



Together towards success!

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

As we gradually approach Spring and Covid has less of an impact we are hoping we can return to our full range of more normal school activities. There is lots to look forward to next term with exciting enrichment activities planned for Science and World Book week. For our older students their final exams are just a few of months away!

Thank you as always for your support and for working with us to make school a happy place to be.

Wishing you a wonderful half term break.

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

Spring events

World Book Week 28/02/2022

National Science & Engineering Week-

March 11-20 Theme 'Growth'

Red Nose Day Friday March 18th



12th – 21st February: Half Term break

Tuesday 22nd February: Children back to school.

8th April: Last day of term

11th – 22nd April: Easter Break

Monday 25th: Children back to school.

Monday May 2nd: May Bank Holiday

30th May – 3rd June: Half Term Break

New Household Support Fund

New Household Support Fund launches for Croydon residents.

The council has launched a fund to support residents who are struggling to buy food, heat their home or purchase essentials such as a fridge/freezer, oven/microwave, a bed or bedding.

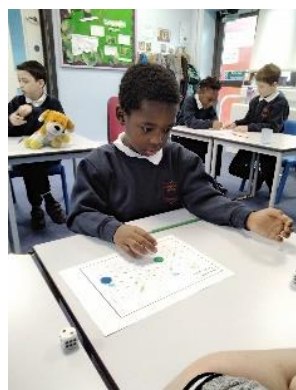
Full details and application form can be found at the link below. Applications for food/fuel will be processed within 48 hours and household items, within 4 weeks.

<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/benefits/household-support-fund-hsf>



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Cuttlefish Class



In English, we have been learning about the meaning and history of fairy tales and how they are sometimes seen from a different perspective with an alternative ending. One example we looked at was the original 'Beauty and



the Beast' as well as Michael Morpurgo's version.

In science, we have been looking at the life cycle of plants and what they need



to grow and flourish. We also experimented whether or not a plant can grow without soil.

In maths we finished studying place value and have begun to look at fractions and how they are around us everywhere in life, for example, a pizza or cake.



Throughout cooking this term, we have been making a mixture of modern and Anglo-Saxon foods related to treats and desserts.





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Dolphin Class



Dolphin class has had a soaring start in their learning this half term. An amazing start to the year. We have read 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Brown in our English lessons and wrote our own version of the untold story of Jack. In maths, the boys have focussed on using different methods in multiplication and division as well as looking at properties of 2D and 3D shapes. In science, we have studied 'Earth and space' and visited the Science Museum to top off our experience!



Our topic this half term was learning about Ancient Greeks which they really enjoyed. We ended the topic by celebrating with Stingray and Hammerhead class in an Ancient Greek Day. In PE, the boys have thoroughly enjoyed their trampolining sessions, team building games and playing football together during unstructured times which is delightful to see. We have also visited Wing Yip and Tesco supermarket to enhance our life skills and the wider community.





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Octopus Class



Octopus Class have had a great start to 2022! In English, we have explored a book called Window by Jeannie Baker, this has helped us look at the environment in a caring way and we have created our own collages inspired by the book.



During our science lessons, we have investigated the importance of rocks and soils, we even made our own dinosaur fossils!



This half term in RSHE we have been talking about our personal hygiene. We have focused on keeping our teeth clean, washing our bodies and keeping our nose clean.

We are looking forward to making more memories and broadening our learning this year 😊

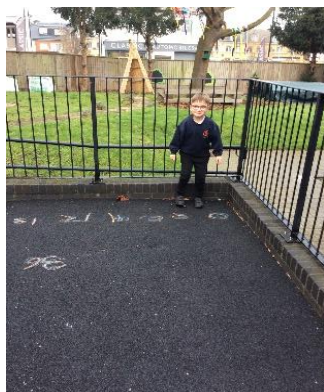


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Sea Turtle Class



We have had a great start to the Spring term. Sea Turtle class have been doing lots of work and having fun!



In English, we have looked at verbs, written our own stories and created our own book review. Maths has been very fun and we have even done some learning outside. Students have learnt about number facts, times tables and fractions. Sea Turtle have really enjoyed Mr Gabi's PE lessons where they have moved in different ways.

