our Christmas poster.



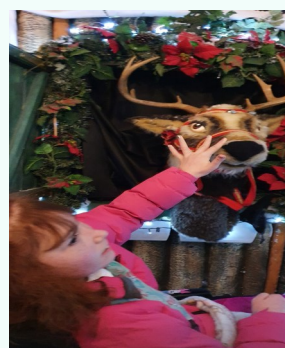
Will enjoyed experimenting in Science



Finley enjoyed making edible sparklers for Bonfire night in Food Technology.



Millie loved meeting Steve the reindeer.



Class loved our trip to the Safari Park.



Finley washed up the class cups when we made hot chocolate in Independent Living Skills.



10US

This term, we have really enjoyed getting physical developing our fine and gross motor skills; we have enjoyed linking this to our theme of *'Having my say!'* We were provided with lots of support and encouragement to "make choices" and engage independently within our choice. Just look at how much fun we have had!





11US have been exploring forces and mechanisms in science, looking at pulleys, levers, cogs and gears.

In art they have been looking at steampunk, using mechanical imagery like that which they looked at in science to create surrealist pieces.



12US spent some of the money raised from their “make and sell” sale on a McDonald’s breakfast. Pupils decided on food and drink items they wanted from the menu.

Sophia took the order on her VOCA and pupils worked out how many items they could afford with the money they had raised.

The syrup pancakes and hash browns were a hit!

As part of their class café, pupils made mince pies. All pupils worked as independently as possible and carefully cut their pastry.

We beginning to feel very festive in 12US!



13US NCS trip to West Midlands Safari Park



13US had a fantastic time at the West Midlands Safari Park. The trip was the first day of the NCS project they were involved in. We saw lots of amazing animals who were very friendly and came extremely close to the minibuses! We were lucky to also have an animal experience where the pupils got to see an ostrich egg, giant turtle shell, a snake skin and a very cute ferret.

14US

14US has done lots of different art/craft projects this half term!

We really love exploring a range of different textures and colours in our paintings and posters.

The top painting is our 'Hogwarts in the snow' Christmas poster, followed by the Taj Mahal for November's festival of the month.

The final poster was made for Children in need!



15US pupils have been hard at work helping the local Catshill Community. The group have worked alongside Councillor Shirley Webb repotted all of the planters in the village, they used their previously learnt horticulture skills to ensure the old plants and roots were removed before adding a bit of colour with the winter flowers and shrubs. The group even braved the rain on one of the outings and didn't stop until all of the planters had been completed.



Emma Nolan's Work Related Group have been busy creating fabulous treats and gifts for Christmas. The group worked together on the Christmas Enterprise, they decided what kind of gifts they wanted to make and then Kobie ordered the resources from an online site. Tom was particularly keen to ensure that the animals weren't left out at Christmas and has made treats for dogs, cats and birds. The rest of the group worked really hard and had a production line of making the treats. 15US' treats will be on sale via an order form system.



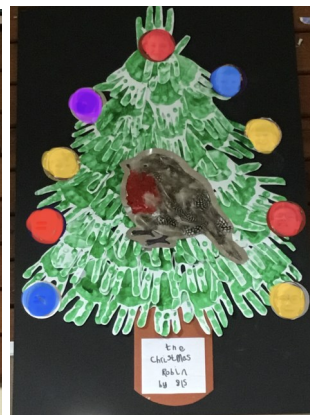
Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award

Pupils have started their volunteering section.

The two boys have worked extremely hard transforming the communal Blue Light Hub garden at Bromsgrove Police Station.

The garden was very overgrown and uncared for but the DofE volunteering group have trimmed back all the foliage, removed all of the dead plants and leaves.

Our Christmas Posters

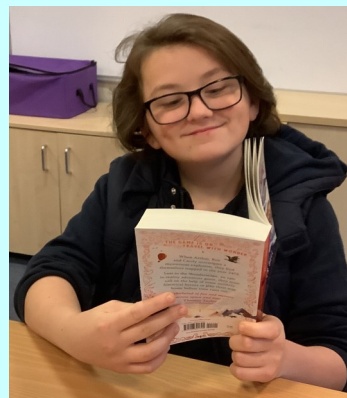
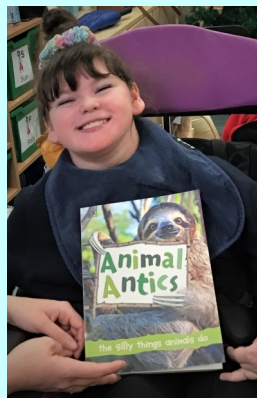


Bookbuzz

Chadsgrove School once again participated in the 'Bookbuzz' programme this year. 'Bookbuzz' is a reading programme from 'BookTrust' which supports schools to encourage reading for pleasure, celebrates independent choice and helps to develop a whole school reading culture. As part of this programme, nearly 50 pupils (from Year 7 and above) have had the opportunity to choose their own book to keep from a list of 17 high quality titles suitable for 11-year-olds* and selected by a panel of experts. (*Including titles selected for Special Schools.)

