



CHIEVELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

March 2026

I hope everyone had a lovely half term break with the chance to spend time with family and friends and have felt the warmer weather creeping in!

A reminder that World Book Day and dress up day are on Thursday. Also that books for the book swap can come in to school from this week. We look forward to celebrating with everyone later this week!

As always, if you have any questions, please contact Hayley in the office, or office@chieveleyschool.co.uk in the first instance to arrange a time to speak to us.

Mr Harris



DATES FOR THE DIARY

MARCH

Tuesday 10th
Owls—Warner Bros Trip

Weds 11th & Thurs 12th
Owl—Bikeability

Tuesday 17th 9.20am
Yr3/4 Play

Tuesday 17th PM
KS2 Cross Country Event
(info to follow)

Wednesday 18th 2.15pm
Yr3/4 Play

Monday 23rd
Sublime Science

Tuesday 24th 9.15am
Yr3 Toot Toot concert

Tuesday 24th 3.30 -6.30pm
Parents Evening

Wednesday 25th 4 -7pm
Parents Evening

Thursday 26th
Jays—Cadbury World Trip

Friday 27th 1.25pm
End of Term

APRIL

Monday 13th
Start of Term

Staffing News

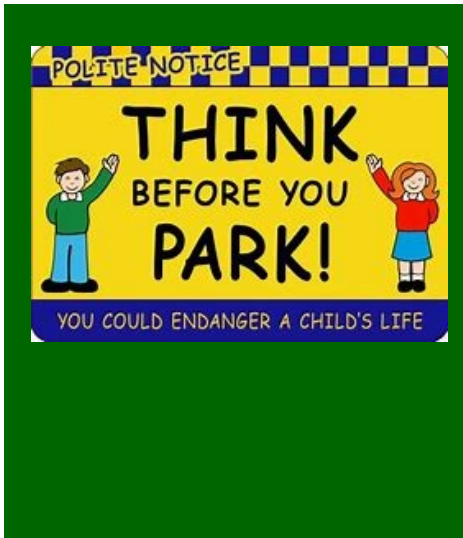
We will be sad to say 'goodbye' to Mrs Chandler, who will be leaving us after Easter to take up a post at West Berkshire Council. We are delighted to have appointed Mrs Chichester, who has worked in after school club for many years, to teach Robins until the end of the year. Mrs Chichester has many years experience teaching classes in schools around West Berkshire and it is lovely that she will be joining our Chieveley team! She knows many of the Robins already from after school club and will be visiting school more in the Spring term.



PARKING REMINDER

PARKING

We offer a 'kiss and drop' for pupils in KS2, where children can be dropped off in the bays at the front of the school. KS1 children should be collected from their classroom. Parking is available at the village hall, a short walk away. Parking bays are not for cars to idle with their engines turned on as is not safe for pupils walking to and from school. We have also had a number of residents share concerns around parents parking on double yellow lines or leaving their cars running for long periods of time. Please be conscious of Chieveley residents and our environment.



WISH LIST UPDATE

Thank you to all parents who have supported us so far on with our 'wish list'. We have had new art supplies and colouring pens which have been used across the school.

We now have shared what year group specific items are for, so you are able to directly support your child's class if you choose to do so. We are incredibly grateful for any donation, big or small, which have a huge impact on the teaching and learning throughout Chieveley. We'll be giving regular updates in the newsletter about items we have been kindly gifted! Thank you!

The link to our Amazon wish list can be found here:

<https://amzn.eu/hHjCEXf>



Robins have been learning all about cubism in art. We finished the topic by creating a self-portrait in the style of Picasso. I think they are really impressive - here they are! The children also worked really hard to write a fact file all about cats and how to look after them in English. This week, we have started retelling the story of 'the three little pigs' and we will write our own versions soon. Similarly, the children are working hard on their numbers up to 50 in maths and are learning about tens and ones.



Children's Mental Health Week 9th - 13th February

During the week before half term we took part in Children's Mental Health week which is supported by the children's mental health charity Place2Be. The theme this year was 'This is My Place' with the focus on identifying and creating environments where children feel they belong, are safe and are comfortable.

