

Chadsgrove Newsletter



HALF TERM

Headteacher's Message

I thought I would have a look back at the newsletter piece for last February just out of interest - well what a contrast that is to what I am about to write! We did all sorts of sociable things this time last year; enterprise stalls in the hall, a school quiz, a concert etc! The good news is that the nursery building work that was about to start is now finished, and we also had a very successful Ofsted inspection so there have been some good news stories! Of course we have also had some wonderful events going on in your own homes for example, the talent competition, Chadsgrove 'Bake Off', bingo, Positive Mental Health Week and sporting events to mention just a few. You have taken part in these with your children with much gusto and enthusiasm, thank you – you have made these activities a great success!

The other good news this last half term is that we have welcomed three new babies! Amy Hockey gave birth to Reuben, Charlotte Fisher to Hendrix and Nia Luke (SaLT) to Elodie – Congratulations to them all and their families!

This past year has been a journey that we have all been on together and achieved so much in difficult circumstances. We know that there have been challenges along the way, however, as a group we have remained strong and made the very best of the situation. The children have all been absolutely remarkable and my praise goes to them and to yourselves for doing a truly brilliant job managing schooling remotely. We have learnt new ways of working, and some of these approaches, where they have worked well, will be blended into our school life in the long term. The lockdowns have forced us to think differently on how we operate, but don't worry, we are not proposing a long term option of only being open to your child for half days!

We will continue to offer you as much as possible in terms of flexibility of attendance, remote learning opportunities, resources and so on, but please don't hesitate to ask if there is anything we can help with. Thank you for being an outstanding group of families to work with, we really appreciate the relationship we have with you and the support you offer our school. I hope you all enjoy the half-term holiday, and school will re-open on Monday 22nd February.

Deb Rattley

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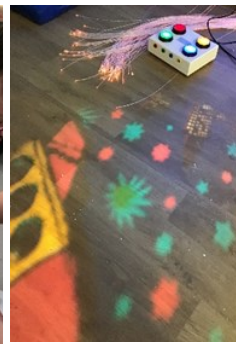
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Chadsgrove School Values
Welcoming Teamwork Friendship Trust Independence Fun

2LS Exploring

In 2LS we have been exploring cause and effect toys and learning about the world around us through ICT. We have also been using our hands and feet to make great pictures, both in the classroom and outside!



Our new topic, 'Light and Dark', has been great fun as we have enjoyed making dens and exploring different light effects!

3LS Learn about Chinese New Year



Whether learning from home or in school, 3LS have worked really hard this Half Term! We have learnt all about Chinese New Year, sharing videos over Zoom, then doing lots of different sensory activities. These include Chinese Messy Play (some of us were less impressed than others!) and decorating Chinese lanterns.



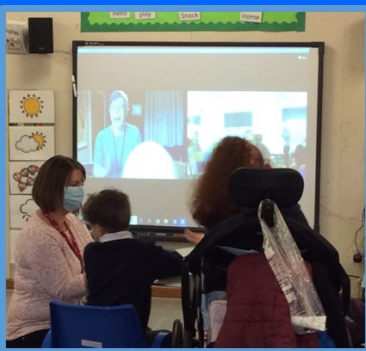
4LS Enjoying 'Zoom Sessions'

Whilst we've been at home, 4LS have enjoyed many 'Zoom' sessions online together! We've been singing together and responding to different Nursery Rhymes, and developing body awareness through Touch & Communication sessions! In particular, we've really enjoyed our 'Space' themed story, which has lots of opportunities for us to practise our Thinking Skills, such as: responding to stimuli; and developing preferences towards stimuli. We've had lots of fun and enjoyed the anticipation of counting down to 'blast off' together!



We've also been very busy enjoying Arts & Crafts at home! Some of us have made beautiful lanterns and drums to celebrate Chinese New Year as our 'Festival of the Month'. Look at how amazing they are!

