



## Together towards success!

Dear parents and carers,

The children and staff at Chaffinch Brook School have had a very fun and busy Autumn half term as you can see in the class newsletters below!

It has been a pleasure to see all the classes doing so well and making good progress in their learning and behaviour. Many have been working on their life skills by going offsite. They have made us very proud and represented Chaffinch Brook School in a positive way.

Thank you for your continued support with our enrichment activities such as *Christmas Jumper Day*. It was so lovely to see the children in their wonderful, festive jumpers.

We hope you can all have a lovely Christmas break with your loved ones.

Mr Andy, Miss Abbie, Miss Illy, Mr Patrick and Miss Leona.

### Christmas events

**Beauty and the Beast Pantomime @ Fairfield Halls:**

<https://www.fairfield.co.uk/events/beauty-and-the-beast-21>

**Lightopia @ Crystal Palace Park:**

<https://london.lightopiafestival.com/>

**Christmas Holiday Club @ Legacy Youth Club:**

<https://www.legacyyouthzone.org/holiday-club/>

**D A T E S**  
FOR YOUR DIARY

**17<sup>th</sup> December:** 12.30pm finish  
**18<sup>th</sup> December - 4<sup>th</sup> January:** Christmas Holidays  
**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December:** Children back to school.  
**1<sup>st</sup> February:** Chinese New Year  
**7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> February:** E – safety week  
**12<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February:** Half Term break  
**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February:** Children back to school.



### Shout out!

Jaden has created a beautiful festive house out of recycled materials. It took a lot of time and effort and it looks fantastic. Well done Jaden!





## Together towards success!

### Sea Turtle Class



Wow, what an amazing term we've had in Sea Turtle Class! We are all so proud of how hard the children have worked this half term and how much they have achieved.

In English, we have been concentrating on stories with a familiar setting. We started the term by looking at 'Not a stick' by Antoinette Portis. The children learnt to recite the text and wrote their own versions of the story. We also looked at 'Brown Bear' by Bill Martin Jr and Eric Carle. The children learnt to sign the colours in the story and create their own characters using powerful adjectives.

The children have also been working hard to improve their maths skills. This term we have been focusing on 2D shape names and their properties, as well as telling the time.



In Geography, the children have circled the globe as we've visited the 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world. We have discovered famous landmarks and compared countries to Britain. We also tried lots of delicious foods from around the world.

Our cooking lessons with Miss Becky are always fun. This half term, our cooking theme was 'Food from around the world'. The children cooked many favourites including fajitas, sledging biscuits and tuna pasta.

Sea Turtle Class must have been trying hard with their learning this year because we were lucky enough to receive a visit and a gift from Santa! We also enjoyed a delicious festive feast where we wore the amazing hats we made.

We hope you all have a lovely break and enjoy the festive season!





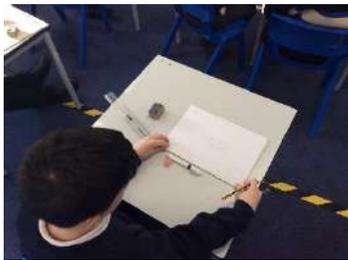
## Together towards success!

### Cuttlefish Class



This half term has been fun and action packed!

In maths, we have been learning about money and the different types of coins and notes we use. We have also looked at how to work out how much change to give.



In Science, we have been learning about how shadows are formed and we even made a shadow puppet show about Humpty Dumpty!

In English, we have been learning about what persuasive writing is and how it can be used to change someone's opinion.



This included us learning about advertisements followed by creating one ourselves. We also had the chance to express our opinions on a topic we agreed or disagreed on and had chance to try and convince others why they should believe the same.

We had a go at making Mango Lassi during cooking to celebrate Diwali. This was a new but very tasty experience for the children!



The week of 14th November 2021 was anti-bullying week. This was also our week to present our assembly. We practised singing the song Three Little Birds by Bob Marley and decided to use it in our assembly to talk about the importance of talking to an adult if you are being bullied. Once you tell an adult, don't worry because every little thing will be alright.



We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## Together towards success!

### Octopus Class



It has been a fun filled and busy half term in Octopus Class



In Science we have been looking at light and shadow. The children made shadow puppets and created a shadow puppet play.

We have participated in important enrichment learning such as Anti-Bullying and Children in Need. Octopus class used balloons to find kind words, we spread those kind words around the classroom, designed our own odd socks and even created a piece of art called *Hands of Kindness*!



Octopus Class have learnt some important skills this half term, such as learning how to cross the road safely and how to be safe on a horse at horse riding.



We hope all our families have a lovely and relaxing Christmas!



Together towards success!