The children began the week with an assembly discussing what mental health is and what it means to feel that we belong somewhere. In classes, they explored feelings and emotions around mental health and ways to re-charge our mental batteries both in and outside school. There was also some lovely artwork produced where the children created islands with all the places they feel they belong and feel at their happiest and most content.








PUNCTUALITY AND LATENESS:

We are very thankful for parents and families support children getting to school on time each day. Children who are on time for school can settle and be prepared for the day's learning. This gives them the best chance of success!

Punctuality is a good thing

Being on Time

-  Gets the day off to good start with everyone in a positive frame of mind.
-  Sets positive patterns for the future
-  Helps your children to develop a sense of responsibility for themselves and for others
-  Helps your children make and keep friends
-  Leads to success and self-confidence

The gate closes each day at 8:55 and registers close at 9am. After this time, your child will be marked as late.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!	
Lateness by this many minutes every day means this much learning lost by the end of the academic year!
5 minutes	3 school days
10 minutes	6.5 school days
15 minutes	10 school days
20 minutes	13 school days
30 minutes	19 school days

PTA News:

We have lots of exciting PTA news and events to share!

Well done to Florence for her fantastic poster and the winner of the competition! Here are the details of the Chase—we hope as many people can take part in this brilliant event!

10k!

Now in its 13th year, the Chieveley Chase has become a well-known fixture on the Berkshire running calendar.

Join us, Sunday 26th April, at the Chieveley village hall!

The Chieveley Chase (Adults): A single, multi-terrain lap of the surrounding countryside, over approximately 10k.
The Childrens Chase (KS2) - a 1 mile course, run on the Village Hall playing field
The Mini Chase! (KS1) - a 400m lap, run on the Village Hall playing field

CHIEVELEY CHASE

Register Here!

CONIG FITNESS

jones robinson
— SIMUL MOVERE —

SUNDAY 26th APRIL

SAVE THE DATE—PTA Quiz: Please save the date for May 21st, which will be our PTA quiz—more info to follow shortly.

PTA News:

The Grow £1 challenge has started! We're really excited to see what children and families get up to when 'growing their £1'. If anyone needs any additional profit and loss sheets, please collect these from the office.

Good luck everyone!

The "Grow a £1" Challenge: Information for Parents

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to launch the "Grow a £1" Challenge! This project is a fun, hands-on way for children to develop "Entrepreneur Skills" such as financial literacy, creativity, and problem-solving.

We wanted to provide early guidance, to allow time to brainstorm ideas and ask questions.

This activity is planned to run from 1st March 2026, with submissions due after Easter on 13th April 2026.

How it Works

Every child starts with £1 "seed money" Their mission is to use their imagination and business skills to turn that £1 into as much money as possible. Money made will be submitted upon their return from Easter Holiday on Monday, 13th April 2026.

All funds will go into the 2025 / 2026 PTA pot to go towards items and experiences for the children, this can include chrome books, school workshops, school benches, and new playground equipment and repairs.

Each child will be given a Chieveley Primary School bank note at school after an assembly about "grow a £1" with Mr Harris. We are asking parents to fund this £1 to get their child started. This can then be "taken back" from their P&L at the end, or you may choose to donate it along with their profit.

What the Children Need to Do

1. **Plan:** Decide on a product to sell or a service to provide.
2. **Invest:** Spend their £1 wisely on materials or ingredients, and if any money is borrowed, it must be repaid from their proceeds.
3. **Grow:** Sell their items or services! If possible, re-invest the profits to buy more supplies and grow their total even further!
4. **Record:** Keep record of what is spent, and earned on our simple provided Profit & Loss record. Take photos of what you have done!
5. **Submit:** Bring any photos, Profit and Loss and proceeds into School on Monday, 13th April 2026

Jays Spring term:

Jays had a lovely first half to the spring term studying South and Central America. We explored the countries in the continent, specially looking at Mexico and Brazil and how they compare to where we live. The book 'Holes' grabbed all of the children's attention, which they all loved reading. We wrote some amazing pieces of work based on the book, including letters to parents and newspaper reports about what was happening at the camp. Some examples are attached below.

This term, we are carrying on looking at South and Central America, but now from a historical point of view by studying the Maya. We will be reading 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' and will end the term by visiting a real life chocolate factory- Cadbury's World!

Digging up the truth!

