

Chadsgrove Newsletter

Headteacher's Message



Hello to all our wonderful families!

Well the content of this newsletter is very different to the usual Christmas update where I would be reporting on all the festivities, and whilst some of these have happened, a remote Christmas at Chadsgrove is very different to our usual plethora of festive activities! I think it goes without saying that we are all missing these!

This last half term we sent our congratulations to Claire and Mike Farrand on the birth of baby Ezra, a little brother for Isla. We also celebrated the birth of baby Isla to Mike and Gemma Turberville, a little sister for Harry. All are doing well!

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Linda Sherborne who is retiring after 18 years at Chadsgrove. Linda is very much part of the fixtures and fittings at Chadsgrove so I am not sure how we will manage without her! Linda has worked in the school office and with our outreach team throughout this time. We wish Linda all the very best with her next venture and thank her for her contribution to Chadsgrove! I hope that Linda will be back if we can persuade her, to work a few hours for us next year!

Amy Hockey starts her maternity leave at Christmas so we shall all look forward to hearing Amy's news at the end of January! We shall all miss you Amy and wish you all the very best and some good sleep between now and when the baby arrives!

I fully appreciate how difficult this year has been for us all but particularly so for you, our families, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for managing to juggle your commitments to accommodate our closures and changes of hours. You have worked with us to make the situation as best it can be and we have all learnt along the way. I have to say I am particularly impressed with the increase in ICT skills for us all through closures, me included!

I hope your children have enjoyed all the remote Christmas activities! They have most certainly entered into them with gusto (we wouldn't expect anything less of course from our Chadsgrove community!) whether that be a festive jumper, sharing their Christmas trees, making decorations or entering the Christmas bake off!

From January, we will continue our current model of working with our bubbles, curriculum, timings of the school day and transport. If any changes are to be made to these arrangements, we will let you know in good time. Please can I also ask that you do not send anything into school with your son/daughter other than the essentials, whilst we would normally love the cakes etc to celebrate special days, we will have to refrain from these goodies for now, however, we do know that the thought is there and we really appreciate that! Thank you in advance.

I hope you have 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.

Here's to a happy, healthy and settled New Year!

Deb Rattley

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Chadsgrove School Values
Welcoming Teamwork Friendship Trust Independence Fun

2LS Settling in their new classroom

2LS have been having great fun making the most of our new kitchen! We have been making lots of delicious food to taste and take home for our families, including cakes, bread and pizza!



We have also enjoyed our time outdoors before the weather gets too cold! We made our own guy for Bonfire night and we had a camp fire. Our teacher made some popcorn for us by putting the corn in a big pan and then placing it on the fire. We could hear it going 'Pop!'



3LS Working on their Targets

3LS have been continuing to work hard on their Annual Review Targets this half term, in particular on our Physical Targets. We've had lots of time out of our wheelchairs; bench-sitting, standing transitioning from floor to chair, and lots of other skills!



4LS Enjoying the Music



4LS have really enjoyed getting in the festive spirit! We have been exploring different instruments in our Music sessions and playing along to winter themed songs. Alexander has really enjoyed finding the strings on the guitar and listening to the sound. Caesee has enjoyed playing the chimes and Thea has been showing off using both hands to make sounds on the keyboard!

5LS Making new discoveries

5LS have made so many new discoveries this half term. As well as continuing to practise their Maths and Phonics, they have been learning how to butter their own bread and how to put coats and hats on and take them off. They also had a go with the virtual reality headsets in IT, which they found very exciting. They have continued to explore in Science, and for one of our Christmas activities, had a go at making their own snow globe snowmen, whilst investigating sinking and floating at the same time. They've enjoyed many art activities, doing junk modelling, painting and crafts and we are very proud of them for their enthusiastic work.



6LS Getting Ready for Christmas



6LS are having a lot of fun getting ready for Christmas. They are being helped by the Elf on the Shelf, but I think he is being very mischievous. He has been ordering Christmas jumpers on Mrs Owen's laptop!



7LS Christmas Art



7LS have been having fun creating some art work using Christmassy colours and mixing them with shaving foam. We all enjoyed getting very messy!



8LS

In 8LS, we have had a very busy half term! Part in school, and part at home! In school, we had great fun raising money for Children in Need, we even WON the poster competition! We also made our very own poppies to observe Remembrance Day.