5LS Enjoying the Music



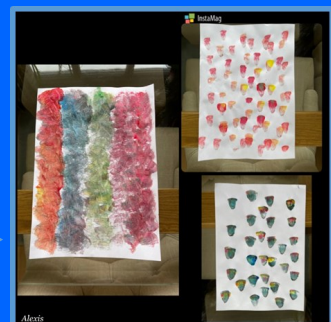
Music has played a big part in our learning both at school and at home this term. As well as enjoying music therapy in class, 5LS have enjoyed dancing to their favourite songs on our "Dress to Express" Zoom call, as well as a "feel the beat" music lesson and PE dance lessons.

In Phonics and English, the children did a great job at finding objects to rhyme with words like 'cat', and 'at' ordering the letters to make words.



We saw some great work at matching and completing shapes in children's maths work.

The children have been getting really creative and we've seen some brilliant crafts and art techniques.



6LS Have been very busy



We have been busy trying out some exciting Science experiments at school and at home. Here is Thea testing out the rainbow skittles experiment! Wow, look at those beautiful colours. We really look forward to our crazy experiments and seeing what amazing things we can make happen next.

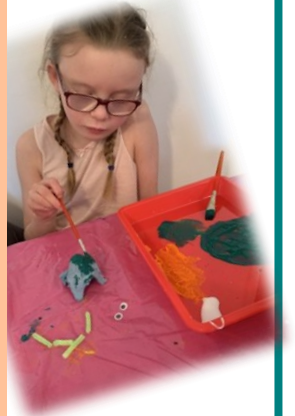
Chef Amelia is cooking up some tasty cakes with her very own Chef's hat and apron. I wonder what flavour these delicious cakes are? Lots of children in 6LS love to get creative with their cooking skills. Yum yum!



Jayden and Esme loved having an adventure out in the snow. They had fun trying to catch snowflakes on their tongue's. Lots of snow landed on Jayden's blanket so we were able to see the beautiful patterns on the snowflake's. Everyone in 6LS had fun making snowballs or building snowmen either at school or at home.

We have been learning lots about space and all the different planets. We have read lots of lovely stories relating to space like "The man on the moon" and "The Dinosaur that pooped a planet". Here is Brooke making her very own space alien. What planet is your alien going to live on?

All of the children in 6LS have brilliant imaginations and love sharing their amazing ideas. We are extremely good at Lego building and use our skills to create some amazing work. Joshua took part in our space themed topic and built a baby Yoda out of his Lego at home. May the force be with you!



7LS Enjoying the Sensory Stories



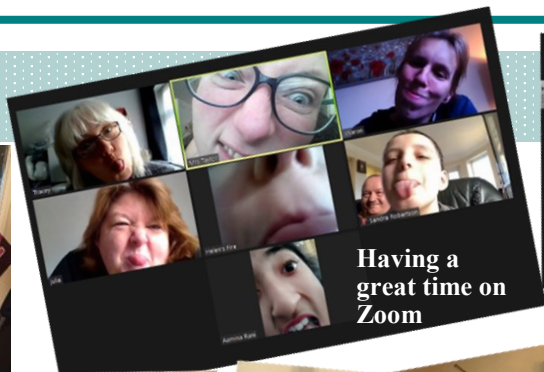
Dance with a parasol/umbrella to shade the Prince!

The pupils in 7LS have been joining in our sensory stories via Zoom. They have enjoyed the stories of 'Paw Paw the Polar Bear', 'Let's all go Ice Skating' and 'Dragons in the City', but their favourite so far has definitely been the story of Aladdin, because they love our sensory activities linked to all of the songs from the movie! They have also been joined by some of their friends from 4LS too!

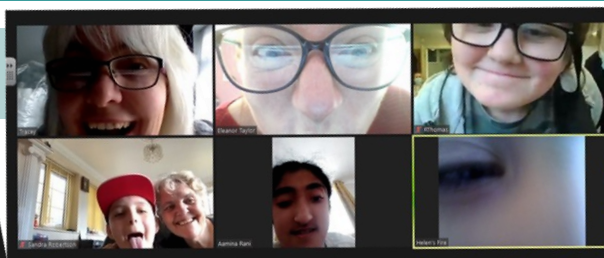
8LS



We celebrated a special birthday



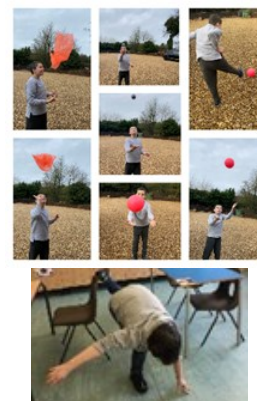
Having a great time on Zoom



Pupils in 8LS have been working so hard at home on their SPACE topic!



