

Chaffinch Brook Summer Newsletter 2020



Chaffinch Brook

Termly Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to thank you all for your continued support over the last 5 months. We recognise how challenging this time has been for everyone and we are so proud of the way we have all been able to work together to support the children.

It has been amazing to see so many examples of the fantastic work which has been completed at home during the school closure and we would like to say thank you for trying so hard to continue learning at home. Learning has looked very different for our children so please do not worry if you have not been able to keep up with the activities set on Google Classroom. Helping our children to understand the world at the moment has been a huge challenge and ensuring they feel calm and happy has been a main priority.

It was wonderful to welcome so many of our children back to school when we opened in June and they have managed so well with the changes in school due to social distancing. We have slowly welcomed more and more children back and most children who have remained at home have been able to visit to say hello.

We are looking forward to the new school year in September where we will welcome back all of our pupils, full time starting from Wednesday 9th September 2020. You will be sent a letter in August with your appointment time and Miss Caroline will call you to confirm your attendance. It is very important that you attended the induction meeting before being able to start on 9th September.

We hope you have a restful summer break and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

Best wishes

Miss Abbie and Miss Illy ☺

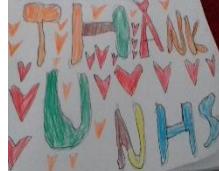
Diary Dates

Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th September 2020- Induction days (you will be sent a letter with your appointment for your induction meeting)

Wednesday 9th September 2020- First day of term!

Google Classroom

During lockdown we had to set up and start using Google Classroom for our communication and lessons! We are so proud of the children, parents and teachers and the way they adapted to this. Some children have completed huge amounts of work at home and we are really impressed. It was all very strange, but we had a lot fun communicating with the children over Google Meets and Google Classroom.



Refugee Week

For the first time at Chaffinch Brook School, we joined in with Refugee Week as a whole school. We learnt all about refugees and some of the struggles they have had to face. The children really showed us how caring, empathetic and respectful they can be throughout the week. We created welcome posters to show that we accept others in our community. The children also created and made dolls houses out of shoe boxes showing their time during lockdown and creating a sense of community.



Art Week

This term we took part in a whole school art week, that was a bit different! We decided to create objects out of recycled items for our sensory garden. The children learnt all about upcycling and designed and made exciting projects such as stools and plant pots. Here are some pictures of their amazing work.



Cupcake Day

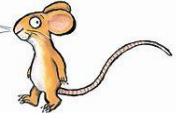
This year we raised money for Alzheimer's Society through a cupcake day. The children decorated their own cupcakes and we took part in a whole school cake sale during our Golden Time. We raised £81 which is fantastic!

School News

We are really looking forward to welcoming all the children back to school in September. We will also be joined by Miss Hoana and Miss Sabrina, who will be coming back from their maternity leave! Miss Wendy will also be leaving us to have a baby boy but she will be back to see us in Summer. Good luck Miss Wendy ☺

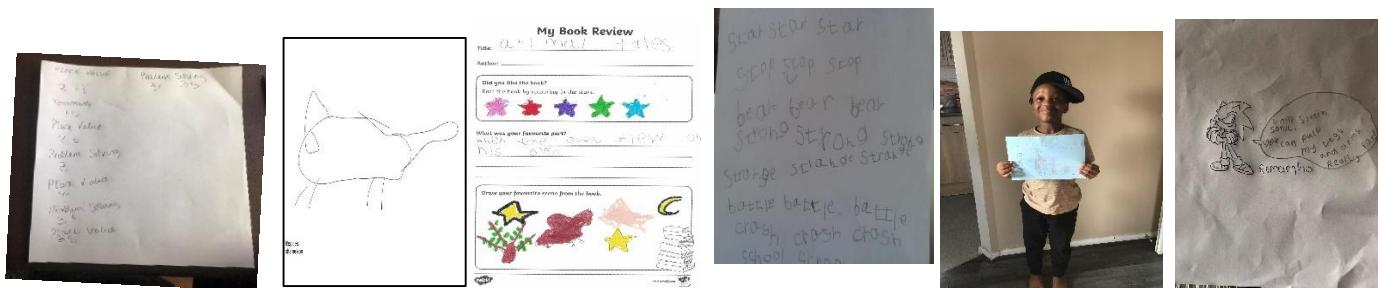


Gruffalo Class



Wow, what a strange term we have had! We are all so proud of how the children have adapted and continued their learning throughout this whole process.