We also had a very exciting message from Mr Willy Wonka about some chocolate and sweet inventions that we sent him! He was so pleased, he sent us lots of chocolate to say thank you!

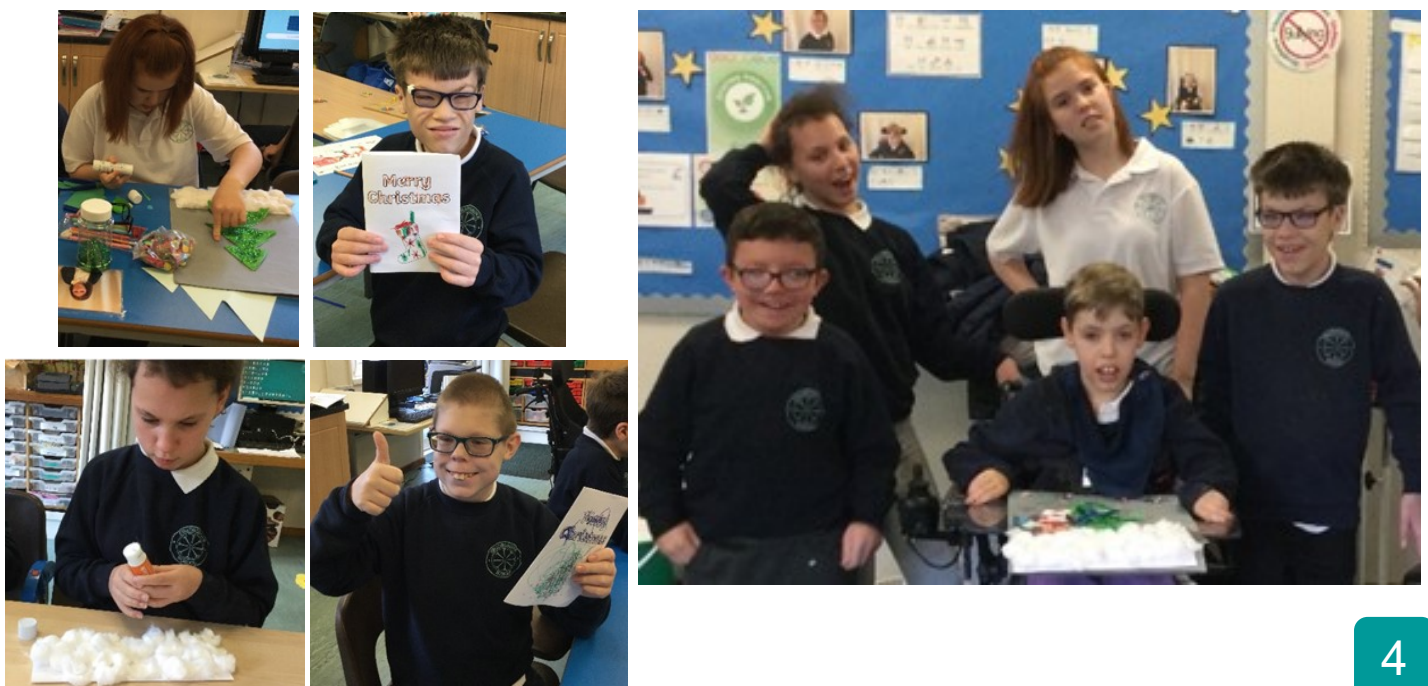
We have been keeping busy at home too! Attending daily Zoom sessions where we have been listening to stories and sharing pictures. From delivering letters to Santa and working on our nouns, to competing in this year's House PE Competitions.



9US Christmas Crafts

Following on with our recovery curriculum this term we have started to get into the festive season of Christmas. The pupils in 9US have been busy making cards. We all made an individual card to send to the residents of Three Roses Home which they can open on Christmas day.

The second card we made as a class for the Dodford Farm competition to win a sponsorship of Shaun the Sheep. We had a vote on what design we would like but in the end we decided to add all the designs. The designs we chose included a Christmas tree and turkey, foil stars, a Christmas pudding, Santa and snow. We had lots of fun making the cards and are looking forward to many more festive activities this term.



10US and their Snowman Portraits

10US had great fun exploring paint, textures and materials whilst creating their very own Snowman Portrait!!! In fact, they have everything crossed for a White Christmas!!!!



