



Chisenhale Chatter



Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.



**Chisenhale
Primary School**

Confidence • Curiosity • Kindness

22.09.2023

Dear parents and carers,

I have really enjoyed seeing the children's work this week, especially those who have visited me in my office to receive a praise note to take home, as their teachers were particularly impressed with the effort they had put into their learning.

Two reporters from Radio 4 visited Sparrow class this week to see how the Active Movement programme works in practice. They are producing a programme looking at sedentary behaviour, so hope to include the programme as a good news story. The programme is described as offering 'a radical approach to children's health by focusing on the dangers of our sedentary lifestyle and the huge benefits of reducing it - not through an intense exercise regime, but by adding movement to every classroom, every day without burdening teachers or compromising teaching time.' At Chisenhale we ensure the children aren't sat for long periods of time and introduce small routines, such as standing to answer questions or to talk to a partner throughout each lesson. Sparrow class showed the reporters how active their maths lessons are, and then were happy to be interviewed about their thoughts on the programme. If you'd like to listen, the programme is called 'Inside Health' and will be on Radio 4 at 9pm on Tuesday, then on iPlayer/BBC Sounds soon after.

I have attached new guidance from NHS, on when to keep your child at home and when they are well enough to come into school. School attendance has dropped nationally since the pandemic, and Chisenhale is no different, which unfortunately has an impact on children's learning. If your child is not well enough to be in school, we obviously want them to stay at home and rest, but whenever possible we prefer the children to be in school and learning with their peers. Even one day off means missing key learning, as our lessons all build on the previous day's learning, and we need children to be active learners in school, participating in discussions, demonstrations, experiments and being given time to reflect and wonder. They miss out on so much by staying at home.

Good attendance is considered to be 96% or above - this is when it is not affecting a child's learning. If a child drops to 90% attendance, people are usually surprised to realise this means the child is spending more days at home than in school over the year! A child who consistently has a 90% attendance rate would miss 1.5 years of school over the course of their compulsory schooling! If you have questions or concerns about attendance, please come and see me, Ruth or Christine.

Gemma Anidi, Headteacher

These children will receive a praise postcard this week:

Blackbird: Esme and Zara

Buzzard: Ishaq and John

Magpie: Jack and Lily

Merlin: Layla and Adeolu

Goldcrest: Madina and Finn

Goshawk: Lily and Ismaeel

Sparrow: Rhys and Lucy

Swift: Tabia and Aiyaz

Crossbill: Nithya and Zaki

Chiffchaff: Yaqub and Michaela

Waxwing: Asiyah and Ajmain

Woodlark: Aiden and Henry

PTA meeting, 9am in the library Friday 6th October – all welcome

The PTA is an association of parents and school staff who work together to improve outcomes for all children at Chisenhale. All parents at Chisenhale are automatically members of the PTA and are welcome to attend meetings and get involved in fund raising and social events.

As Chisenhale PTA is a registered charity there are a number of trustees, who are usually the named members of the committee such as Chair, Treasurer and Secretary and other interested parents.

At this informal meeting we will explain a little more about what the PTA does each year, ask you to give consent to being added to the PTA mailing list, listen to ideas for new events and find out which parents or carers might be interested in taking on roles as trustees, helping to manage the committee or just get involved in an event.

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting in October when we elect new members to the committee, so please come along to find out more and get involved in school life.

Friday 6th October, 9am in the library, PTA meeting – all welcome

Friday 13th October, 9am in the library: Understanding Phonics workshop for Reception and Y1 parents

Class assembly dates, all in the top hall at 9am

**Waxwing, 10th November; Woodlark, 17th November; Crossbill, 19th January; Chiffchaff, 8th March;
Sparrow, 15th March; Swifts 22nd March; Goshawks, 10th May; Goldcrests, 24th May; Merlin 7th June;
Magpie, 14th June; Blackbird, 21st June; Buzzard, 28th June**