We started this term in our virtual classroom looking at traditional tales in English, including Jack and the Beanstalk and Anansi. Our history topic was toys which involved investigating toys throughout the years and making comparisons between old and new toys. We had some amazing work uploaded and are so proud of the effort all children put in. We loved seeing their work and comments!



Since our return to school, our learning has been full steam ahead!

Our first English topic was 'mini beasts' and the children have learnt how to identify common mini-beasts including ants, spiders, and woodlice and researched how they protect themselves. We also looked at various microhabitats. The children took part in a mini-beast hunt and designed and created their microhabitat using materials they had foraged.

We also celebrated the poet and author Julia Donaldson as part of 'Poets Appreciation Week'. This was a fun packed week, involving a book hunt, quizzes, poems and sharing many of our favourite Julia Donaldson stories.



Our maths focus for the second half of this term was capacity, involving lots of water play! The children became water wizards, using their knowledge of capacity to create potions and spells. The children also recapped on their knowledge of times tables.

In science, the boys have been investigating the different properties of various materials. This has involved many fun experiments including, making our own boats, testing powders and liquids and creating and testing packaging for eggs, which was particularly fun but eggstremely messy!

For our final geography topic of the year, we look at the different features of the seaside and compared them with the Victorian era. The children had great fun creating a class seaside scene.

Our cooking lessons have been a little restricted this term due to the current conditions, nevertheless, this has not stopped the children enjoying making and trying various fresh smoothies and juices, including apple, mango and pineapple and cucumber and kiwi, which was a particular favourite!



In addition to all the above fun, Gruffalo Class also took part in an 'Eco Art Week'. The theme involved upcycling objects to use in our sensory garden. Gruffalo class worked really hard on creating a sensory mobile for the garden and creating their own bowls from old newspapers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all so much for being part of the wonderful year we have had in Gruffalo Class. The support you have given has been amazing and I know this has made a huge difference to your child's progress.

Looking back at the first time I met the children; I am filled with pride at how far they have all come. It really has been a pleasure to have been part of their first year at Chaffinch Brook.

To Romarnho and Noah, I wish you all the best in your new class and remember to come back and visit us next year.

Miss Amanda





BFG CLASS



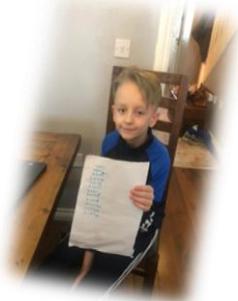
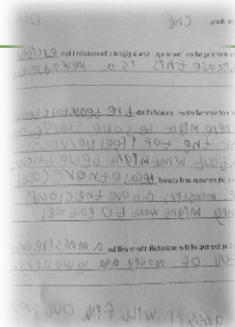
Wow! I cannot believe that we have reached the end of an adventurous successful year! The children have had an eventful spring and summer term in BFG class with many changes to adapt to very rapidly. Some of you have managed to return back to school and continue your amazing learning with adults in class whilst others have been at home still persevering through our virtual classroom.

I would like to congratulate them all on their effort, hard work and resilience throughout this difficult time that we have accomplished together! We are all so proud of you all!

Can I also say a big thank you to all the parents that have supported your children through this pandemic with their home learning and completing tasks in our virtual classroom. It has been tricky at times and I know many of you have found it difficult but you persevered and because of this your child has made progress which has enhanced their learning.



In English this term, BFG have been focussing on Fairy tales. They have demonstrated a wide range of literacy skills by completing a variety of activities. They have been working hard to improve their comprehension skills, letter writing and showing off how imaginative and creative they can be in a range of writing tasks. All the work that has been turned in has been amazing!



In maths we have been focussing on telling the time and using money which will help in the future with life skills. We have recapped and been learning our times tables in various ways to support them in maths and develop their knowledge of multiplication facts. Fractions and data handling have also been fun to learn this term amongst more.

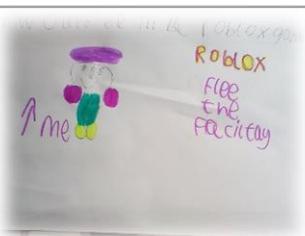




In our other subjects we have been learning about food chains, the human body and healthy eating. We developed our knowledge on 'River, mountains and water cycles' and 'Around the world' which the children learned amazing facts about different countries and created their own fun fact files. To top it off we have had lots of interactive PE and Cooking lessons uploaded for the children to participate in at home, either becoming the next sports person or junior master chef! We have also shown our creative side in art week and have made some fantastic sensory objects for our new garden!