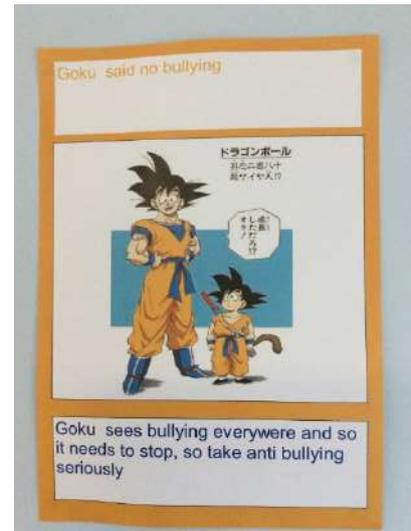
## Hammerhead Shark Class



This half term in Hammerhead class we have written some wonderful poems based on the story *Cloud Busting* and have started a new book called *The Iron Man*! We have celebrated Art Week and have created some lovely designs of our own Iron Man in the style of Romero Britto, a Brazilian artist.



We have also been raising awareness for Anti-Bullying week by creating posters on how to tackle bullying.



The class has been enjoying trampolining lessons and have started to learn lots of new techniques including seat landings!



Alongside all the new lessons and topics, we have also welcomed Miss Angela who is our new class teacher although we still have Miss Wendy on a Monday ! We are all excited

for the run up to Christmas and are looking forward to some fun seasonal activities in the next few weeks.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!





## Together towards success!

### Stingray Class



We are all very impressed with the effort and work that Stingray class has shown us since the start of the year! This half term, we have been working on several books in Literacy, including *Cloud Busting*, which focused on poetry and anti-bullying. We also focused on a book called *Tuesday*. The class worked extremely hard to create their own newspaper reports on the strange incidents that happened throughout the story.

In Science, Stingray class has been learning about light and sight, experimenting with shadows, refraction and the colour spectrum.



The class has also been focusing on South America in our Geography lessons, where we have learnt about the diverse country of Brazil, even having a dance to some carnival samba music!

All of Stingray class have also enjoyed their trampolining sessions with Miss Wendy this half term and have made lots of progress in just a few weeks. Well done everybody!



We have also introduced the lovely Buzz and Woody to our class. The kids love spending time with them and are looking after them very well.



We are looking forward to all the amazing achievements to come in the new year and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!





## Together towards success!

### Dolphin Class



Dolphin class have had a great second half term. We have welcomed Ethan to our class and the boys have adapted very well to the changes. We have enjoyed our book in English called *Cloud Busting* and produced some excellent poems.

The boys have been really enjoying swimming have all benefited from their weekly lessons and gaining confidence in the big pool.

Our topic this half term was learning about South America which the boys have thoroughly enjoyed. We have learnt about the differences between England and Brazil and listened to Samba music!

In PE, the boys have focused on Team Building skills and have integrated well with Stingray class.



In addition to this, we visited the Hindu Temple and went to buy some sweets to celebrate Diwali.

We would like to wish you all an enjoyable Festive break and a Happy New Year!

We looking forward to seeing you all in January 2022! Well done everyone - keep it up!





## Together towards success!

### 7G

Ho! Ho! Ho! Class 7G has been busy this term, enjoying activities and learning new things!

As we are all gearing up for the Christmas Season and in a festive mood, we thought our newsletter should be centred around some of our fun activities that we took part in this half term.

Our Enrichment Day visit to Frylands was met with wet weather but also exuberant excitement! The forest setting is well known to some of the students from previous visits. The class took part in grass sledging, assault courses, orienteering and den building amongst other things.



As part of their PE curriculum, the class are engaging in trampolining sessions led by Ms Joy. Some of the students were really excited beforehand as most of them enjoy trampolining. It was also taking place at Chaffinch Brook Lower which allowed the students to return to their primary school and reconnect with staff and students that they have missed.



Remembrance Day was celebrated by everyone in Class 7G. As well as participating in the 'two minute silence', the students were also able to showcase their creative flair by doing some joint artwork to recognise individual courage and resilience shown during a time of war. The class also had a discussion about Remembrance Day and showed a lot of compassion.



Wall-climbing at the Sutcliffe Park Leisure Centre in Kidbrooke was a great success! Despite some initial fear of heights expressed by a few students, the staff were pleased to see all students give the wall-climbing a go, pushing themselves to go as high as they could! The staff had a go too! They all had a fantastic time and the behaviour from the students was impeccable. Well done 7G!

On that fun-filled note, the team would like to wish you all a joyous Christmas break and a Happy New Year!





## Together towards success!

### 7H

This term in 7H, we have continued focusing on the book *Danny, the Champion of the World* by Roald Dahl. This gave pupils the opportunity to create their own bird trap (no animals were harmed in the process)! Although we didn't catch any birds, all the bird food placed had been eaten, making our traps great bird feeders.

In science, we have been using microscopes to learn about the different types of cells on our planet with Miss Senzeni. Not only has 7H had the chance to use microscopes in science, but also in Mr. Kwami's textiles lesson where we have been investigating different materials and their properties.