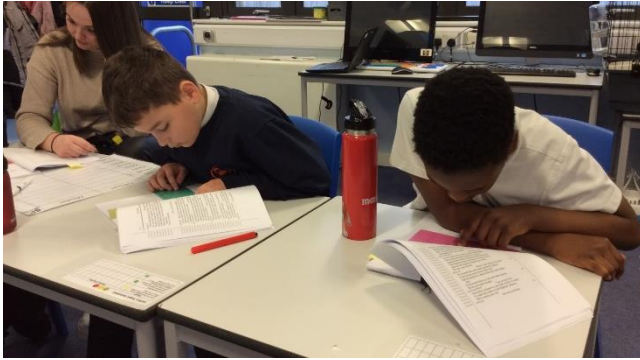
Our science lessons have been about plants and we have explored nature around Chaffinch Brook!

Lastly, Sea Turtle class celebrated Chinese New Year by a trip to Wing Yip to buy different foods to taste at school.



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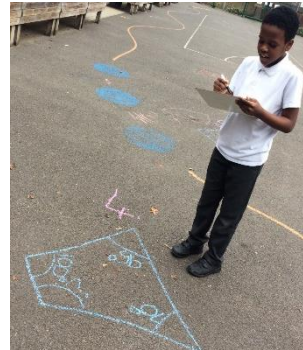
Stingray Class



Stingray Class have hit the ground running this term. We were so happy to welcome back the children in the new year as we have had a lot of exciting lessons, trips and activities planned for the children. In English we have been reading, exploring and analysing Shakespeare's play, Macbeth. The children have been diving into the playscript written in Old English and transcribing it to modern English. Debates have been held, news articles written, character profiles created and witches' spells have been conjured. The staff team have been amazed with the outstanding work the children in Stingray have done. Mr Justin has been taking our drama lessons and we have embodied the Elizabethan's and imagined we are actors performing Shakespeare's play.



In science Miss Hannah has taught us all about the circulatory and respiratory system, we have taken part in lots of experiments to explore the functions of our heart. Did you know, our heart pumps 6 litre of blood per minute?



We have been enjoying some of our maths lessons in the playground, working out the missing angles in triangles and quadrilaterals. Stingray class have also created a link with a local housing support charity, we sent them handmade cards at Christmas and received some new year's cards in return. We thought it would be a nice idea to set up a pen pal link with them, next term we are looking at ways in which we can do some fundraising activities to support that charity.



Happy Lunar New Year! Stingray Class took a trip to Wing Yip to buy and try some traditional Chinese food!



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Hammerhead Shark Class

Hammerhead class have had a fantastic first half term of 2022! We have been studying the Ancient Greeks in Topic and have taken part in a lovely 'Greek Day' involving learning how to do some of the Ancient Olympics Athletics events such as discus, javelin, high jump and long jump. We also tried some Greek foods, learned how to make clay pots and learned some words in Ancient Greek!



We have also had the opportunity to go on a wonderful trip to the Globe Theatre in London with Stingray class. We were able to take part in some acting lessons from a professional and were even able to go on stage of the Globe Theatre and shout some lines from the famous play: Macbeth!



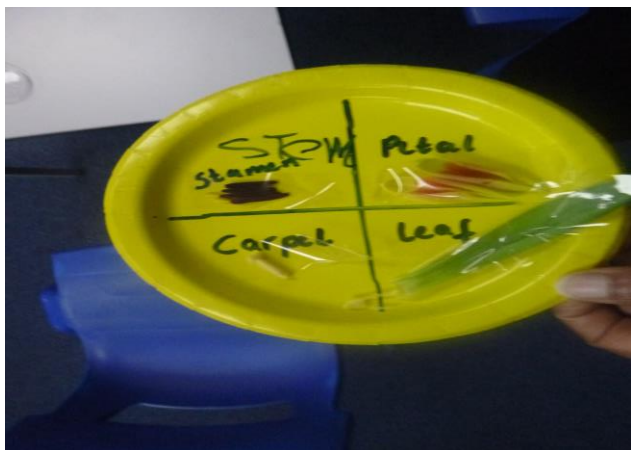
We hope everyone has a wonderful half term break and we are looking forward to seeing everybody soon 😊



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7G

Half term already! It's times like these that we take a pause and reflect on the student's learning and improvements they have made in such an accelerated timescale.