We really enjoyed getting out in the snow this half term!
We made sure we were wrapped up so that we didn't get cold! We also did lots of snow activities like making snowmen and sledging!



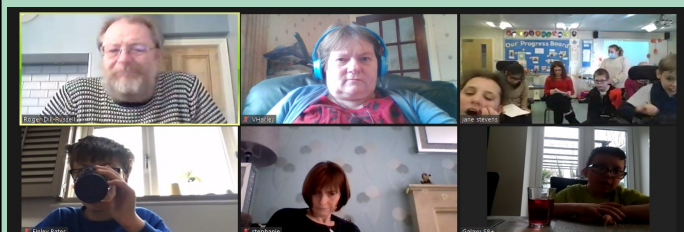
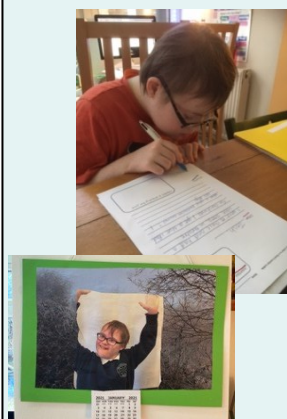
We have had a great time completing Mrs Taylor's PE Challenges.

8US Have had a productive term whether it has been working from home or coming into school. Learning is taking place wherever we are and we are really proud of everyone.

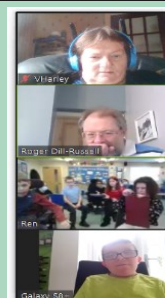
Morgan has really enjoyed doing Art work this term. This floral garland was part of the celebration of Festival of the month.



James made his calendar at home and wrote a letter to a friend in class



As a class we even managed to play Bingo on zoom and discuss happiness and where we want to go after lockdown.



Finley has completed his Science Crest Award at home by finishing Calamity Kites and has managed to get some exercise.



In class, Joshua and Jasmine have been completing their PE challenges

Mollie enjoyed her birthday at home with her family



10US Have been busy learning at home and in school

Some of us have been learning at home, at school as well as coming together on zoom! We have been exploring our Winter theme, using our thinking skills to create some lovely art work! During our activities, we have benefitted from visual, sound, touch and taste stimuli! We even tasted ice on our tongues. Our senses have been truly evoked as we simulated the natural world!



The art work was created through exploration of flour, rice, water and paint – it got very messy!!

During Children's Mental Health week, Fenella and Ryan entered Chads Grove Bake Off making savoury and sweet delights. Fenella made pie and chips and Ryan made cupcakes. Yummy. We have also been practising our fine motor skills. Sam enjoyed exploring the clay, in preparation for making his tea lantern for Chinese New Year and Louis practised some good reaching of the ball.



IT4Schools

We at A-Plan take great pride in being part of the local community and has always been at the heart of what we are about, and in these testing times, supporting local schools is now more important than ever. Which is why we're launching our "IT4Schools" campaign.

How it works - for every person that calls us for a new quote for car, van, home or business insurance, **we'll donate £10 towards laptops or other important equipment needed**, and even if they don't take out a policy with us. So, the more quotes we receive, **the more we will donate to your school.**

How you can get involved

We're keen to reach to as many families as we can, and you can support by sharing our "IT4Schools" campaign in your school newsletters, parent updates, forums or social media please. You'll be raising awareness and hopefully encouraging parents and friends of your school to come to us for a quote for their insurance requirements.

*All parents need to do is call A-Plan Bromsgrove on 01527 879777 **quote "IT4Schools" and mention your school.** Our campaign runs until 5th March 2021, and shortly after that we'll arrange a payment to be made directly to your school.*

If you would like to know more about our local campaign to support schools, please do not hesitate to give us a call.

