



Churchfields Infants' School

Weekly Newsletter

Autumn Term, Issue 5
6th October 2023

Growing Together: Every Day In Every Way

Value of the
month
Cooperation

Mini English Champions

Our English Champion, Mrs Osborne, is pleased to announce our new Mini English Champions for the year. We have chosen these children because they are passionate about books and reading. They will have a range of responsibilities such as showing enthusiasm for reading, recommending books to peers, tidying the libraries, organising books, having input into ordering new books and lots of other important jobs.



"I like reading books and I really like Shifty McGifty books. I am looking forward to recommending books to a friend."

"I like reading because I have a Roald Dahl collection and a Mr Men collection. I read a lot at home and in school."

"I am looking forward to tidying all of the books in the library. I read lots of books at home, I've got so many!"

"I enjoy reading because it is my favourite thing to do. I like Julia Donaldson books."

"I love reading books. It's good to read because some stories are about real things and you can then learn new facts."

"I love reading and learning new facts. I really like History books. When reading story books I like finding out what is happening at the end. I also like reading with friends."

"I love reading and tidying up. Reading is my favourite thing to do. I like really interesting books."

"I like History books. I read lots at school and at home."

Philosophy Friday

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

Aeroplanes are better than boats. Do you agree or disagree?

Why?

DIARY DATES:

PTA AGM
12th October

Phonics Workshop
13th October
Reception - 2:15 pm
Year 1 - 9:00 am

Parent Consultations
W/C 16th October

PTA Cake Sale
19th October

Flu Vaccinations
20th October

Hero Day
20th October

PTA Halloween Disco
21st October

Half Term
23rd - 27th October

Stay & Play
8th November

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

Families In Reception

This week, Reception have been reading 'The Great Big Book of Families'. Children looked at photographs, talked about who is in their family and made pictures using pebbles to create a pebble family.



Fine-Motor Skills With Nursery

Nursery children found some leaves in the garden and used hole punchers to make holes. It was quite tricky but they kept on trying. They then threaded string through the holes and made a lovely leaf garland to decorate the play house.



Languages At Churchfields

Did you know that there are 34 different languages spoken by Churchfields families? We are proud of the fact that we are a multicultural community and each term the children in years one and two learn some words in one of the languages spoken by our families.

This term the language is **Bulgarian**.

Bulgarian is the national language of Bulgaria and Bulgarian speakers are also found in other countries, including Macedonia, Greece, Turkey, Romania, Ukraine, Israel, Russia, Hungary and the United States. There are about 9 million Bulgarian speakers in the world.

Hello World!	
English:	Hello
Bulgarian:	Здравей
Pronunciation:	Zdravei

Now you can say hello to the 9,000,000 Bulgarian speakers in the world.

Parent Consultations

Following the success of our Parent Workshops during the last two weeks, we will be hosting our individual parent consultations the **week beginning 16th October**. The meetings take place in school and will give all parents and carers the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss their progress and see some of the learning that has been completed in school.

You will receive an email with details of how to book a time slot. Please note that these appointments are for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as nursery meet with Key Workers regularly throughout the year.

We look forward to welcoming you into school.

Attendance Bear

The winners for the week beginning 25th September are:

1st Turtle and Starfish - 99%

2nd Panda, Penguin and Jaguar - 98%

3rd Octopus 96%

Well done everyone, amazing attendance!



Specialist Education and Training Support Service

For those parents who do not know, SEaTSS is a specialist SEND advisory service supporting children and young people aged from 0-25 years. They link closely with health and other professionals in Redbridge.

As a service they offer a wide range of SEND support, advice and training opportunities for schools and settings to enable them to deliver high quality inclusive education. They also provide advice and support for individual children with SEND and their families so that all are equipped to understand and meet individual's needs.

We have a range of support and advice from SEaTSS staff and this is always beneficial to us, the children and parents.

Please find the information below and links to access ideas and support should this be of use to you and your child.

1. Social Media

S.E.a.T.S.S are on social media now- we aim to upload short reels and information 2-3 times a week. You only need to click on the image and it will take you straight to the platform.

Don't forget to also share our You Tube channel! <https://www.youtube.com/@RedbridgeSEATSS/playlists>

2. Parent training

We launch our Parent training for this term today. We are running separate primary and secondary sessions, and we are also running these in the daytime and evenings too.