7G has been working well in class as well as learning to adapt to online schooling. So thank you parents/guardians for the support you have given throughout this time, when at moments it felt like time had stood still! We are seeing good progress in the students in 7G and they are all working hard to achieve their targets this term.

In P.E, they have been focussing on Football. A lot of our students are very keen footballers and have been showing off their skills. We have some new residents at Chaffinch Brook Upper, two new boy Guinea Pigs, their names are Felix and Dash! They're real cuties and the students have had visits from them and lots of cuddles!



We also welcomed our exuberant visitor- Vinnie, the dog. The students were able to have a fun and positive experience with Vinnie, showcasing their very nurturing mannerisms!



What's more, 7G have been enjoying Drama lessons in class and have been exploring improvisation. The boys have fascinating imaginations and have managed the lessons very well. Such a creative flair they demonstrate.

In science, they have completed the topic in Reproduction; their favourite topic so far! They have now moved on to Plant Reproduction System.

The students have also taken a huge interest in World War 2 since learning about World Holocaust Day and have thrived when researching the subject and watching videos. The boys are very interested in History and we are hoping to plan a visit to the Imperial War Museum in the near future, so watch this space!

We would like to wish you a lovely and restful half term!

Thank you for being supportive Parents/Guardians!

Yours faithfully,
The Year 7 Team



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7H

7H have made an amazing start to 2022 and are really enjoying the new year.

This term in 7H, we have been focusing on the topic Aladdin in English and have explored the different types of characters, role played scenes and even wrote our own versions of the story. In Maths, we have been learning about different types of shapes. We have been searching around the school and identifying shapes we can find outside of the classroom, in the natural world and working out their perimeters and areas. We've been finding out about The Romans in Humanities and in Science with Miss Senzeni, we have been investigating the Reproductive processes in Living Things.



We have also been very lucky to have Trampolining at CBL this term. We have learnt different skills such as pike, tuck jump, seat drop and straddle and loved every moment of it. Thank you, Miss Joy! This has also given the class the chance to see old friends and Teachers which we have all thoroughly enjoyed.

Lastly, 7H recorded and delivered their own class assembly about the theme of 'January' to the rest of the school. Well done boys! It has been lovely to see the boys being so friendly and supportive of each other,

working hard every day and all the progress they've made. They have managed the reduction in time they have for choosing each day very well as they now have a greater understanding of how important secondary school is and that they need to be working hard every day.



Here are some quotes about how the students feel they're doing this term:

Leo: "This term I have made some new friends and made progress with my work. Going to soft play with Miss Taiah was funny and I got Star of the Week! The teachers are nice and you sometimes just have to roll with it."

Jadon: "I've enjoyed being able to go to soft play."

Romain: "I loved going trampolining, Thank you Miss Joy."

Ibrahim: "I liked drama. Being the Genie was fun!"

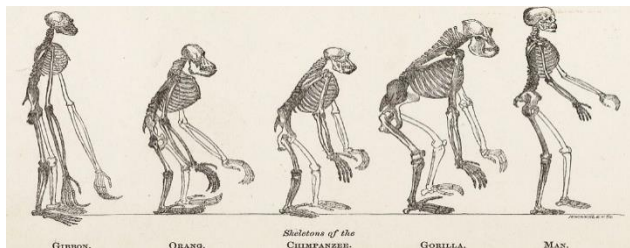
Ewan: "I've enjoyed Team Building on Minecraft with Ibrahim."

Jay: "I have enjoyed going trampolining and seeing my old friends at Lower Chaffinch."



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Year 8



As we come to the end of a long but rewarding half term, the year 8 students were proud to present their virtual assembly on the 'Human Evolution' which was inspired by the history module



they studied this term. The pupils were able to share their findings on the discovery of different human species, including the creation of an early human named *Australopithecus afarensis*, also known as 'Lucy'.

The academic progress this term has been outstanding. The students have been studying topics in Biology and Chemistry in Science. They have learned about how plants produce food and oxygen by using photosynthesis. In addition to this, they took part in scientific experiments as part of their Chemistry curriculum, where they learned about separation techniques and identified how solutions are formed. Baseline assessments were given at the end of this half-term, and the results have been quite impressive, with some students scoring above 70% on the test.

