



Together towards success!

Dear parents and carers,

We have had another successful half term at Chaffinch Brook School! There have been lots of enrichment activities and we have celebrated events such as Red Nose Day, World Book Day, Autism Acceptance and Science Week.

We are so impressed with everything the children have achieved so far. The summer term is going to be busy for many of them with exams but we know they will try very hard and keep making us proud.

We are also hoping the sunshine will come out for the Summer Term so that we can do some outdoor learning and go on some well-deserved trips.

We want to thank you for all your continued support and kindness throughout the year and we hope you and your loved ones can have a restful Easter break.

Many thanks,

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



Free School Meal Vouchers:

There is a delay with the delivery of the vouchers but those who receive free school meals will receive a Tesco voucher after the Easter holidays. Thank you for your patience.



Friday 8th April: 12:30p.m. finish

11th – 22nd April: Easter Break

Monday 25th April: Children back to school.

Monday 2nd May: May Bank Holiday

30th May – 3rd June: Half Term Break

Monday 6th June: Children back to school

Shout out!

Ola left us in July 2021 and has been following a Level 1 Art Foundation course at North East Surrey College. He came to visit Chaffinch Brook and it was great to see him again and look through some of his amazing art work. We are looking forward to seeing more of our ex-students, they are an inspiration to us all!





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Sea Turtle Class



This half term has been very busy for Sea Turtle Class. Our English lessons began with us exploring the book *Handa's Surprise*. We took a trip to the market to buy lots of different fruits and used the taste of the fruits to create some amazing adjectives. We also explored non-fiction report writing. After our trip to the farm, the children chose their favourite animal and research facts to create their own animal reports.



The children have also been working exceptionally hard during our maths lessons. This term we have continued to investigate addition and subtraction, using number lines and the part whole model to find the answers. We also explored 3D shapes and identifying 3D shapes in the environment.

Our geography and our cooking lessons have been based on our topic – Africa. In geography, we explored what life is like in Africa and compared it to life in England. In cooking, we have made several African

dishes such as pound cake and spiced curry. The children really enjoyed making their dishes and we hope you enjoyed eating them!



The children have also enjoyed Mr Dan's science lessons. This term, the children have been exploring materials. This has involved identifying whether objects sink or float, categorising materials and exploring different textures of slime. The children particularly enjoyed making and playing with the slime!

This term, we have also been really fortunate to have horse riding lessons. The children have been amazing with the horses and have learnt many new skills. It has been very heart-warming to see the smiles on all the children's faces when they see the horses each week.



Sea Turtle Team would like to thank you all for your continued support this half term and we wish you a lovely half term break.





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Cuttlefish Class



Cuttlefish class are delighted to share the fun and engaging topics being studied this term.

In English, we learnt more about Haiku poems and their history of them. After careful planning, we also made a class Haiku poetry booklet for the rest of the school to read and enjoy! We have also been learning about the classic Fairy-tale, Hansel and Gretel and recalling the sequence of events in the tale.

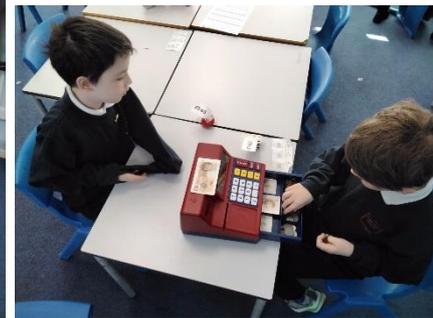


Science has been fun filled and action packed! It was Science Week recently and we all celebrated by taking part in different experiments, including seeing who can blow the biggest balloon



sized bubble with special ingredients that helps make them grow!

Maths has also been really fun this term. Not only have we learnt about place value and money, we got to do some role play activities by becoming shop keepers and customers. We took turns to buy things and give the correct change by learning to count up to an amount from any priced item!



History has also been a fascinating experience this term as we have stayed local and researched historical Croydon and how it is different to today. We are even planning on visiting parts of Croydon soon to take modern day pictures and compare them to old photos of the same area! How exciting is that?!

