



Chew Stoke Church School Newsletter



INTRODUCTION FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As another busy half term draws to a close, we hope everyone at Chew Stoke Church School is looking forward to a well-deserved break! We've had a fantastic term filled with learning, laughter, and exciting activities. We wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term holiday. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 23rd February.



I still can't quite believe that we were able to welcome the current Formula 1 World Champion, Lando Norris, to Chew Stoke Church School for such a special visit last week. It was one

of those very special school days that we will all remember. For security reasons, we had to keep the entire event strictly under wraps and were unable to share any details with anyone beforehand. It was incredibly difficult not to let such exciting news slip, but seeing the surprise and joy on the children's faces made it completely worthwhile.



Lando was greeted with tremendous cheers and enthusiastic flag waving from pupils and staff. I had the pleasure of welcoming him to our school alongside two of our Year 6 pupils. Lando very generously gave his time to pose for photographs before leading a whole-school assembly. During the assembly, he spoke about what motivates him, the importance of perseverance and determination, and how working hard towards your goals - whatever they may be - can lead to extraordinary achievements. He answered a wide range of thoughtful questions from our pupils and was presented with a few Chew Stoke

gifts, including our traditional school mug and tea towel! Two of our former pupils, Amelie and

SPRING TERM
2025/26

13/02/2026

Chew Stoke Church
School

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Our Christian Value for
this term is

WISDOM

Our British Value for
this term is

DEMOCRACY



Olivia, also presented Lando with honorary membership to the Chew Stoke Alumni. Annie and Toby shared poems celebrating Lando's journey to becoming World Champion, which have since been sent to him.

Following the assembly, Lando visited every classroom, continuing to answer questions, sign items and even help at the finishing line of some Hedgehog Scooter races - much to the delight of the children.

It was a truly special day for our entire school community and one we will remember for a very long time. Most importantly, it was hugely motivating and inspiring for our pupils. Hearing first-hand about resilience, ambition and self-belief has undoubtedly encouraged our children to aim high, dream big and remember that anything is possible.

We are incredibly grateful to Lando for making time in his busy schedule to visit Chew Stoke.

I've had the pleasure of spending time in a number of lessons over the last week and have been really impressed by the high standards of behaviour and attitude to learning from all of the pupils. We constantly receive feedback from visitors, supply teachers and when we go out on trips regarding the outstanding behaviour of our children. We simplified our school rules a few years ago to make it easier for all of the children to remember them; they are:

- Be Respectful
- Be Safe
- Be Ready to Learn

Fox Class have had an absolutely brilliant time on their camp at Mill on the Brue! They threw themselves into all the exciting activities on offer, from soaring through the air on the zip wire to testing their aim with axe throwing. It was a jam-packed few days full of adventure, new experiences, and lots of laughter. We're sure they'll have some fantastic stories to tell you all! Thank you to Mrs Yates, Mrs James, Mrs Lewis and Mrs Gauthier for taking them.



A REMINDER - WORLD BOOK DAY - 2nd MARCH

We will be celebrating World Book Day this year on Monday 2nd March (please note this is a different date to national events) and we are looking forward to celebrating with your

children. Through the activities that we have planned, we aim to encourage and further the love of books and reading for pleasure that is such an important part of your children's lives.

Costumes - Dressing up for World Book Day is something that so many of your children love and we are again inviting all children to come dressed as a favourite book character on the day.

We encourage you to use things that you already have at home to make a creative costume, or perhaps to swap with other families so that you don't have to buy a new costume each year! We will have a parade and prize for one child in each class.

We hope to host a Book Swap on our World Book Day so that every child in school will go home with their very own new book to read. For this to work, we need nearly 200 good quality, suitable books that are ready for a new home! Please have a chat with your child/ren and help them to decide on 1 or 2 books (no more than 2) that they are willing to part with. We do understand that some families may find it more difficult to contribute, but with some children bringing in 2 books we will have enough for everyone! Books will be collected in classrooms and classes will have a slot each during the day to peruse and choose a book.

