

Chagford C of E Primary School

Weekly Newsletter 14th May 2021



I'm not going to apologise for sending you more pictures from our beautiful garden. The gardening group were in again this week barrowing manure, weeding and tidying and making the area of the front of the school really sing.

It's been another busy week at the school and I've seen so many wonderful things happening that make me a proud head teacher. Some highlights for me were the brilliant knowledge of Oak Class, the amazing mummification of Hawthorn Class, the wonderful and entirely unplanned singing of Birch Class and some heartwarming small world play in Ash Class. In fact, everywhere around the school I've seen things that make me happy—thankyou to every teacher and to every child—you're all a part of what makes our school unique.



What makes Chagford Primary School special? SO many things do—we have a beautiful building filled with beautiful people in a beautiful part of the world but the thing that makes it especially special for me is the spirit of the place which we sum up by referencing John 10 verse 10. Here we are....

Living, loving and learning together in abundance

Bringing things to school

Please can parents and carers help us maintain the rule that children don't bring things to school with them. The school provides everything that the children need to learn and other items quickly become a distraction. Teachers are spending time dealing with misplaced items, items that have been 'borrowed' or stolen, items that have got broken and items that are simply too interesting for learning to carry on effectively—this really needs to stop so they can focus on the learning.

Among the many items we don't need to see at school I would include;

- Pencil cases
- Jewellery
- Toys (including lego minifigures!)
- Fiddle toys unless specifically agreed by the teacher
- Electronics such as phones, fitbits and calculators

From time to time the teacher may choose to do 'Show and Tell' with the class—if so, this would be on a given day and the teacher would take care of the items to ensure they don't cause a distraction or go missing.

Wonderful Artwork



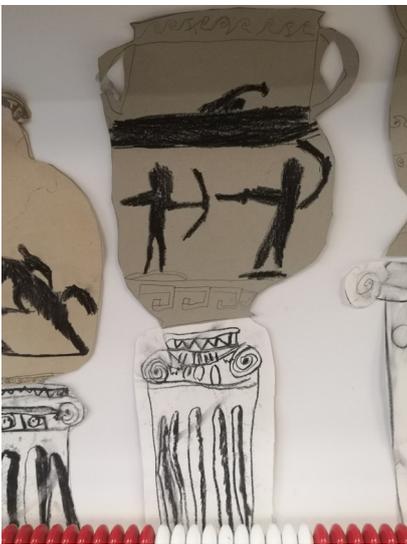
We are lucky to have the super talented Mr Dray working at Chagford. He teaches from Year One to Year Six across the week and creates beautiful things with the children wherever he does. These enigmatic papier mache globes are to become Egyptian style funerary masks I'm told—though I'm rather enjoying them as they are!



Groovy Greeks

We were visited on Thursday by Brian Simber—a very experienced head teacher and friend to the trust. He spent the day with Mr Finch getting involved in the life of the school and helping us clarify our priorities to make the school stronger for every learner going forward.

We saw lots of good things through our day together but something that really stood out for Mr Simber was the learning in Oak Class where the children were learning about the gods and myths of Ancient Greece. Mr Simber was bowled over by the enthusiasm and engagement the children had for the topic and the knowledge and curiosity that they brought to it. Of course, Ancient Greece is always a great topic to learn about but the children's level of engagement spoke volumes for the class. Lovely work Oaks!



Message regarding Community Pub Proposal

Dear Chagford Primary. We would like to inform you of a proposal to come together and purchase the Northmore Arms, and run it for the benefit of the local and wider community. This group initiative will not only secure the pub for current and future generations, but will also enable us to realise the full potential of a valuable social asset within our district. Our local pub should be a place where we can continue to enjoy traditions such as the Boxing Day meet, the speed shear and the carol singing and it could and should become our much-needed community hub.

Please fill in our community consultation questionnaire, link below.

<https://forms.gle/fq5S7mBxT7VYS3kj6>

Can you help GWR and Dartmoor Line design their new logo?

What does Dartmoor mean to you? It would be wonderful to see a logo designed by a Chagford pupil on the side of the trains when they start running again later this year.

Dartmoor Line Logo - send us your ideas

Later this year, we will be bringing daily trains back to Okehampton for the first time in nearly 50 years.

Just like our other community branch lines on the Great Western Network, we'll be giving the Dartmoor Line its own logo, and we are asking for the local community and schools to share their ideas of what Dartmoor, Okehampton and the local area means to them.



Email your artwork to GWRSocialMedia@GWR.com by Sunday 23 May 2021