We have lots more fun lessons to experience next term and we can't wait to share them with you when we do!





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Octopus Class

Octopus Class have been lucky enough to enjoy a half term with Miss Lauren. We have learnt lots of new information and created some wonderful pieces of work.



We linked our Cooking and History lesson to learn more about The Anglo-Saxon's.

During these lessons, we have cooked some delicious meals such as mushroom soup, royal bread and honey shortbread. We designed and made our own Anglo-Saxon houses and explored how the people used to live.



Octopus Class have started trampolining lessons with Miss Wendy, we have demonstrated how to be safe on a trampoline and have been practicing our skills.



We have put on our scientist hats this half term and engaged in Science Week activities, whilst also learning about our Science topic 'what plants need'.

Throughout our science journey, we have investigated growth. The growth of bubbles, plants and an amazing show stopper experiment watching sugar grow with Ms Leona.



Chaffinch Brook School have had many fun days to celebrate this half term such as Red Nose Day and World Book Day. Everyone in Octopus Class looked amazing in their costumes and very supportive in their red clothing! 😊



All the staff want to say a massive thank you to Miss Lauren for an exciting half term. To all, have a lovely break and let's hope the sun keeps shining! 😊





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Hammerhead Shark Class



Hammerhead Shark class has been very busy this half-term.

The children started their weekly swimming lessons and are gaining in confidence and developing their skills. Most importantly, they are having a lot of fun while learning this life skill.



In English, we have just finished looking at a story called 'The Tunnel' which inspired us to look at how the author made links with familiar fairy tale stories that we already knew. We also compared the different characters and how they feel throughout the story. As well as that, we developed our creative writing skills and finished off by writing our own adventure story.

The children have been learning about 'Sound' in science, looking at the different parts of the human ear and learning that sound is made from vibrations.



Science week was enjoyed through practical activities of making paper flowers and growing bubbles.

Our topic this half-term is 'Volcanoes and Earthquakes' and the children have really enjoyed these lessons. They have built structures and simulated earthquakes as well as construct seismographs to measure their strength. They have also built volcanoes and are looking forward to erupting them.



Hammerhead Shark Class also wrote some fantastic acrostic poems during Autism Acceptance week. Here is an example:

We hope you all have a lovely Easter break!





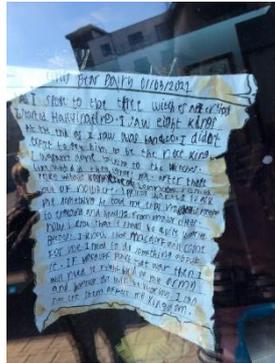
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Stingray Class

Stingray Class have hit the ground running for another term. This term in Stingray Class we have had even more exciting lessons, trips and activities planned for the children.



In English we have finished reading, exploring and analysing Shakespeare's play, Macbeth. The children have been so enthusiastic whilst learning about Macbeth which is also reflected in their work ethic. Sadly, we have finished Macbeth this term and have moved onto Goodnight Mister Tom a book written about a child who was evacuated from London into the countryside during World War 2. The children have written accounts in first person and tried to put themselves in the shoes of an evacuee.



In science, Miss Hannah has been teaching us all about the evolution and inheritance. We have taken part in lots of experiments to explore how humans and animals have adapted through their surroundings. Did you know, the humble chicken is the closest relative to a dinosaur?



Some of us have been prepping for our SATs and have completed some tricky maths lesson translating, plotting and reflecting shapes on coordinates! Well done!

Chaffinch Brook celebrated World Book Day and some of us dressed up as our favourite Macbeth characters. We also took part in a reading breakfast with Sea Turtle Class.



As the weather is getting nicer we have joined up with Dolphin Class to visit Frylands, we are exploring the woods through team building and social skills activities.



In topic we have been learning about 'Earthquakes and Volcanoes'; how they are formed, how they are measured and the effects of they can have to us and our environment. We even made our own seismographs to measure earthquakes.