NEW MENU FOR SPRING

Following on from the above, we also have a brand-new menu, starting after half term. Paper copies have been sent home to families today (Fox Class - you will receive yours straight after half term). You can also find the new menu on our website:-

<https://www.chewstokeacademy.org/parent-information/school-lunches>

Please note that the menu for Tuesday and Thursday of the first week back will be swapped over, to allow for food deliveries restarting after the half term break.

CHILD SAFETY IN SCHOOL LANE

Please hold your child's hand when walking up to school. Staff have witnessed several 'near misses' recently where children have been running on up the road without their parents, with cars coming towards them. While we do everything we can to minimise the traffic in School Lane at drop-off and collection times, it is still a public highway and should be treated as such by parents with children.

PHONICS INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR PARENTS

Thursday 26th February 2026, 5pm - 5:30pm Phonics Screening Check Meeting for Year 1 parents in Owl Class. Come and meet with Miss Hennessy & Miss Evans to understand the Phonics Screening Check that will take place for all Year 1 children in June this year. Please book your space via the school office on office@chewstokeacademy.org

PTA NEWS

With Spring within touching distance we are looking forward to seeing children and parents coming together to raise much needed funds for 2026!

For children we have our 'Wear What You Love' Disco on Friday 26th Feb. A great opportunity for children to hang out with their friends after half term. We know a 'traditional' disco isn't for everyone so if your child is unsure please reassure them there will be games, tattoos, face paint & props (think inflatable instruments, ribbons and balloons) to help put them at ease.

Also, if you are hanging around between KS1 & KS2 discos we will be running our normal 'waiting room bar' out of Woodpecker classroom where you can enjoy soft drinks, wine & beer. There will also be soft drinks and colouring for small ones :-)

For some grown up fun please join us at our Pop Up Pub Quiz in the Village Hall on Friday 13 March. £10 per person (max teams of 6) including cheeseboard. Bar opens at 7pm. Quiz will run from 8-9.30pm and then the bar will stay open until 11pm so even if you can't join for the

quiz itself please pop in for a drink and to say hi! Every penny counts and all proceeds go to the school.

A massive thank you to all those who have signed up already but PLEASE we have big gaps for KS2 disco attendees and adult quiz goers so please Book Now and help us plan ahead and know we have commitment for these important fundraising events.

Thank you! Your PTA

VALLEY ARTS HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUBS

Looking for something creative and fun this February? We've got an exciting holiday club lined up:

- **Holiday Drama Workshop with Harry Gould** Tuesday 17th February, 10am - 4pm, Chew Magna Baptist Church For ages 10-14 (Years 5-9). Explore English folktales through improvisation, devising, and performance skills in this one-day workshop led by a professional theatre director.

No experience needed, all materials provided—just wear comfy clothes and bring lunch, snacks, and a drink. 🙌 Book now at ticketsource.co.uk/valley-arts

ATTACHMENT LINKS

Further items of interest can be found by clicking the following links:-

Weston-super-Mare Brick Festival:- https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Weston_Brick_Festival_Press_Release.pdf

SEND Music Sessions during Half Term at Midsomer Norton Library:- https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/SASS_Music_half_term_session_poster_-_MSN_Library_A3.png

Free Tennis Coaching for children at Bishop Sutton Tennis Club:- https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Free_tennis_for_kids_in_March.png

Keynsham Town U9s Girls Football Team:- https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/KT_-_U9_Girls_Football.jpg

Half Term Swimming at Hengrove Leisure Centre:- https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/feb_half_term_swimming_2026.jpg

Half Term Events at Wells Cathedral:- https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/2026.02.17-19_half-term_holiday_activities_A4.pdf

Ignite Sport Half Term Sports Club:- <https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/weekly26.01.pdf>

Ignite Sports Clubs Term 4:- https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Chew_Stoke_T4_Ignite.png

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