This year, our pupils chose a range of titles from across a number of different genres. However, the most popular choice was 'Animal Antics'; a beautiful book packed with amazing pictures capturing the funniest, cutest, most interesting moments from the animal kingdom.

I'm sure our pupils will enjoy reading their new books for pleasure both in school and at home.



**Time
to read**
BookTrust

'Time to Read' Packs

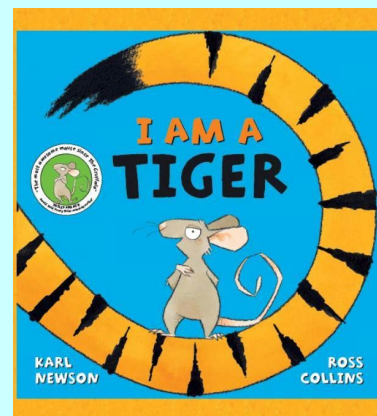
Chadsgrove School is participating in the BookTrust's 'Time to Read' programme again this year.

Through their 'Time to Read' programme, BookTrust want to make sure that every Reception pupil in England has their own book to treasure and share with their family

at home. Therefore, BookTrust is sending out book packs to every reception-aged child in England. In 2021 each pack includes a free copy of *I Am a Tiger* by Karl Newson and Ross Collins (published by Pan Macmillan). *I am a Tiger* is a charming story to read together, with simple text and bold illustrations, this is a lovely book to read aloud and to share.

We hope these packs will spark every child's imagination, improve language and listening as well as encouraging the development of more practical skills such as making new friends and dealing with change. Reading together regularly as a family will also create a safe space for children to express themselves and is a great way to bond as a family. Our Reception pupils have already received their 'Time to read' packs. We hope our parent carers will enjoy sharing this FREE book with their child.

Mouse tries to convince all the other animals that he is really a tiger! But then a real tiger turns up...





Chadsgrove School

Meadow Road, Catshill, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B61 0JL

Headteacher: Deb Rattley

Telephone: 01527 871511

Email: office@chadsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

Website: www.chadsgrove.org.uk

Dates for your Diary 2021/2

Friday 17th December	School closes for students (3.30pm)
Tuesday 4th January	INSET Day School closed to students
Wednesday 5th January	School opens for students (9.00am)
Friday 18th February	School closes for students (3.30pm)
Monday 28th February	School opens for students (9.00am)
Thursday 7th April	School closed
Friday 8th April	INSET Day school closed to students
Monday 25th April	School opens for students (9.00am)
Friday 29th April	School closes for students (3.30pm)
Monday 2nd May	School closed—May Day
Tuesday 3rd May	School opens for students (9.00am)
Friday 27th May	School closes for students (3.30pm)
Monday 6th June	School opens for students (9.00am)
Thursday 23rd June	School closes for students (3.30pm)
Friday 24th June	INSET Day School closed to students
Monday 27th June	School opens for students (9.00am)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAKE PAYMENTS THROUGH OUR ONLINE FACILITY, PAYMENTS 4 SCHOOLS, THE LINK CAN BE FOUND ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE. SHOULD YOU REQUIRE FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

Christmas Treecycling

Wednesday 5th, Thursday 6th & Friday 7th January 2022

Let us collect your real Christmas tree from your door & we will take it to be recycled

Areas we are covering:

WR1, WR3, WR4, WR5, WR7, WR9, WR10
B60, B61, Redditch - B96, B97
Barnt Green, Alvechurch, Inkberrow, Feckenham and the villages local to the charity: Crowle, Upton Snodsbury, Broughton Hacket, White Ladies Aston and Drakes Broughton.

Last day for bookings: Monday 3rd January at 12noon

Minimum donation of £5.00 per tree for us to collect your Christmas tree, an additional donation on top of this would go directly towards our fight against childhood cancer.

Registration for bookings will open on the 1st November 2021.

The Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust is working to raise awareness of childhood cancer and the signs & symptoms with which it may present. We produce educational resources for parents & clinicians, provide support to families & fund research into rare solid tumours of childhood.

Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust
Registered Charity Number 166783

Register your tree online at www.gkcct.org/treecycle or phone us on 01905 885777

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National Support School
designated by
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