



Chisenhale Chatter

Chisenhale
Primary School

Confidence • Curiosity • Kindness

WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD
RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

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



27.02.2026

As we move into a busy spring term, I would like to wish those of you observing Ramadan a peaceful month and communities celebrating Chinese New Year a happy and prosperous Year of the Horse.

We were delighted to welcome author Karen McCombie to Chisenhale this week. She spent time with our Year 3 and 4 pupils sharing her work and enthusiasm for writing. Karen introduced the children to an exciting new writing competition on the theme of "Lost and Found" (see separate email for details) and entertained them with some brilliantly funny stories, including a particularly memorable tale about an elephant named Bob. The pupils were given the opportunity to try their hand at writing themselves, and it was heartening to see their immediate engagement with the task. We are pleased to announce that there were some wonderful team winners who received author notebooks as prizes. This kind of interaction with published authors is invaluable, as it demonstrates to our pupils that writing is a real and achievable pursuit, and it often sparks a genuine enthusiasm for storytelling and creative expression.

We also had the privilege of hosting an assembly for our Year 3 to 6 pupils with Leah Chowdhury, the first British Asian woman to swim the English Channel. Leah's presentation was truly inspiring, as she spoke candidly about the challenges she has faced, including dyslexia and difficulties with reading and writing during her own school years. What made her message so powerful was the way she shared how she overcame these obstacles and found the confidence to pursue her dreams. She spoke to the children about resilience and shared her own formula for success, encouraging them to believe in themselves and to push beyond the barriers they might encounter. It was a timely reminder that our difficulties do not define our potential, and that with determination and self-belief, we can achieve remarkable things.

Looking ahead, I would like to remind parents and carers that World Book Day is taking place next Thursday. This is always a highlight in our calendar, and we look forward to celebrating our love of reading and stories as a school community. Please do look out for the separate letter with full details about how we will be marking this special day.

These experiences reflect what we value at Chisenhale: nurturing curiosity, celebrating achievement, and inspiring our pupils to believe in themselves. I am grateful to all those who contribute to making these moments possible.

Gemma Anidi, Headteacher

These children received a praise postcard this week:

Wren: Reuben & Jonjo

Woodlark: Kyion & Benji J

Kestrel: Ahmad & Dylan

Kingfisher: Torii & Sami

Barn Owl: Clarence, Robyn
& Zara

Starling: Arthur J, Alma & Uma

Goshawk: Lorenzo & Ayman

Goldcrest: Albie & Arham

Swift: Morris & Adiyen

Sparrow: Ehsaan & Taqia

Mathletics Awards

Platinum: Jonjo in Y1, Safwan in Y2

Emerald: Safwan in Y2

Diamond: Nina in Y5



Reminder - after-school clubs next week

There will be no disco flow, coding or parkour clubs after school next Monday and Tuesday. Singing will still go ahead. This is because the spaces used for the other clubs are not available due to parents' evenings. You have not been charged for these sessions.

Nightowls continues as usual.

Recycling please

With science week coming up, we are asking for you to bring in some of your recycling for the children to use for experiments

Years 1-3 need newspapers and magazines and years 4-6 would appreciate any small plastic bottles, bottle lids and small cardboard boxes. Please bring these items in by 6th March. Many thanks.

Dates for your diary

Parents' evenings, Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd March

Thursday 5th March, 9.05am, World Book Day parade around the block – dress up as your favourite character, whole school events during the day

Friday 6th March World Book Day sale and bookmark making, 3.30pm in the playground. Also, lost property from last half-term will be on display – last chance to claim it!

Thursday 19th March – wear something red to support comic relief. We will also be selling red noses from 9th March but supplies are limited.

Friday 20th March – school closed for Eid

Thursday 23rd April, after school, PTA Magic show – more details soon

Class assemblies, all in the top hall at 9am, on Fridays – parents welcome

13th March Barn Owl Class

1st May Kingfisher Class

12th June Woodlark Class

26th June Wren Class

10th July Kestrel Class

School canteen of the future

A group of children have been working with chef David and students from the MA in Social Innovation and Sustainable Futures at London College of Communication, to imagine what school lunches might look like in 2050 with both the climate and children's well-being in mind. To mark the end of the project there will be a community meal on Thursday 12th March at 4.30pm at Chisenhale. This event is open to children, teachers, parents and carers from Chisenhale Primary School. **Limited tickets are available and places have already been reserved for the children involved in the project and their families.** If you would like to come along to find out more, please book your free place here: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/chisenhale-community-meal-imagining-the-future-of-the-school-canteen-tickets-1979977010538?utm_experiment=test_share_listing&aff=ebdsshios

For anyone fasting for Ramadan, there will be the option to take food away with you to eat later.

Song of the week: https://www.youtubeeducation.com/watch?v=1BPQ_1kwos8

Wb 23 Feb: 'Wan Nian Hong' (Everlasting Red)

By Teresa Tang

"Wan Nian Hong," performed by the legendary Teresa Teng, is a classic Chinese New Year anthem. Her voice is famously "sweet as honey," making the song feel gentle yet full of celebration.

What does "Wan Nian Hong" mean? The title translates to "Red for Ten Thousand Years." In Chinese culture, red isn't just a color; it's the color of luck, joy, and scaring away bad luck! The song tells us that when Spring arrives, the whole world turns "red" with happiness. It's about wishing that the "good vibes" from the New Year last forever—not just for a week, but for ten thousand years!

The song reminds us to:

Be Kind: It talks about everyone smiling and being friendly.

Stay Positive: No matter what happened last year, Spring is a fresh start.

Share Joy: Like a red lantern, our happiness should shine for everyone to see.