11US Have been very busy



11US pupils have had a busy term. Well done to those who achieved their CREST Star Award on completion of at least 8 Science experiments! These included 'Fireworks in a Jar' and 'Disgusting Dining' through which we explored the emotion of disgust by making our very own fake faeces and then eating it! Don't worry, it was made of chocolate, caramel, biscuits and raisins! It actually didn't taste disgusting at all! 🍌

We got into the festive spirit early and made these beautiful Christmas Wreaths as a gift to our families. We worked hard to rehearse Joy to the World on the hand bells, and then filmed it to be shown as part of the Severn Arts Winter Festival. It will also feature in a virtual Christmas Service streamed live from St. John's Church in Bromsgrove. Our ears were ringing after all the practising!



12US As busy as the Christmas Elves!



WOW! What an exciting half term in 12US. We held a successful “Make and Sell Sale” and managed to raise £50 for Children in Need. Thank you to everyone who purchased our products, we had great fun making them.

We have also been getting into the Christmas spirit! We are determined to make the most of the festive period in 12US... here we are on Elf Day!



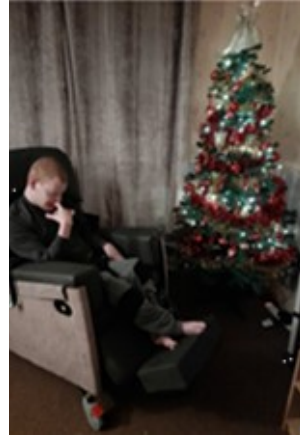
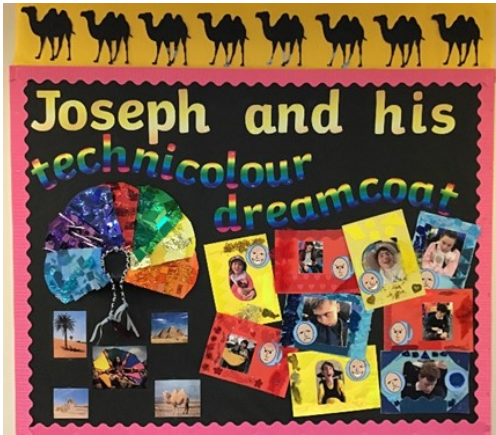
We have been doing lots of reading. We really enjoyed reading the book “Kenzuke’s Kingdom” in Literacy. We are excited to take our Book Buzz books home.

13US It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas....

13US have been getting into the Christmas spirit early and used their art and craft skills to create this fantastic Christmas fireplace. They made the stockings and candles and decorated the pine cones with glitter. They even recorded a special Christmas message in front of it.



14US Getting into the Christmas Spirit

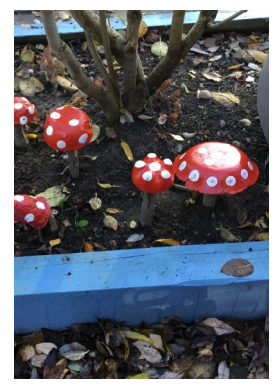


It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! During our last week at school we were getting into the Christmas spirit and having lots of fun with our friends.

Everyone has enjoyed working on our Joseph and his Technicoloured Dream Coat story this term. Look at some of the brilliant learning that has been taking place. Well done to all pupils for their effort and engagement during a very different term at school.

Take a look at our colourful display in school. We have been learning about different emotions which the pupils demonstrate so well in their own art work. We have enjoyed our sensory story and explored colour in lots of different ways.

15US Making Mushrooms for the Sensory Garden



15US have been working really hard designing and making mushrooms for our sensory garden. They decided to stick to a traditional theme so that everyone could recognise and enjoy the magical mushroom display.

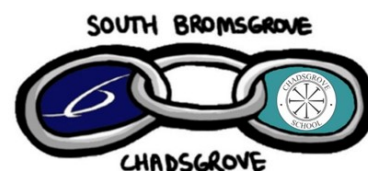
15US Keeping Fit

Keeping fit despite the rainy weather! 15US are really working hard with boxing for coordination, teamwork and stamina. They are also exercising their arms with long cycle rides across the country developing our imaginary story telling on our way!



South Bromsgrove High School Christmas Concert 2020

We will miss our annual Christmas visit from the talented young musicians at SBHS, but we were delighted to be involved in their virtual Christmas Concert. This launched live on Wednesday 9th December at 7.30pm and is still available to watch. Just search for 'SBHS Virtual Christmas Concert 2020' on YouTube. Pupils from 9US, 11US, 12US and 13US took part in their performances of Ghostbusters and Jingle Bells. If you look carefully, you might spot them on this picture here!



