



# Charnock Hall Primary Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

Carter Hall Road,  
Sheffield  
S12 3HS  
0114 2396083  
enquiries@charnockhallacademy.co.uk

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**Headteacher:** Mr P M Burgess - NPQH

## Weekly Newsletter Update – WEEK 11

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are all well!

### Covid updates

In the last week there have been no Government updates regarding Covid. We continue to handle this situation well, but this is no time of us to become complacent. As such, please accept this as a reminder of vigilance. Please remember to keep as large a distance as possible between yourselves and other site users. Although I appreciate 2 metres isn't always practical, the wearing of facemasks will further help you. At the EYFS/KS1 entrance, I am seeing adults getting closer and closer, not always wearing masks. Also, at the KS2 entrance/exit area there are a number of people hanging around, again not always wearing masks and making easy entrance or exit from the site more difficult. Please be mindful of this as we work in the best interests of everyone's health and wellbeing.

### Year Group Updates

#### YR

Reception are 'blowing our socks off' at the moment. They are blending and segmenting using all the phonemes we have learned 's, a, t, p, i, n', to read simple words. They are also writing these simple words well in phonics and applying this knowledge when writing across all areas of the curriculum. We are really trying to practise writing our names and some are even challenging themselves to use the cursive font.

#### Y1

Year 1's are continuing to grow in independence. They are still working extremely hard and really wanting to do their best! In English we have been completing writing based on a The Snail and the Whale. The children are continuing to use capital letters and full stops, and are increasingly using their phonics to help them spell. Many have also done well with their spellings as homework too. Handwriting is also continuing to improve and be applied independently. In maths they have been starting to count on using a number line, comparing number sentences, finding a whole and numbers bonds. Within the Paws, Claws and Whiskers topic the children have been thoroughly enjoying the activities within provision. The activities include, designing and making an animal enclosure, sorting different animals into groups, including herbivores, carnivores and omnivores.

#### Y2

Our topic this half-term is 'Muck, Mess and Mixtures'. We kick started our topic with a 'Messy Morning'. We had four different activities where we investigated different mediums and materials to see what we could make with them. We used watercolour paints to create a picture of our choice, and then we experimented with felt tips. The next activity involved us using different materials and papers to create a collage and finally we built models with playdough by rolling, squashing and squeezing. We have done various experiments, with different materials, to develop our skills of performing simple tests and recording data. Our favourite experiment was the bubble experiment to investigate which type of soap made the most bubbles! In English, We have been reading 'George's Marvellous Medicine' which links very well to our topic. We have been exploring the chapters to inspire us to write diary entries, list poems and letters as the character George. In Maths, we are beginning to learn methods to calculate multiplication by recognising equal groups, repeated addition and using arrays.

#### Y3

Year 3 have continue their flying start to the year. We have enjoyed reading and writing a range of poems inspired by Joseph Coelho. Our poems have included topics like food, animals and school work, we particularly enjoyed writing the silly ones! In maths we continue to cement the skills of adding and subtraction using the column method. We have moved in to looking at word problems and the children are showing great perseverance to master this challenging element. As our learning hook, we created shadows in our classrooms to launch our 'Urban Pioneers' topic. So far, we have learnt all about maps, graffiti and light. Keep up the great work Year 3!

#### Y4

Year 4's have had a fantastic return after half-term. We have been really impressed with their attitude towards their learning and their determination to be the best that they can be throughout every lesson. We are so proud of how they have returned! The children have shown good mathematical understanding of addition and subtraction, improving their reasoning of different concepts. They have also shown a clear and concise understanding of the perimeter of rectilinear shapes and



converting measurements. In English, they have produced some excellent pieces of writing using our new book "King of the Cloud Forests". We have focused on using persuasive features and language to produce a persuasive letter. In PE, we have moved on to focusing on balancing and jumping and how these skills can be transferred and used in game-like scenarios. We have started to deepen our understanding on rivers in our new topic "Misty Mountains and Winding Rivers". The children have been able to identify the key features of a river whilst recognising the ever changing landscapes of rivers. The children are preparing to move on to creating their own documentary on different rivers in the world.

## Y5

This term our topic is called 'Alchemy Island'. Over the last couple of weeks, we have begun to engross ourselves in our topic. We began our topic by looking for portals to Alchemy Island in and around school. We took photographs of the portals and then used pastels to make the photos look magical. We have used our Geography skills to look for human and physical features on a map of Alchemy Island and showed evidence of hills and valleys by drawing on contours. This week we are going to use our Science skills to examine contaminated water samples found in the Bottomless Well near the Ancient Citadel and decontaminate them through filtration and sieving. We are really enjoying completing tasks and can't wait to complete our magical journey.

In English we have used the book Tom's Midnight Garden by Edith as our stimulus for learning. It's a graphic novel adaptation of the original. So far we have learnt that Tom is sent away to spend his summer with his aunt and uncle, because his brother Peter has measles. Tom was not best pleased by the situation, but one night hears the grandfather clock strike thirteen and discovers a secret garden. As part of this topic we have written letters in role as Tom to Peter, drawn pictures of Tom's Midnight garden and used stimulating language to describe them and written poems about the garden.

In Book Study we are reading The Nowhere Emporium by Ross Mackenzie. The children are engrossed by the plot. So far, we have learnt that Daniel Holmes (a young bullied orphan) stumbles upon the Nowhere Emporium by accident. Before long, the 'shop from nowhere' -- and its owner, Mr Silver -- draw Daniel into a breath-taking world of magic and enchantment. We can't wait to see where this mysterious journey takes Daniel.