We hope you all have a lovely Easter break!



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Dolphin Class



Dolphin Class have welcomed Mr. Gabi to the team since the half term, while Miss Sabrina was on placement. He has been an amazing addition to the class. During this time, Mr. Gabi has taught the students Spanish, where we learned how to count to ten, as well as learning parts of the body and the days of the week! The boys really enjoyed it as they were able to excitingly tell Miss Sabrina what they have learnt in Spanish when she returned.

The boys had a fantastic term in science creating their own volcanos, took time to understand evolution and also had the chance to see an outdoor sugar experiment with Ms. Leona!



From making delicious fast-food pizzas to sizzling sweet potato and chickpea curries, the class have been excelling in their cooking skills thanks to Miss Deanna.



We have also had the privilege to go to Frylands alongside Stingray Class, where we worked on our team building skills and played games such as treasure hunt and climbing up Anthea Hill!



Dolphin Class also participated in 'Red Nose Day' and 'World Book Day' where we all dressed up and made an amazing Harry Potter themed door together.



All the staff and children would like to say a massive thank you to Mr. James for his time here at Chaffinch Brook, as he is leaving and we wish him all the best on his new adventures. Lastly, we wish you all have a great half term break and will see you soon! Happy Easter!



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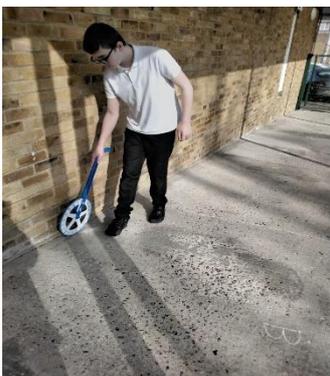
7G

Another term has passed us by and what a term it has been! We have had some exciting things happen in 7G and look forward to sharing them with you.

The students have been enjoying horse riding once a week, they have learnt about grooming, their diet, how they live and have enjoyed rides with them. They have all taken to it so exceptionally well and are so kind, nurturing to the animals. What brilliant Chaffinch Brook ambassadors! They have done us all proud!



In math, the students have enjoyed math outdoor activities; using the Trundle wheel/ tape measure/ metre stick to measure the perimeter of given things such as : the playground, door, 2D shapes and measuring each other's height.



In Science the students have been learning about 'Changes of State'. They have also had the pleasure of enjoying the Science

room upstairs; learning about how to use a bunsen burner safely. They have been carrying out different experiments, exploring how solids, liquids and gases work.



Finally, we have had exciting trips this term. We went for a captivating visit to Westminster Abbey and walked the steps of kings and queens! A true medieval masterpiece- the students looked at the impressive gothic architecture, 'poets' corner, the coronation chair, beautifully crafted statues ,tombs and enjoyed the stained glass window workshop!



We are now looking forward to ending the term by going to Flip-out, for a day jam packed with lots of fun activities. Thank you for playing a huge part in your children's learning journey so far. Wishing you a Happy Easter holiday!



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7H

This term in English we have been focusing on the book 'Varmints'. This is a story of a small creature's struggle to preserve a world in danger of being lost forever. This book touches on themes including conservation, environment, citizenship, regeneration, philosophy and alienation.

Learning about the importance of looking after nature and our planet, we decided to take a trip to our local park to find a piece of nature we would like to save and nurture.



Here are some of the plants we saw.



In History we have been learning about The Battle of Stamford Bridge and even got to replicate our very own Motte and Bailey Castle on Minecraft. We are also very lucky to be able to visit Tonbridge Castle and explore the different elements it has and their purposes.

7H were also able to earn Bunsen Burner licences in Science with Miss Senzeni. This means we will be able to start using the science labs for fun, new experiments. We were also given the opportunity to watch Miss Leona demonstrate exciting experiments such as the 'Fire Snake' for Science week. It was amazing!



We have also started to explore 'Applique' with Mr Kwame in Textiles. Picking our favourite images, we recreated them using different materials such as felt and transferred them onto a bigger piece of material.