As you know, our social skills lessons have been very different this term and we have all been keeping in contact through our weekly google meet sessions. The children have done so well as this was very shaky at the beginning due to everyone having to adapt to speaking through a camera. We had lots of shy, disengaged children at the start but now we have superstars who love being in the spotlight. It has been a delight to see the immense progress and confidence that has been achieved by everyone in BFG over a challenging period. Well done to you all!



We would like to say goodbye and thank you to Miss Liv for all the hard work and enthusiasm she has given in BFG class this year. She has helped and supported us all tremendously! We wish Miss Olivia every success in her new chapter next year as she is moving on to develop her career prospects. We will miss you dearly Miss Liv!



We have had a spectacular year in BFG class, lots of fun and memorable moments to treasure! The children have all made fantastic progress and achievements in both their learning and social skills! We would like to wish them the very best of luck next year and may they continue to make us proud in their behaviour and learning!

Miss Sabrina, Miss Olivia, Miss Jaye-Leigh and Miss Hoana x

Peter Pan Class

All of the staff in Peter Pan class have been so impressed with the incredible work that the children have continued to do throughout the COVID-19 lockdown. With fantastic worksheets, tasty cooking lessons, exciting science lessons and fun games, the children in Peter Pan class have worked amazingly at home.



Peter Pan class have worked so hard throughout this year. Even with the disruptions to our daily routines, they have all worked hard and made so much progress throughout this year. We are all very proud of all of them and look forward to seeing their progress as they move to their new classes.

It was so lovely to be able to see everyone's faces when we began using Google Meet! We really enjoyed playing some fun games and having our social skills lessons together, as well as hearing what everyone had been up to. When we were able to come back to school, we had loads of fun with our maths and English lessons, made some yummy treats in our cooking lessons and even upcycled some tins and lollipop sticks to make some amazing things for the new sensory garden!



Have a fantastic summer and see you in September!

Mr Dan



Miss Tina



Miss Hannah



Miss Sarah



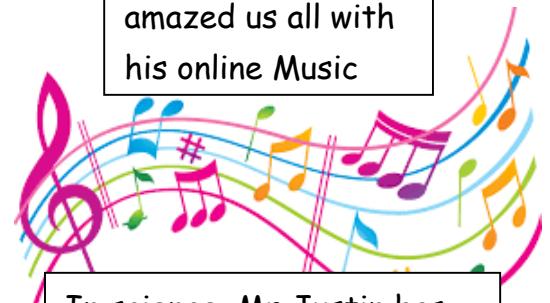
Mowgli Class

What a funny couple of months we have had. Mowgli class have outshone themselves in their ability to change their learning styles and adapt in such uncertain times.

It has been amazing to keep in contact with all the boys and their families, and keep up to date with activities during lockdown.

As a team, we would like to take this opportunity to wish the boys a very happy summer, and good luck in their new classes and some, in their new schools.

Mr Joel has amazed us all with his online Music



In science, Mr Justin has blown us away with our 'Forces' and 'Nutrition' topics.

Our PE lessons have consisted of a combination of Joe Wicks or Cosmic Yoga.



Over the last couple of months in English, we have explored many different areas.

We have looked mainly at short films, to encourage our imaginations and get our creative juices flowing.

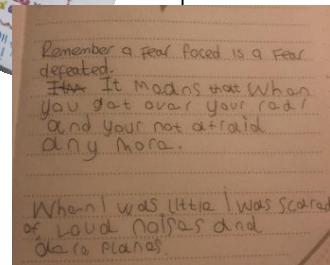
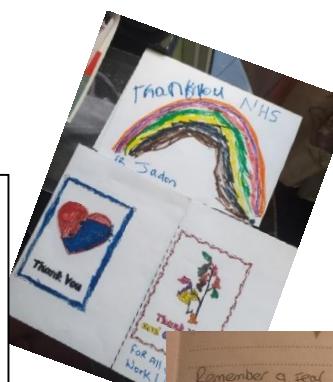
At school, we have focused on our basic understanding of grammar and we apply this to our writing.

We have also enjoyed listening to the numerous stories that Mr Justin has uploaded on Google Classroom and our in class read, 'Mr Stink'.

I know for sure that Mowgli Class have really enjoyed Miss Becky's weekly crafts and Cooking sessions.

During this time, all of Mowgli class have worked hard on developing and progressing with their maths.