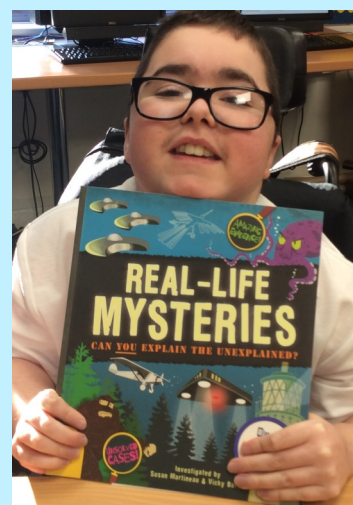
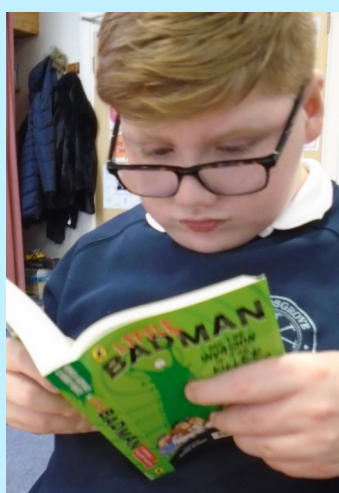
Bookbuzz

Despite the pandemic, Chads Grove 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, independent choice and develop a whole school reading culture.

As part of this programme, nearly 50 selected 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 wide range of titles from across a number of different genres and have enjoyed reading them for pleasure' both in school and at home. Mr. G Brown



POP-UP.org.uk

Transforming lives through literature

Exciting News! Later this academic year, we're planning to work with the Pop-Up.org literacy charity on a SEND Festival of Literature Project which will involve working directly with authors and illustrators using their books to improve our pupils' confidence and engagement with reading.

Pop-Up have run a similar project successfully in Kent for a few years now, and we will be the first school in the West Midlands to take part in the scheme, in part thanks to a donation towards the costs of the project from the Bromsgrove District Council's Arts Development Team.

In 2021, 'Pop-Up' are due to celebrate their 10th Birthday Anniversary and to celebrate they are crowdfunding in order to publish a collection of 10 'Stories to Make a difference'. If you'd like to take a look at the work done by Pop-Up, then check out their website:

<https://pop-up.org.uk/>

You may even like to donate to their crowdfunder:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/10-stories-to-make-a-difference?>



Daniel Pennac's 'The Rights of the Reader'

We're always promoting to our parent carers the idea that it is beneficial to read to and with your child as a great way of boosting their love of literature and developing their reading skills.

This being said, you may have found it a challenge at times to engage your child with reading over 'lockdown'.

Well, if that was the case for you, Mrs. Sam Mole has found this lovely illustrated poster of Daniel Pennac's 'The Rights of the Reader' which may just make you feel a whole lot better.

The Rights of the Reader

by Daniel Pennac
illustrated by Quentin Blake



1 The right not to read.



2 The right to skip.



3 The right not to finish a book.



4 The right to read it again.



5 The right to read anything.



6 The right to mistake a book for real life.



7 The right to read anywhere.



8 The right to dip in.



9 The right to read out loud.



10 The right to be quiet.

10 rights - 1 warning
Don't make fun of people
who don't read -
or they never will.





Chadsgrove School

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Playscheme and Afterschool Clubs

We would like to assure Parent Carers that we will provide this facility once again when we feel it is safe to do so. In the meantime, you may be contacted by another provider in the area who may offer a similar provision and it is up to yourselves if you wish for your child to attend. Thanks again for your patience and understanding.

Shortbreaks Team



Dates for your Diary 2020/2021

Friday 18th December 2020	School Closes for students (3.30pm)
Monday 4th January 2021	INSET Day School closed to students
Tuesday 5th January 2021	School Opens for students (9.00am)
Friday 12th February 2021	School Closes for students (3.30pm)
Monday 15th February 2021	Half Term week starts
Friday 19th February 2021	Half Term week ends
Monday 22nd February 2021	School Opens for students (9.00am)
Thursday 1st April 2021	School Closes for students (3.30pm)
Friday 2nd April	School Closed — Good Friday
Monday 19th April	School Opens for students (9.00am)



Return date to school Tuesday 5th January