11US Chadsgrove's Arts Week and Children's Mental Health Week

Pupils in 11US did a fantastic job launching last week's Children's Mental Health Week. There were some exciting creativity challenges for all pupils to get involved with, and in our assembly we focused on ways to help us feel **G.R.E.A.T.** 11US are getting good at this, as you'll see in these examples!

G is for GIVE

Ania has been giving up her time to help her elderly neighbour with her online shopping list. Ania has also been helping out with the vacuuming! It's important that we think about how we can help others, as even the smallest things can make a big difference to someone.



R is for RELATE

Wade has been spending extra time with his baby sister Lyra Jo. When she was a tiny baby he was a little scared to hold her, but now he's really enjoying spending time with her and looking after her. Chanelle has been having quality time with her mum. When her school-work is complete, they enjoy playing board games together. It's important to make time for our friends and family.



E is for EXERCISE

Dylan has made a good routine for himself, getting some exercise as often as possible. When he couldn't go outside, he even did some rowing in the lounge whilst watching a film for his English work. It's important to keep our bodies moving.



A is for APPRECIATE

Joseph has been taking time out to appreciate the scenery and lovely animals at his family's farm. It's important to stop our busy lives and make time to notice the world around us.

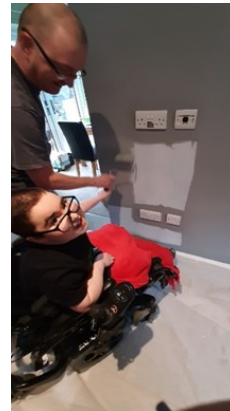


T is for TRY

Amelia is learning to be more independent, by trying things all by herself that usually she has some help with. She feels really proud when she does something on her own. It's important that we keep trying new things so that we can learn how much we're capable of.

12US Have had a busy 6 weeks...

Well, this half term has not been quite what we all expected! Nevertheless, there has been some fantastic learning happening both at home and in school. We're not sure what the next half term will hold, but we are sure that we will continue to stay connected, keep learning and, of course, have lots of fun! Let's hope it won't be too long until we can all be back together again. Here are some of our 12US highlights over the past 6 weeks...

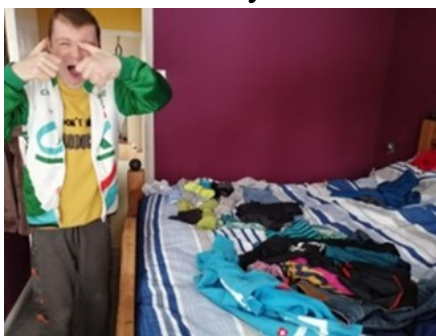


Here we are completing a Joe Wicks workout and keeping fit during a 12US zoom. Look at Riley lifting that dumbbell! Go 12US! Tom has been very busy balancing his schoolwork with part-time decorating. Great job, Tom! Fantastic artwork by Josh. A family portrait in the style of David Hockney. Great work Josh. Jess has been baking some delicious chocolate cakes for Children's Mental Health Week. Yum!

13US Working extremely hard at home and in school this half term



We have been taking part in Making Drinks and Snacks, Books Beyond Words and Boccia lessons via ZOOM. It is lovely to chat to our friends and feel like we are together even though we are apart.



We have been practising our life skills. Sorting laundry and baking cookies. The highlight of this half term in class was the visit from Cinnamon and Cocoa – two very cute Guinea Pigs.

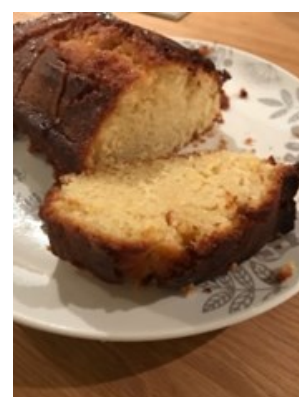


Health

Everyone has been enjoying the weekly PE challenges and getting families involved in the fun. Exercise and movement supports us to feel good and positive!

Engagement 4 Living

Baking is a great way to practise our thinking skills. We have a few star bakers in our class who have been making everyone's mouth water with these delicious looking cakes.



Community

We are enjoying our weekly 'Link Project Zooms' with college. Staying connected with our friends has been so important to us. We are learning about each other and discovering things that we have in common and things that make us different.