We have recapped some previous learning and we have attempted to learn new topics.



In our Geography topic we have explored Volcanoes and Earthquakes and Map reading skills. Mr Joel has worked hard with these online sessions.

It has truly been a pleasure to get to know you all Mowgli class. You have been amazing!

Aslan Class

Well what can I say, it has been a strange but enjoyable year for Aslan Class. Miss Sally, Miss Sabah and I are so proud of how the children have managed the challenges of this year.



English

All the children produced some superb work during lockdown! Well done—you made me very proud and didn't let me down.

We have been reading Robin Hood this term and have written some super character descriptions.

The children have also been reading narrative and nonsense poems, they acted out the poems brilliantly as well as creating a lovely piece of writing based on a character's point of view.



Maths



We have been very busy in maths this term. The children have been learning to tell and write the time using our interactive learning clocks.

We have also been completing activities on data handling, doubling and halving, measuring using a ruler and decimals and percentages.



The children have followed all of the school guidelines to the very best of their ability. They have been washing their hands and items around the school that they may use. Well done!



Have an amazing Summer and see you in September! Mr Jack, Miss Sally and Miss Sabah

HARRY POTTER CLASS

Summer 2020

It has been an out of the ordinary Summer term but the Harry Potter team can't praise the boys enough with their success to adapt and change to the current way of education. This has included their virtual learning and returning to school with a new timetable; getting straight back into their learning and managing behaviours well. With the addition of new staff members: Miss Wendy, Mr Dan and Miss Becky AND visiting staff to aid with transition for our Y6 pupils: Mr Andy, Mr Steven and Miss Joy! Our Y6 boys have started a smooth transition process which is very positive for the future.



LITERACY

Literacy has included Poetry and the chapter book...The Boy at the Back of the Class; first started to link with Refugee Week. Pupils have done some great revision on Poetry recapping the poetry terminology/devices such as similes, metaphors, alliteration and produced several different types of Poetry including Limericks, Haikus and Acrostic poems. Some fantastic reading of the chapter book has commenced and work relating to this completed. We haven't had time to finish reading the book but an electronic copy will be sent for summer reading if you wish for your boys to complete it.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

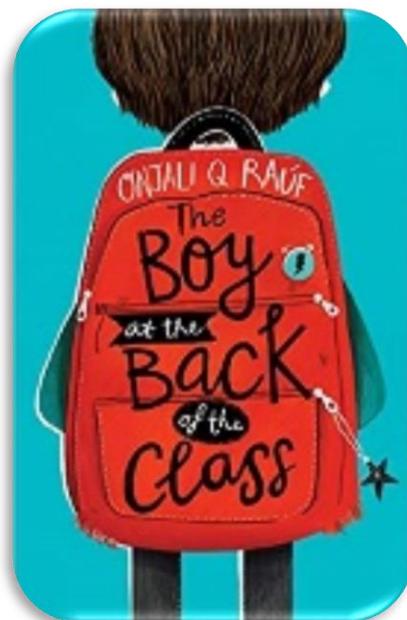
By Jayden Olutunfese

Black lives matter,
Love your enemies,
All lives are equal,
Care for each other,
Keep safe.



Let your kindness spread,
It's easy to do,
Very important at this time,
Express your love for all people
Share with & educate each other.

Make the world a better place,
All races & creeds are awesome,
Tell your friends a story....
Tell them about GEORGE FLOYD!
Everyone should know,
Real people die, please help change the world.



PE

Last term saw Chaffinch's first time competing in sport against other schools in the LYG Sitting Volleyball...coming 1st for Croydon! We were all very proud and excited but unfortunately the Summer term brought a stop to the finals. However, they have taken part in the virtual alternative and contributed to Team Croydon placing 4th overall (1 point from 3rd) which is definitely something to cheer about...WELL DONE Harry Potter!



The year 6 leavers have also had some PE lessons with their new Chaffinch Upper PE teacher (Miss Joy) and have shown some good examples of their skills in PE; Miss Wendy will miss teaching them PE and Trampolining (some great achievements this year boys).



ART WEEK

Eco artists producing art from recycled materials for the new sensory garden.
(Also linked to our science topic; Earth & Space)

VIRTUAL LEARNING

Some fantastic work has been seen on the

Google Classroom platform.

Photographs & Videos ☺



**Harry Potter Class team wish the boys and their families
a lovely well deserved Summer break and all the
success in September in their new classes or schools ☺☺☺**