We have been going for weekly trips to our local park where we have been exploring nature and completing nature scavenger hunts.



Here are some of the things we found:



7H also presented their class assembly to the rest of KS3. We focused on the topic, COP26 (The 26th United Nations Climate Change conference). We spoke about the different concerns surrounding climate change and the things we can do to help save our planet. Here were some of 7H's thoughts:

'Let's plant more trees to save the forests.'

'Ride your bike if you can.'

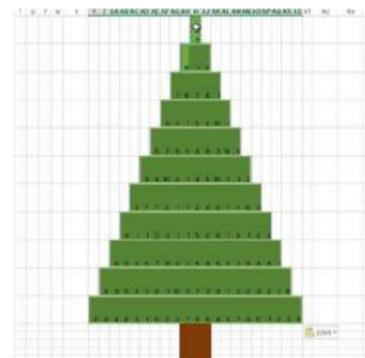
'When at home try to save electricity by doing things like turning off the lights.'

'I am very worried about climate change because it's the future of our planet.'

'I'm worried about our planet getting destroyed but we can fight it.'

'I think we should take the bus instead of cars.'

Getting into the Christmas spirit early, we've been making paper chains, snowflakes and decorating our classroom with festive joy! For ICT we used Excel to create our own spreadsheet Christmas trees.





## Together towards success!

### 8G

On the first week back, Year 8G began taking nature walks at the local park. The weather was fresh and crisp but the boys really enjoy the walks, the socialising and the outdoor activities.



To coincide with our history module on Charles Darwin and evolution, Year 8 took a trip to the National History Museum. The students particularly enjoyed seeing the skeleton of a diplodocus at the entrance and all the other species of time gone by.



The pupils have also been lucky enough to take part in trampolining lessons with Ms Joy. The boys were enthusiastic and eager to learn different techniques. This allowed them to develop their muscle strength, skills and to cooperate as a team.



We would like to wish all our families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



  
**Merry  
Christmas**



## Together towards success!

### 9H

What a term it has been leading up to Christmas!

On Friday 19th November, 9H took the lead and presented their assembly on Anti-Bullying Week. Throughout the week, each of the boys researched a different type of bullying and put together their own PowerPoint slides and scripts to read out in front of all the KS3 students. They practiced their presentation skills a lot and gave an excellent assembly on the reasons for and consequences of bullying.



9H have been able to go BMXing in Beckenham Park each Tuesday for their PE lessons. They have been doing extremely well, learning new skills such as level pedals, push-ups and even a few jumps! Well done boys!



We look forward to the coming term and we would like to wish Makai a Happy Birthday for December 24th, as well as a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!





## Together towards success!

### 9G

This term 9G have been going offsite for their PE lessons and learning how to trampoline. Ms. Joy has been very complimentary of their skills and even more so of their progression and she has thoroughly enjoyed teaching them this term. All the boys have been able to perform some difficult moves to a good standard, especially the *Pike*, *Tuck*, and *Straddle*. They really look forward to their PE lessons now and always have a fantastic time. The 9G staff have been extremely impressed with their behaviour and maturity when they are off site. What a wonderful first term.



This term some of the 9G boys took part in Chaffinch Brook's first football tournament. The 'Chaffinch Warriors' have been training with Ms Joy, Mr Tyrus and Mr Chris for this tournament for approximately 3 weeks and they finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their group. The tournament was against other schools with children aged 11 to 16. Our boys demonstrated great technique, game intelligence, physical fitness, a positive mindset and sportsmanship. The boys were encouraging and supportive of their teammates, which helped to maintain their positive mindset. The 'Chaffinch Warriors' are looking forward to another football tournament in the new year and are hoping to do just as well as they did before!





## Together towards success!

### 10G

This term has been fantastic for the Year 10 boys. They were introduced to a new course, Vocational Studies, in which they have been focusing on skills for learning. We are confident that these skills will help them achieve their qualifications.

Further to this, the term has been very rewarding as the boys have extended their knowledge in Maths, English and Science. In Maths, they have attained knowledge in Expanding & Factorisation, Algebra, Indices and Angles in Parallel lines. For English, they are currently analysing non-fiction text, tone, writing to advise and comparing texts. In Science, they have been studying infection & response and bioenergetics.

The boys are feeling confident and are preparing for their GCSE class tests in Maths and Science.



Attending Beckmead College has been the most exciting time for boys. It has been a delight to see them developing their practical skills in carpentry and painting & decorating.



The term has been a busy one, full of exciting activities like trampolining and competing in the U-16 football tournament with other schools. These activities have helped the boys to encourage and support one another.



The boys are looking forward to some exciting pre-Christmas trips, they will be visiting the Science Museum and the Toca Social Football Simulator at the O2.

We wish you a healthy and peaceful holiday with a brighter new year.