Last Saturday, the truth about the famous boy camp (Camp Green Lake) was revealed. Stanley Yelnats (age 11) and Hector Zerkow (age 10) had recently run away from camp and were found. They told ~~them~~ ^{our} reporters everything! Read more to find out more.

Stanley and Hector had run away from Camp Green Lake with no sign of food or water, and were found 2 days later, by a police officer Edward. Edward questioned the two boys and they explained how they had escaped from Camp Green Lake and how they were made to dig holes every day, "5 ft deep and 5 ft wide" quotes Stanley. These boys were not treated fairly with little food and water supplied whilst digging in 105°C.

Edward drove the boys back to the camp and interviewed the Warden, who owns the camp. When he entered the room, the lady was painting her nails with scarlet ~~coloured~~ ^{coloured} nail polish. She scolded the police officer and he is still recovering. Researchers believe that the polish had rattlesnake poison in it, ^{but} we are still not sure. The Warden was arrested and they decided to interview the boys instead. They told us that they didn't know what they were digging for, or if there was even a reason but the police gave them clean clothes and a feast. They called their parents and they are now safely home.

Camp Green Lake has been closed and no longer serves as a source of water. It is now researched for the reason of no rain and big holes. Some volunteers at the camp.

My daily routine is so exhausting. We start off the day by ~~going~~ ^{going} to our uncomfatable, dirty cots and get dressed into our ~~messy~~ ^{bloody}, orange jumpsuits. They serve the horrible slop of a breakfast at 4am, so you have to make sure you are there on time or you ~~don't~~ ^{don't} get any! Then, straight after breakfast we head outside to dig our holes. We have to dig 1 every day and it has to be five foot deep and wide in every direction. We start really early so you can hopefully miss the hottest ~~part~~ ^{part} of the day. When you finish you can go to the rock room, but it literally is a wreck room. EVERYTHING is broken! After that, we go and have a ~~shower~~ ^{shower} 2 ~~minutes~~ ^{minutes} ONLY! We then have our dinner (slop again) and go to bed. We repeat that everyday (No days off) at about 7.

The food and water there is horrid. We don't get much water at Camp Green Lake. The water truck comes around every 4-5 hours and fills up our canteen, so you have to use the water wisely! We have breakfast and dinner there. For breakfast we have either sloppy, disgusting porridge or a spoonful or so of tinned soup. We should be getting enough food and water there, but we are starving and dehydrated! For dinner we get different sloppy vegetables and ~~we~~ ^{we} might get a drop of orange juice. This isn't good at all! They should be the ones going to prison!

Kind regards,
Isabel Tucker

PS GET ME OUT OF HERE!!!

Senders Address	✓
Receivers Address	✓
Date	✓

We have had a wonderful start back in Wrens this week! The children have been working incredibly hard in Maths, Phonics, and Drawing Club. We've started our new topic, Real Life Superheroes, where we have been thinking about those people who take time everyday to help us. This week we have been exploring the vital responsibilities of a postman. This tied in perfectly with our work on The Jolly Postman in Drawing Club.

Beyond our superhero missions, we've also begun welcoming the new season. We headed out to Forest School to practice our observational drawing skills, capturing the first signs of Spring.



Before half term, Mrs Clark took a team of Year 3s and 4s to take part in the annual FA Skills football tournament hosted by Park House School. It's a big competition with 32 teams taking part from all across West Berkshire. We were placed in a higher level group this time after making the finals night last year and so we knew it was going to be a tough competition. Our first match was against last year's winners (Cold Ash) and we watched them win the match before ours 6-0. We conceded a few goals with one being disallowed, finishing 0-3 down. The boys recovered incredibly well, reorganised themselves and went on to win their remaining 2 matches against Burghfield (3-0) and Francis Baily (2-0) helping Chieveley to place second and win silver medals! They worked together and supported each other; their behaviour was a credit to the school.

Well done to Jack, William, Joseph, Zac, Jake, Louis P and Oscar. Our goal scorers this time were Oscar, William and Zach - a particular mention goes to Oscar as a Year 3, who very much grew in confidence during the matches, moving from defence up to the front and scoring several goals for the team. A big thank you to parents for transport and moral support.