Overall 7H have had an amazing term full of fun learning and experiences. We hope you all have a fantastic Easter break!





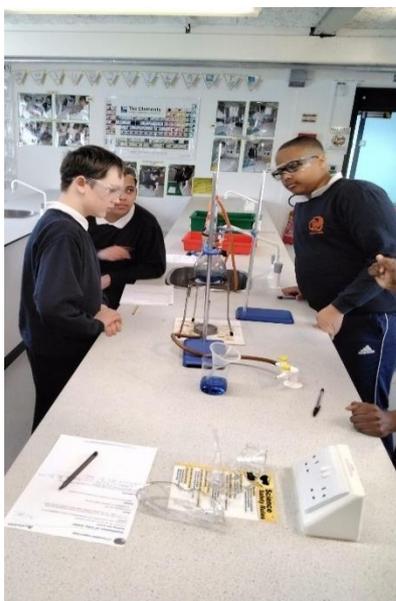
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8G

The highlight of this term for year 8s is the BMXing course they took in as part of their PE curriculum. The boys were taught the different techniques used in BMXing including level pedal, accuracy and balance. They have demonstrated good listening skills and have shown great confidence on the tracks.



In science, the boys have been learning about different changes of states. They have looked at distillation and how liquids and gas are separated using heat. They were able to use the science equipment safely and efficiently and worked well as a group.



For Mental Health Awareness Week, we have looked at different ways of coping with stress and anxiety. We took a nice morning walk to the local park and shared a meal together.



The students were excited to meet their new peer, Brandon and they have all made him feel welcomed. He has settled in really well and has been getting involved in sporting activities and he's shown his mind-blowing talent when playing the keyboard.



We hope you have a lovely, well deserved Easter break!



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9G

As the Easter holidays are approaching, the class team at 9G hope you are well and having a great start to the year. This term we have had a smooth transition and the boys' maturity levels are really starting to show. The boys are also becoming a lot more competitive as well, this could be down to Mr. Rowan. Nevertheless, we have noticed they are always striving to come first in most individual tasks. The competition is really healthy and they are pushing each other to be better students.



Mr. Rowan has led PSHE and has been teaching the boys the importance of personal hygiene and self-care. As a class team we thought it would be a great idea for the boys to pick their own personal hygiene products that they wanted to use. We took a class trip to Pound Land in Croydon, where the boys picked out some items they wanted. We were really proud of their behaviour on the trip and were impressed with how well they managed their behaviour in the shop as well.

The children will be sitting the Functional Skills Maths and English exams in the Summer term. Maths, English and Science lessons have been essential in preparing them for the exams. We believe that the boys will try their best and keep practising while at school. Any support at home would also be greatly appreciated.



The class went to Toca Social at the O2, with 9H and had a lot of fun. They managed their behaviour really well and again showed real signs of maturity.

We hope you all have a well-earned Easter break with your loved ones.

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





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9H

We hope you are all well, enjoying the sunshine and are looking forward to a well-deserved Easter break. The boys in our class have had productive term and we are pleased to say their behaviour and attitude to learning is progressing by the day, well done!

The functional skills tests are fast approaching so we have been putting an emphasis on practising and getting ready for them. The boys are on the right track and with a bit more work and effort, we have no doubt they can achieve good results.

Our class has enjoyed cooking a variety of things in food tech, such as ice-cream, burgers, macaroni and cheese and cinnamon buns to name but a few. Hope they shared some at home with you!

On a fun note, the boys have been getting into table tennis during their free time and are getting really good at it and competitive. A Table tennis championship has been organised by the year 9G on April 1st, may the best player win!



We have also had a lovely school trip on Thursday 31st of March at Toca Social in the O2. The boys really enjoyed themselves and played with great team spirit. They were well behaved and mature, a real credit to our school. Well done boys, keep it up for the next term!



We hope that you all have a lovely Easter break and we are looking forward to seeing you all soon 😊





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10G

This term has been amazing for the 10G boys. The boys have managed so well with a great attitude towards their learning.