Please find details on our event flyer. Our training is FREE for Redbridge parents.

Our Outdoor Learning Area

We are entering into the second phase of planning our Outdoor Area, with a vision to create a biodiversity environment for our children to be part of and enjoy. We wish to support wildlife and habitats by introducing mini ponds, bug hotels and small wildflower areas. We shall receive a delivery of shrubs and trees from the Wildlife Trust in November which will need planting. After a dark winter, we all think of spring, so now is the time for us to start planting bulbs as autumn slowly arrives.

We have kindly received donations from Waitrose and Wickes to help with purchasing plants but we are in need of building material such as logs, palettes, stone and pebbles to help create these spaces. We would very much appreciate any donations from work you may have had done and materials that are no longer needed. Please ask family and friends.

As always, we thank you for your continued support. Please look out for dates when the planting will begin and we will be providing further updates very soon.



Churchfields PTA's AGM

The Annual General Meeting is a chance for the PTA to report on the events held over the last academic year and provide an update on the funds raised. It is open to all parents across both schools. Please email pta.churchfields@gmail.com if you'd like to attend the meeting, which will be held on Google Meet. Links will be sent out on the morning of **12th October**. Meeting begins at **8pm**.

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, 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. We'll add you to our WhatsApp group which we use to circulate information and generate help and interest in the events.

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.

Following on from the Year 1 workshop, Mrs Osborne will now be hosting a Year 1 phonics refresher workshop. This refresher will be held on **Friday 13th October 9:00-9:30am in the hall**.



Hero Day

In school, we celebrate the lives of many heroes through our wider curriculum. Significant individuals looked at include Rosa Parks, Sir David Attenborough, Roald Dahl and also members of our own families.

On **Friday 20th October**, we are asking children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (and staff) to come to school dressed as an inspiring, real-life hero. Children will spend the day discussing why their hero is important to them and we will send home a postcard for children to complete, explaining who their hero is and why.

As always with our special dress up days, it is a time to be creative, make simple props and raid the dressing up box. We do not wish families to buy anything special for the occasion so please do not feel the pressure to buy new clothes. Please also make sure that your child's clothing is safe, sensible and practical for school.

Certificates will be awarded for the most persuasive thoughts and ideas.

For Nursery children, we are hosting a non-uniform day.

Our charity of the year is Churchfields Infants' School. As you may be aware, funding and income for schools has been hugely impacted in recent years and is currently at an all time low. With this in mind, and with our commitment to giving your children the best possible experience in school, we would like to develop certain areas of the grounds and purchase curriculum resources with any additional funding.

We look forward to seeing your wonderful ideas.



PTA's Halloween Disco

Our PTA will be holding a Halloween fancy dress disco on **Saturday 21st October** in Churchfields Junior School hall.

Tickets are £4 each and can be purchased via our online ticketing system www.pta-events.co.uk/churchfields.

Session 1 - **1:00pm - Nursery & Infants only.**

Session 2 - **2:30pm - Infants only.**

Session 3 - **4:00pm - Juniors only.**



Stay And Play!

Nursery are hosting a Stay and Play on **Thursday 8th November**. Younger children are welcome to join but must be kept with you at all times.

Morning session 8:45 – 10.00am

Afternoon session 12:45 – 2.00pm Full time children 1.00pm - 2:00pm

Spend some time playing with your child in nursery. Younger children are welcome but must be kept with you.

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 10am.**

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

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 www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/schooladmissions/.

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!

Parental Controls

Does your child have a games console? If yes, have you set up age appropriate parental controls? The controls vary across the different consoles, but all will allow you to restrict spending and communication for example.

PlayStation

Set up your account as a family manager and create a separate child account so you can tailor their activities. Find out more here: <https://www.playstation.com/engb/support/account/psn-safetyparents-guide>

XBox

You can download an app to manage your child's gaming experience. Find out more here: <https://www.xbox.com/enGB/apps/family-settings-app>

Nintendo Switch

Nintendo also offer a free app to monitor what and how your children are playing. Find out more here: <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Nintendo-o-Switch-Family/Nintendo-SwitchParental-Controls/Nintendo-SwitchParental-Controls-1183145.html>



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