

# Churchfields Infants School Weekly Newsletter

#### Growing Together: Every Day In Every Way

Autumn Term, Issue 3 22nd September 2023

Value of the month *Kindness* 

#### **Philosophy Friday**

Have a go at this question at home with a grown up!

Would you rather swim in a tank of sharks or lie down in a tank of crabs?

Why?

#### DIARY DATES:

Big Read 29th September 2:45pm - 3:15pm (Not Nursery)

Curriculum Workshops Reception - 27th September Year 1 - 28th September Year 2 - 4th October Nursery - 5th October

> PTA AGM 12th October

Parent Workshop Reception and Year 1 13th October - 2:15pm

Parent Consultations W/C 16th October To be confirmed

Flu Vaccinations 20th October

Half Term 23rd - 27th October

For other important dates, please visit the Calendar page on our school website.

### Writing In Year 2

Year Two have been using a text without words in their English lessons this half term; they have looked carefully at the pictures to decide what is happening in the story and have been developing their skills in making predictions about what they think might happen next from given points in the story!

This week they have used their predictions about what will happen to the main character next to write a simple story including a problem and a resolution - and with problems, the scarier the better! Children have used interesting sentence starters and have been challenged to begin adding description and 'tasty words' to their writing to make it more interesting for their reader. We hope you will agree that these examples show how well our Year Two children are writing already!

### Art In Year 1

Year One have been working so hard in their Art lessons this week! They looked at some different pieces of Art by Bridget Riley and discussed and described the different types of lines they could see. Children then rehearsed making and drawing different types of lines, and demonstrated their skills in their sketch books.

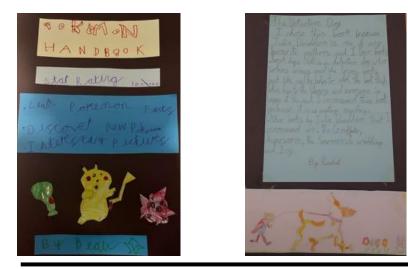
You will see vertical, horizontal, diagonal, wavy, cross-hatched and broken lines in the examples here - and we're sure you're as impressed with all their hard work as we are! This learning will feed into next week's Art lessons when children will be using their skills to create a large collaborative piece of line art as a class! Watch this space!



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### **Reading Review Scrapbooks**

We have received some wonderful book reviews so far and are looking forward to hearing more. Can you find any of these books in your local library?



### **Attendance Bear**

The winners for the week beginning 11th September are:

1st Starfish 99% 2nd Panda and Octopus 98% 3rd Turtle 97%





Well done everyone, all classes had improved attendance this week.

### The Big Read

We are very excited to welcome parents/carers into school for our Big Read, on Friday 29th September.

At Churchfields we want to share our passion for reading and know that this works best when a love of reading is modelled and developed both in school and at home.

Our Big Reads are a chance to come into school, read and share stories with your child/ren.

Weather permitting, we will set up books both inside and outside your child's classroom. It would be helpful if you could bring a picnic mat if you wish to sit outside.

Please arrive promptly as reading begins straight away. If you have other commitments, please feel free to send another relative but school staff are always available to read with children.

Unfortunately, this won't be for Nursery this time. Nursery will host a reading event soon.

We look forward to seeing you and sharing lots of wonderful books!



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### **PTA Coffee Morning**

Our PTA Needs YOU!

Our PTA is a much valued part of the Churchfields Infants' School community. It provides the opportunity to build links within our school, make new friends, organise fun events for the children and raise much needed funds for the school and our environment for our children.



In recent years, the PTA has funded many additional resources, such

as our outdoor play equipment, the musical pathway, the phone box library and our new scooter racks. We are looking for new ideas, new volunteers and new ways to help the PTA grow and become even bigger and better.

We are hosting a coffee morning on **Friday 29th September from 9:00 to 10:00am**, so please come along to meet Mrs Anderson and some of the PTA team to find out how you can help. Every little helps! Please join us if you can. The contact details for the PTA are: <u>pta.churchfields@gmail.com</u> and <u>www.facebook.com/churchfieldsschoolpta</u>.



