



Charnock Hall Primary Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

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Friday 12th March 2021

Headteacher: Mr P M Burgess - NPQH

Dear Parent/Carer,

Weekly Newsletter Update – WEEK 24

Welcome to Newsletter 24.

It has been so good to have all pupils back at CHPA this week. They have adapted fantastically well, quickly getting back into the routines and high expectations we have at CHPA. There is no doubt that it will take time for pupils to fully re-immense themselves in CHPA life, but with the carefully planned curriculum, opportunities for lots of physical learning and also time to think, talk and support their mental health and well-being.

At this moment in time, staff are using various strategies and approaches to assess pupil's academic and social knowledge and skills in order that we can support fully, moving forward.

There is a lot being said in the media and from the government about 'children being behind' and 'catch-up'. For us, this begs the questions, who are they behind as all children are in a similar position. To compare children's knowledge and understanding from previous years to now is an unfair comparison due to the variable impact of Covid-19. Without doubt, we have high expectations for all pupils but for them to hear the terms 'behind' and 'catch up' can only negatively affect them.

There are no short cuts to supporting pupil knowledge and progress development, if it is to be knowledge that sticks. We will be taking a measured and long term approach to addressing individual and cohort need, to ensure that every pupil, by the time they leave CHPA has the chance to be the best they can be!

For the remainder of the academic year, teachers have reviewed curriculum plans to ensure that by the end of this academic year (July 16th), pupils have as much knowledge as possible to ensure they are prepared for the next academic year.

Over the summer term and into the next academic year, we will be looking at numerous options, including further opportunities within the normal CHPA day, and where appropriate, additional sessions, either before or at the end of the day, as we have successfully implemented already, to support pupils in enhancing their knowledge and skill base.

Parent Consultation Evenings

As explained last week, to support the return of pupils and to aid you in fully understanding how your children have settled back into life at CHPA, we have organised Parent Consultation meetings to take place on 30.3.21 and 1.4.21. This is the last Tuesday (30.3.21) and Thursday (1.4.21) of this half term – we actually break up for the Easter Holiday on Thursday 1st April.

At this time, only 134-pupils have had parents book onto these meetings and it is important that you please book to meet class teacher, as this will provide us with the opportunity to talk about your child's learning, next steps and well-being following the difficulties of the last lockdown in some detail with you.

This event will be held through the Parents Evening system that we have used for home contacts during Lockdown 3, so you have the log in details. For those who are unsure, please follow this link - <https://charnockhall.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

The booking system is now open for both days, so book early to get the time you want. Both evenings will take place between 3:30-6pm.

Government Laptops

If CHPA has loaned your family a laptop or tablet during this lockdown, please ensure that this is returned to CHPA with your child next week. All but 2 have now been returned.

Safe parking

Thank you to the majority of parents who, throughout this week have ensured they park safely for the benefit of everyone. Please do not park on double yellow lines, particularly those immediately outside CHPA on Carter Hall Road, as it does cause disruption to the easy flow of traffic and does create a significant increase in the risk to everyone.

Pupil drop-off and pick-up

When dropping-off or picking up your child, can you as parents please ensure you remember social distancing guidance. Also, please do not stand in groups at the entrances to the CHPA site (either EYFS/KS1 or KS2), as this causes obstruction for others trying to enter or leave and results in social distancing not being possible.

Also, please do not smoke (including e-cig) in the immediate vicinity of the CHPA site – passive smoking is unpleasant and dangerous, particularly for children's lungs.

Furthermore, as the nicer weather creeps ever closer, more of you are bringing your dogs as part of your daily routines, can I please just ask that you keep them on a very short lead to ensure you have full control over them, particularly when a lot of pupils are around, the last thing anyone wants is a child being bitten by a frightened dog.



Uniform

A few parents have asked over the last week, if certain items of uniform are acceptable at the current time generally due to your children having outgrown it. Where this is the case, of course we need to make allowances as restrictions are still in place and it isn't always easy to get the necessary uniform, so do not worry too much about it.

However, please remember that all jewellery, including earrings and rings should not be worn by pupils. However, a wrist watch can be worn.

CHPA Easter Eggstravaganza Challenge

A huge well done to those who have made a brilliant start at this over the last week. Keep it up. For those who have not managed 100% this week, you can always aim to have 100% from Monday!

CBeebies Bedtime Stories

Here is something for the younger members of CHPA (and maybe some of the grown-ups too!). CBeebies Bedtime Stories have a lockdown special starting this Sunday 14th March. The stories shared this week all cover themes around mental health, worries and feelings, finishing off with a special Comic Relief story on Friday 19th with a yet to be announced special guest.

Bedtime Stories are aired at 6:50pm daily, and can also be found on BBC iPlayer.

<https://www.facebook.com/cbeebies/videos/279213646934140/>

Comic Relief 2021

Next Friday is Comic Relief 2021 and we are encouraging everyone to get involved!

Free School Meal Entitlement

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, there may be many of you, who in these difficult times are eligible to access Free School Meals.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 0114 2396083 and we will answer any questions in complete confidence.

This system is there to help anyone eligible in time of difficulty, and additionally, CHPA will receive further funding, which in times of tight budgets, is extremely valuable to us driving CHPA forward and provide further opportunities for your child.

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools-childcare/school-meals>

PTA Announcements

Keep your eyes and ears open for some exciting news from the CHPA PTA over the coming days!

Lockdown Praise

We just wanted to say a huge well done to every single one of you. Lockdown 3 continues to be tough, but if we all stay with it, we will be back to normal sooner. You can do this; you have just managed 2 months of home schooling and job juggling or have been on the front line. Well done and keep it up!

Thanks

Thank you to you all for making the return to CHPA a positive experience for pupils this week. Have a lovely weekend.

Take care and stay safe!

Mr P M Burgess & all the staff at CHPA

SHARE A SMILE

Get ready to **Share a Smile** with us at CHPA this Red Nose Day.

RED NOSE DAY

FRIDAY 19 MARCH

We will be:

- *Having a 'Joke Off' throughout the week – dust off your best joke and get ready to share in your class.
- *Taking part in our very own Red Nose and Spoon races in class, inspired by The One Show's own event.
- *Red Nose Day (next Friday) will be a non-uniform day. Come dressed in an outfit that makes you smile!

Bring a donation in order to support this fantastic cause that helps the lives of millions of people around the UK and across the world.

Suggested minimum donation £1.


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**FIND OUT MORE AT
COMICRELIEF.COM/REDNOSEDAY**

**RED NOSE DAY
FUNNY IS POWER**