## Together towards success!

### 11G

We have had a successful half term in 11G. The students have been preparing for the next stage in their journey.

The class have been researching local colleges and courses that they may be interested in. It has been very rewarding to see how far they have come and how motivated they are in relation to the next chapter in their lives.

We have had a few visits in our class which includes a visit from Helen at Prevista who provided us with some much-needed advice and techniques relating to cv writing and interview role plays.

We also had another visitor from city hall who gave us an insight into what goes on in and around the capital and gave us some information on voting.

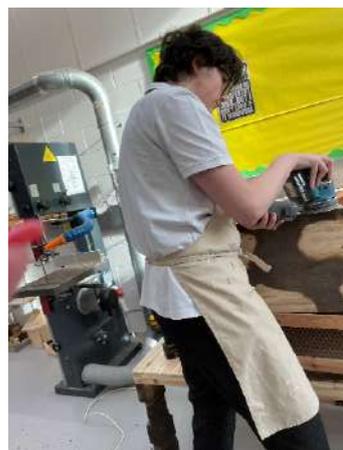
In maths the students have been working really well with Mr Manny, dealing with fractions, decimals and linear equations.

In English we have been concentrating on functional skills, this has tied in well with our CV writing and also our college research, as what we have been learning during our lessons we can use between topics.

Carl represented 11G in the Chaffinch Brook Football Team who attended a special football tournament, based at long lane football club, where the team as a whole finished an astonishing third place! A grand achievement for a newly formed team spearheaded by Miss Joy and her coaching team.



We hope that you can all enjoy a relaxing Christmas break with your families and loved ones.





## Together towards success!

### Chaffinch Brook Upper PE Achievements

Chaffinch Brook have had an amazing start to the year with P.E.

We started the year off with fitness as our topic. The new KS3 students responded very well to learning about cardio exercise, what it does for the body and why it is important. They also really enjoyed learning about weights and why it is important to use them when your body is ready while skipping was by far the favorite with the Year 7's!

For the end of the first half term some of the students were able to attend a *Walk Climb* event at Sutcliffe Park, which was a fun and exhilarating experience for us all. Students and staff got to climb the adventurous walls built to challenge and test competitors partaking in this event.



For the first time in Chaffinch history, we have a Chaffinch Brook football team! This team comprises of Year 9, 10 and 11 students. Managed and coached by Miss Joy, Mr. Tyrus and Mr. Chris since September 2021, the students have been training once a week to participate in monthly tournaments. The first one was missed unfortunately, due to a COVID outbreak, but the students were able to attend the October tournament, which went very well. Playing against Under

16's the students won 3 out of 5 games, 3-1, 2-1 and 5-0! The students obtained the most scored goals in the group that day and made us very proud as they displayed amazing decorum, teamwork and sportsmanship. The boys supported each other on and off pitch and really set a good example of what teamwork really means.



This half term a majority of the students participated in Basketball, which is a Chaffinch Brook favorite. They enjoy team sports and this sport encourages the students to engage in friendly competition and at times team rivalry.

The Year 7's, 8's one year 9 class and the 10's were able to participate in trampolining sessions offsite. All of the classes did extremely well and really enjoyed the sessions. The two older years were taught in a leisure center by Miss Joy, giving them a more gymnastic atmosphere and meant that the students could extend their learning on more professional trampolines!

Well done Chaffinch Brook on all your sporting achievements!





## Together towards success!

This half term we have had some new animal friends join us at Chaffinch Brook Lower and Chaffinch Brook Upper!

This is Buzz and Woody! They live at Chaffinch Brook Lower and the children love spending time with them. They like to spend time in the different classes and enjoy eating carrots and celery!

This is Dash and Felix! They live at Chaffinch Brook Upper alongside the rabbits. They love running around the hutch. Dash and Felix love it when they have visitors who give them lots of attention!



Miss Abbie's cat, Albus, came to visit us at Chaffinch Brook Lower. He was very well behaved and the children were very happy to see him!





## Together towards success!

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Sea Turtle Class took part in their own MacMillan Coffee Party in their classroom. Some of the children's parents attended and it was really nice to see them! The children made some delicious biscuits and even went to the shop to buy some more yummy food. They raised lots of money for a great cause. Thank you to all your generosity!



Some of the other classes at Chaffinch Brook Lower are hoping to do the same in the next half term so look out for your invite!

### Stingray Charity Work

Stingray have started working with a local charity called Evolve Housing and Support. The charity supports homeless people in South London including Croydon. Their aim is to support and mentor young adults who are homeless so that they are able to be successful. Stingray class have contacted the charity to see how they can help! They have made Christmas cards for the service users and posted them during Christmas week. After the Christmas break they are going to start a pen pal program and do some fundraising events throughout the year.

Well done Stingray for helping such a worthy cause. We are very proud of you!