Our Maths focus for this term is Graphs and Tables and then Multiplication and Division. So far, we have learnt how to interpret two-way tables and line graphs. We are smashing this unit!

## Y6

We have made a good start to Autumn 2 in Y6. Children have enjoyed researching and writing about the Titanic. We are starting to focus more on Ernest Shackleton for the remainder of this half-term – mainly on his exploration experiences. We have also enjoyed researching the Arctic and Antarctic and the world oceans.

We are starting to cover fractions in maths, an area where misconceptions are evident due to lockdown in April. This will more than likely be our focus up until Christmas. Thank you to all parents who attended parents evening or who have contacted us separately regarding their children's progress. Please encourage your children to access TT Rockstars and read at home daily.

## Mental Health Training for Parents

The up take for this course has been amazing, with over 40 parents signing up to it. The providers tell me that they have never had such a positive response in such a short space of time. Well done!

Because of the great response, the provider have extended the deadline, so if you are interested, please follow the link.

On a personal note, I have completed the first section. It was informative and insightful, but wasn't difficult at all.

If you are interested, here is the link - <https://theaimgroup.co.uk/courses/registration>

## Odd Socks Day

There was great support for the odd socks event and pupils have been working on strategies to help them become even more understanding, compassionate and amazing!

## Christmas 2020

As explained in last weeks newsletter, we have put into place a number of virtual events for Christmas. The payment system is now open through Schoolcomms for the Christmas concerts. Any problems, please contact the Admin Team.



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## Uniform & PE kit

Most pupils look very smart in their uniform. However, more recently, there are increasing numbers of pupils not wearing the agreed uniform. For clarity, CHPA uniform does not include the following –

Lycra / leggings

Heeled boots / shoes

Denim of any kind – unless worn as a coat

Hoodies – unless it is worn as a coat

Trainers that have any colour in them (they should be 100% black)

Additionally, in regards to PE kit, there are a number of pupils who have begun to wear football kits on PE days. Please remember that this is not part of PE kit, so please do not send them in it.

## PE Days reminder

Please see, as a reminder, the PE timetable. Pupils should only come in their PE kit on this day.

YEAR GROUP	DAY
YR	Friday
Y1	Wednesday
Y2	Wednesday
Y3	Monday
Y4	Thursday
Y5	Tuesday
Y6	Friday

## Earrings

Just a quick reminder that earrings are not allowed to be worn at any time due to the risks they create. The latest information researched is 6 weeks. Please follow the link for a helpful guide to support you further, if you are unsure.

<https://invernesscorp.com/how-long-to-leave-earrings-in-after-piercing/>

## Parking concerns

Most people are brilliant and considerate when they are parking, making sure they are not putting others at risk. Unfortunately, there are a small but consistent number of people who think the highway code isn't applicable to them and as such are parking on double yellow lines, too close to junctions or across peoples drive ways. Additionally, there are also individuals who leave their engines running (idling) even though this creates more pollution. The actions of the few are putting the children of everyone at risk. Please ensure you are always considerate to others. It is only a few eeks since I had to write something similar in the Newsletter, which is particularly disappointing.

## Extra Bank Holiday 2021

You may already be aware that in 2021, there will be an extra bank-holiday to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This bank holiday will be on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June (which is in the half-term holiday, so there will not be an extra day-off from school). However, the usual Monday Bank-Holiday at the start of the same week, is being moved to the Thursday (3.6.2021), and this will then create a 4-day weekend for everyone.

## Reading at home

If you are looking for some high quality texts to read at home, World Book Day have a page on their website that recommends books for different age groups:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/ideas/100-stories-to-share/>



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## Sheffield Children's Hospital Charity

It was the CHPA intention to again support the Children's Hospital fund raising by taking part in the Bears of Sheffield event, but Covid has dictated that they have had to postpone this to 2021.

However, we are delighted to announce that we will be working with the Children's Hospital and the PTAS to fundraise for one of the hospitals snowflakes. We have committed to raising a minimum of £1000, and as a result this will see CHPA having our name attached to a snowflake. This is an amazing charity, that does fantastic work, which I know many of you have accessed in some form with your children. We already have some money raised from the work we did with the PTA around the Bears. This has given us a great place to start from. 2 pupils, Luke and Charlotte have also had a great idea. If you would like to have a guess at how many sweets are in the jar, you can either catch me at the start or the end of the day, or pop into the main reception and have a go. It will be £2 per go and all of the funds raised will add into our donation pot. The person who guesses closest (when it is announced on 17.12.2020), will win the whole jar of sweets and chocolate!

We will also be adding the money we raise from Christmas jumper day to this figure.

If anyone else has any amazing ideas of other things we can do to raise money, please let me know.

As soon as I know, I will let you know where our star is going to be displayed. Apparently, there is an official virtual switch on session too. Again, I will let you know when this is.

Here is a link to the snowflakes video - <https://youtu.be/mJtGZzBxBxo>

## Social Media

If you are not yet following us on social media, please follow us on Twitter using [@charnocklead](#) as the handle and via our Facebook page [Charnock Hall Academy](#). If you do request to make friends with CHPA on social media, please also send a message stating who your child is. With us all wearing masks, it is difficult to recognise faces and this will then make accepting friend requests easier and quicker.

Take care and stay safe!

Mr P M Burgess & all the staff at CHPA



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## TIME TO START SCHOOL?

Reception place applications being taken for next September

Come and join the fun to 'be the best you can be'!

Contact us now to arrange a visit

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