In PE this term, football has been our main focus. We've learned about



accuracy and speed as well as having good control of the football on the pitch. Consistent effort has been demonstrated among most of the boys, and progress of skills and confidence were shown. Furthermore, excellent sportsmanship and compassion was displayed across the PE sessions.



The highlight of this term was the day trip to Westminster Abbey, London. The pupils had a guided tour, and they were excited to explore the most popular spots including the Poets' corner, Coronation Chair, The Lady Chapel and Royal Tombs. In addition to this, they were all involved in an activity of designing and producing their own stained-glass keyrings, and they were able to showcase their creative skills. We hope you have an enjoyable and restful half-term break!

Ms Yeti, Miss Yabe and Mr Callum



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9G

Happy New year to you all! 9G class team hopes that you have had a lovely Christmas break and we wish you all the best for this upcoming year. The boys have started this term extremely well. They have managed the transition back to school fantastically and we have witnessed them mature into responsible students.



We had to work remotely for some time this year, nevertheless, the boys were able to apply themselves really well and worked from home superbly. We would also like to thank the parents/guardians/carers for ensuring that students joined in their lessons on time.

This term, we were fortunate enough to go on a school trip to Westminster Abbey. The boys enjoyed the workshop based on the history of the Abbey. They also created keyrings with a stained-glass window pattern on them. Their behaviour was exceptional and they received a lot of praise from the tour guide on the day. As a staff team, we were extremely proud of the way they conducted themselves. Well done, 9G!



In the last week of term, we planned a bowling trip for the boys. The boys are extremely competitive and really want to use this opportunity to beat Mr. Rowan at something. We felt that all the boys deserved this trip, because of how well they behaved so far. It was a great opportunity for all of us to have some fun!

Finally, we would like to introduce our new member of staff to the team, Ms. Jaini. The boys have really taken to her and she is such an important member of the class team.

Ms. Raazia, Ms. Jaini, and Mr. Rowan



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Year 10



The year 10 students have come back rejuvenated after the Christmas break. In this half term, they sat their first GCSE Biology mock exam and managed the exam conditions very well. 10G are now on the revision journey in preparation for the upcoming exam in May.



Additionally, the boys have added the skill of brick laying to their construction portfolio. Others have also learnt how to clean the fish tank and have gained the responsibility of managing the tank once a month.



Thank you to Seth for taking the lead in helping to care for the animals in KS4.

Year 10 Team

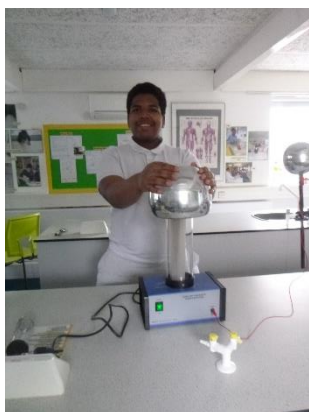


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Year 11



2022 has seen the pupils in year 11 start the year as they mean to go on to the next stage of their education. They are getting their heads down and working hard in preparation for their GCSEs.



Some of the pupils now have conditional or unconditional offers at colleges and are really preparing for the next stages in education.

In Mr Manny's maths lessons, the students have been working really well looking at factorising and adding and subtracting fractions.

In English we have been preparing for our GCSEs by looking at how we answer Paper 2 questions on the 'Writer's' viewpoint and perspective on a particular subject. This is a

non-fiction paper and can be tricky to get your head around but the year 11s are doing very well.



In Miss Leona's Science lessons, the pupils have been looking at physics and did a 'hair raising' experiment! Poor Wesley got more than a few shocks!

The class guinea pigs 'Dash' and 'Felix' are fine and healthy thanks to all the love and care they get from Miss Sam, Zach and Jai.

The pupils really are working hard this term and we are very proud of them for becoming such lovely young men.



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Art and Design



Year 10 GCSE Art and Design students have been busy during this half term, working on their personal response piece in response to the artwork of South African artist William Kentridge. The topic for this year in Year 10 is Man Made, focusing on the 7 Formal Elements of Art. This half term they were finishing off tone and Still Life.



Each artwork they produce is inspired by objects that have a meaning to them. They then had to conceptualise what the final piece will look like, source references to use for the drawing using primary and secondary resources. The students also had to select a series they liked by William Kentridge and then incorporate his technique on their work.