#### **JOIN THE PTA**

The Churchfields PTA are a volunteer group of parents and carers. We organise a wide range of events each year to raise vital funds for the school. We are always looking for volunteers to help us organise and run these events which include discos, cake sales, fayres, quiz nights and more. It is a great way to meet other parents and become a larger part of your child's school life. If you'd like to find out more about joining the committee, or just to get involved to a small degree, please get in contact by completing the form below and handing it into one of the school offices. We'll add you to our WhatsApp group which we use to circulate information and generate help and interest in the events.

### **Reception Sensory Circuit**

Our Reception children have loved taking part in our outdoor sensory circuit - it has been a great way to get them moving, having fun and developing their gross motor skills.

They have even enjoyed adapting the circuit to make it more challenging for themselves!



### **Curriculum Workshops**

We believe that children achieve their very best when we work in partnership with our families. We would like to invite you to our popular workshops which provide a valuable opportunity for you to understand how you can support your child at home with their learning.

Last year we held this virtually in the autumn term and in school in the spring term. Listening to your feedback and looking at the attendance figures from last year, we have decided to hold these meetings virtually so as many of you can attend as possible. Dates are as follows:

Year 2 – 4th October.

Year 1 – 28th September.

Reception – 27th September.

Nursery - 5th October.

Workshops will begin at 5pm. Links have been emailed today to Reception and Year 1. Year 2 and Nursery to follow.

### **Phonics Workshop**

Mrs Osborne is inviting you into school to learn about our exciting Phonics Scheme - Little Wandle. Information will be given on the daily phonics lessons and you will also find out about the practice reading sessions.

The workshop is for all Reception parents and any new families in Year 1. It will be on **Friday 13th October at 2:15pm**. Doors open 2:05pm for a prompt start at 2:15pm.

### Marvellous Me

A gentle reminder that all of our classes, from Reception to Year 2, are set up for the new school year. If you haven't already connected, you'll have received a letter this week with information about how to do so. Please do connect with us so that you can see all of the brilliant things going on in school (and so that you can be notified when your children receive awards).



## **Uniform Donations**

Thank you to all those who generously donated pre-loved uniforms. We are overwhelmed by the generosity and kindly ask to please hold off on donating anymore items for the moment.

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## **Nursery Tours**

We will be hosting two tours in our Nursery. This is so you can see the nursery in action during the day - on **Thursday 9th and Thursday 30th November at 10 am.** 

Please contact the school office to book a place on 020 8505 0386 or email <u>admin.ChurchfieldsInfants@redbridge.gov.uk</u>.

Further information about our Nursery and an application form can be found on the school website under Nursery Admissions.

### **School Admissions 2024**

If your child is starting Reception, transferring from infant to junior school, or transferring from primary to secondary school in September 2024, you must apply online at <u>www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/</u><u>schooladmissions/</u>.

Application rounds are now open and must be submitted by 15th January 2024.

Details of tour dates for Reception 2024 are now on our website, HERE.

## E-Safety Tip of the Week!

#### Safe Searching

There is so much online that we would not want our child to view and even an innocent search can result in inappropriate content being seen. To make our child's online world safer, we would firstly recommend switching on Safesearch settings for the search engine your child uses. However, as not all search engines allow you to 'lock' Safesearch on (so users may be able to simply turn it off), we would encourage you to apply further parental controls.

For some search engines, for example Google, you can set up a Family management account, which will ensure that Safesearch settings cannot be switched off. We would recommend using a family management account (either Google or Microsoft) so even if your child is using a search engine that cannot be locked, there will at least be an additional level of content filtering provided.

In addition to the above, make sure you have set up appropriate parental controls on your home broadband (and any consoles/ devices/ apps/ websites that your child uses/accesses) for example, to restrict access to explicit websites or access to websites that are not suitable for children.

Please remember that no filtering/ parental control is 100% safe, so it is important that you talk to your child about how they can stay safe online and that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if they need to.

CEOP have produced an article exploring what you could do if your child sees something inappropriate online: <u>https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-to-do-if-your-childhas-seen-something-inappropriate-online/</u>.





internet matters.org







Be Internet Legends.