The year 10s have started to think about their future career prospects. The term has been packed with career workshops and even visits from the Department for Work and Pensions. The DWP provided our class with an introduction to working life, explaining apprenticeship pathways, interview tips and potential earnings. Additionally, on the 1st of March, we attended the National Apprenticeship Show. The show had over 1,000 attendees and over 40 exhibitors, including the Royal Navy, Aldi, Pets at home, Dyson, Go Landscape, Howdens, NHS, the Metropolitan Police and PWC. The boys managed this busy setting really well! As a class team we were very proud.



A few members of 10G went on an exciting trip with their mentor to The Escape Room. This put their problem-solving skills to the test, as they completed challenges in a limited amount of time. They were so close to cracking the case!



Even though last year was a challenge, the boys have extended their knowledge in Maths, English and Science extensively. In maths, they have attained knowledge in Translation of shape, solving linear equations, areas and perimeters of compound shapes and fraction calculations. For English, they are currently learning how to analyse language and text. In Science they have learnt about genetics, the reproductive system and food chains - all in preparation for their GCSE Biology exam on the 17th of May.

Attending Beckmead College has always been an exciting time for the boys; they have demonstrated great teamwork skills. They were introduced to basic fundamentals of health and safety management skills and career paths within the construction world. It has been a delight to see them using tools and equipment for its purpose to develop their practical skills, knowledge and attitude needed for work in the industry.

We wish you a Happy Easter. Hope you have a joyful and relaxing holiday.

Miss Senzeni, Miss Leiane & Mr Manny.



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11G

11G have been working extremely hard preparing for the upcoming exams. We have been completing practise papers in all the relevant areas and the boys have done really well. Although it has been hard work, the boys have stayed positive and realise how important it is to revise.

We have seen some really good work from all areas of our classroom. With near impossible sums being figured out in an instant and newspaper articles with some of the most creative ideas imaginable, we have been really impressed.

Our days at the college have also been quite the success with all of our students that have attended successfully completing a city and guilds qualification in bricklaying, multi skills, painting and carpentry.



We have had a good mix of work and relaxation which has worked really well. On the odd day we have ventured out to the local park space to give the students a bit of a breather after all the hard work they are putting in! We also ensure there boys have some free time after all tasks are completed, to have a steady balance of work, rest and recovery within the classroom.



We hope the boys and their families all have a fantastic and well-deserved break. Make sure you all get some rest and have fun!





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WORLD BOOK WEEK

We had a fantastic World Book Week across the sites this year. We took part in lots of different quizzes and decorated our doors as book covers. Some of the older children really enjoyed reading stories to the younger ones as well. For Chaffinch Brook Lower It ended with a 'Dress as your Favourite Book Character Day'! The costumes were amazing and included our very own 'Lady Macbeth'.





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Science and Engineering week Key stage 1&2



Science and Engineering Week was an exciting and engaging event this year with both staff and pupils participating in a range of activities around the theme 'Growth'. There were three activities during the week; first activity, pupils made a paper flower with its aim to open slowly when placed in water.

The second activity was a demonstration of 'Growing Carbon Sugar'. When sugar is burnt in the presence of oxygen, it produces carbon dioxide gas and water vapor (also a gas), which pushes more of the sugar/baking soda mixture upwards and forming a snake structure.



The weather favoured us on the third day of the activities, which saw pupils out in the playground growing bubbles from a bubble mixture.



Science and Engineering Week Key stage 3



Key stage 3 pupils discovered that the different coloured paper flower had varied speed of opening when placed in water. Pupils at key stage 3 made hand held wind turbines and tested the durability of the vane of the turbine as demonstrated by one pupil.



Our final activity captured the imagination and curiosity of pupils across key stage 3. Pupils watched the carbon sugar demonstration and were intrigued at how a small amount of powdered sugar mixture grew into the shape of a snake.

Thanks to all staff and pupils of Chaffinch Brook School for their participation and the success of raising the awareness of science in our environment.