This week Owls have been completing a set of SATs papers and have demonstrated resilience and focus throughout. In the afternoons, we have been exploring a variety of creative pursuits, not least of which was our final PE lesson. To round off our exploration of Bhangra in our dance unit, each group of children taught their choreography to the rest of the class and we then combined the three separate routines into one whole class performance.



Winchester Science Centre

Skylark Class had a fantastic trip to the Winchester Science Centre, where our topic on sound came alive through hands-on exploration.

The highlight was the interactive workshop, where the children created soundscapes of different places—busy cities, peaceful countryside scenes and more—using a variety of musical instruments. Their creativity, teamwork and enthusiasm were wonderful to see.

After lunch, we headed straight into the Planetarium for an immersive journey into space. The children were captivated by the stars, planets and galaxies, discovering lots of new facts about the solar system.

Behaviour throughout the day was generally very good, and the class represented Chieveley brilliantly. It was a fun, engaging visit full of curiosity and new learning—well done, Skylarks!



DIGITAL GUIDELINES AND PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

We have our Chieveley digital guidelines which we shared with parents last year. If any parents have concerns or questions, please direct these to the office so we are able to help and respond.

These can be found in full on our website.

Please think before you post. Avoid using the platform as a medium to air any concerns or grievances regarding a teacher, child or parent in the class or school or give opinions on current affairs. Please think about how your post could come across, and about how you would feel if you were on the receiving end.

If you have any concerns about your child at school or in relation to another child, you should contact your class teacher. If your concern remains, you should contact the school's Deputy Headteacher or Headteacher.

If you are not sure about your post, please ask yourself these questions beforehand:

- Is this relevant?
- Is this necessary?
- Is it true?
- Is it helpful?
- Is it kind?
- Is this a good time to post? i.e. not late at night or very early in the morning.



Chieveley Village Spring Charity Walk



Come and join us on our second annual village spring charity walk - everyone welcome.

Saturday 21 March, 10:30am

We will meet at Chieveley village hall car park and walk for about one hour on a lovely circular route around the fields together. Well behaved dogs, children, relatives and visitors can all join in.

We then gather for tea, coffee, squash and cakes/biscuits at the tennis clubhouse when we finish.

The walk will be raising money for a local charity, Time to Talk, who provide free face-to-face counselling offering emotional and psychological support to young people aged 11 to 25 and parents in West Berkshire.

To donate go to www.justgiving.com and search for chieveleywalk2026, or cash donations can be made on the day.



IN AND AROUND CHIEVELEY..

PTA EVENTS



Save the Dates!



02 Oct 25

PTA Non-uniform day (£1)



23 Oct 25

Halloween Disco



05 Dec 25

Christmas Fayre



12 Feb 26

Movie Night



**01 Mar to
13 Apr 26**

**Entrepreneur task -
Grow a £1!**



26 Apr 26

Chieveley Chase



21 May 26

Parents Quiz Night!



21 Jun 26

Summer Fete



10 Jul 26

Camp out!

**Come join the fun, support our School and
make lasting memories!**

IN AND AROUND CHIEVELEY..



Easter Market & Children's Egg Hunt

★ Free ★

Saturday 4th April
10am - 12pm



Fabulous selection of stalls including
food and handmade gifts

Hot & cold refreshments and seating
available

Easter hamper to be won!

Stalls include
Sweety Pie Patisserie/ Ben's Honey/Renegade
Beer/Face Painting by Laura/Amy's Polymer
jewellery & Mei's Homemade condiments
+ more!



Information at:

chieveleyvillagehall.org



IN AND AROUND CHIEVELEY..



Not all superheroes wear capes*... ours drive cars!

The Downland Volunteer Group urgently needs caring, reliable volunteer drivers to support local people who are elderly, sick, disabled or otherwise in need.

Even just a few hours per month could help someone attend a vital medical appointment or stay connected in their community.

Got a car and a little spare time?

**Want to make a real difference
in your local area?**

Then we'd love to hear from you!

Mileage expenses reimbursed – full support, friendly team and feel-good factor included!

If you don't want to drive but can offer a couple of hours or more per month, we also need some admin and phone help in our Compton office.

“ Volunteer work
that is hands-on,
providing practical
help. ”

Sandra, DVG Volunteer

Your spare time could be someone's lifeline

Drive
with **DVG**

Get in touch today

T. 01635 578 394

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