Communication

As part of Children's Mental Health week pupils from 14US took part in a 'Dress to Express' zoom. We all wore clothes that made us feel happy and we had a chat about all things that make us unique and special.



15US Express themselves!

This half term **15US** have worked consistently hard and have managed to complete their class reading book, 'Flour Babies' by Anne Fines. It certainly was an emotional journey, which we all enjoyed, and which helped us to gain confidence in reading aloud to each other over zoom! We have been working towards an OCR money skills accreditation, practising with coins and then whole pounds and notes. We included scavenger hunts to find things in our own homes. **Our favourite week** has been 'Children's Mental Health' and **Chadsgrove's Expressive Arts** week.

Throughout the week, our Zoom lessons concentrated on our wellbeing, our friendships and our community. I hope that you have seen the 15US assembly that we created for you. Our week ended in a perfect way with a celebration Zoom where we danced and sang together. It also happened to be Mrs Lloydlangston's birthday, which added to the general excitement!



15US Express yourself portraits.
Different techniques used to create
this wonderful work!



Our Friday celebration Zoom where we shared our achievements and good work for the week. Then we danced and sang together to celebrate the end of a great week.

WORLD BOOK DAY

4 MARCH 2021

WORLD BOOK DAY THURSDAY 4TH MARCH 2021

IN 2021, WORLD BOOK DAY, JUST LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE, WILL BE DIFFERENT. EACH PUPIL WILL STILL BE RECEIVING A FREE £1 BOOK TOKEN, EITHER AS A PAPER COPY (IF THEY ARE IN SCHOOL) OR AS A DIGITAL TOKEN (IF AT HOME).

THESE TOKENS CAN BE USED TO BUY ONE OF THE SPECIAL £1 WORLD BOOK DAY BOOKS, OR THEY CAN BE USED TO GET £1 OFF THE PRICE OF ANY OTHER FULL-PRICE BOOK AT ANY PARTICIPATING BOOKSTORE.

FAMILIES CAN REDEEM THEIR £1 TOKEN IN LOCKDOWN **OR** HOLD ON TO IT TO USE LATER. BOOKSHOPS WILL WELCOME FAMILIES WHEN THEY OPEN AGAIN (THE TOKENS WILL BE HONOURED BEYOND 28 MARCH — WHILE STOCKS LAST).

Our £1 books line-up for 2021



WE USUALLY ENCOURAGED OUR PUPILS TO DRESS UP TO CELEBRATE **WORLD BOOK DAY ON THURSDAY 4TH MARCH**, ALTHOUGH THIS YEAR WE UNDERSTAND THIS WON'T BE POSSIBLE DUE TO LOCKDOWN, SO INSTEAD WE WILL BE CELEBRATING BY OFFERING EVEN MORE 'READING' RELATED ACTIVITIES AND STORY-TIME SESSIONS.

THE **WORLD BOOK DAY** WEBSITE ALSO HAS MANY FREE RESOURCES AVAILABLE SUCH AS AUDIOBOOKS, VIDEOS AND ACTIVITY SHEETS, IF YOU'D LIKE TO JOIN IN THE FUN!

[HTTPS://WWW.WORLDBOOKDAY.COM/](https://www.worldbookday.com/)



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WORCESTERSHIRE IS DEVELOPING A NEW CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN AND WE WANT YOU TO GET INVOLVED...

We want Worcestershire to be a wonderful place to grow up in, putting children and young people at the heart of everything we do.

We believe it is important that children and young people:

- Are safe from harm
- Reach their full potential
- Live happy, healthy & fun filled lives
- Are a positive voice in their communities



Now it's time
to **HAVE**
YOUR SAY!



We have created a survey to ask you what the priorities for the new plan should be. To fill out the survey go to:

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cypphaveyoursay



Playschemes/After schools clubs will resume here at Chadsgrove as soon as we feel it is appropriate to do so in the current climate.



Dates for your Diary 2021

Friday 12th February	School Closes for Students Half Term
Monday 22nd February	School Opens for Students
Thursday 1st April	School Closes for Students
Friday 2nd April	School Closed—Good Friday/Easter Holidays
Monday 19th April	School Opens for Students