



Headteacher writes:

“If you want to be a writer, you must do two things above all others: read a lot and write a lot.”
— **Stephen King**

At Chester Park, we read a lot and we write a lot... This week, I have read a lot of writing from the children from Chester Park. I have seen emerging writing in Reception, in Key Stage 1 have read about the importance of looking after the environment in the form of a letter and I have read some great stories about magical creatures... I have also seen some excellent punctuation - especially the use of possessive apostrophes. At the juniors, I have seen children developing editing skills, improving spelling and the use of advanced grammar such as fronted adverbials and relative clauses. When I went to school, these were certainly not in focus at either primary or secondary school!

Becoming a better writer does not just happen. It takes a lot of time. The importance of editing and improving work is a key feature of becoming a successful writer. Developing an enjoyment of writing by writing for a purpose or an audience is really powerful. There are lots of components to being a good writer; having legible handwriting, accurate spelling, correct punctuation and of course composing something that is good to read.

Next week, the governors will be visiting the school on Monday and will be able to see our amazing children and their writing.

Yours in partnership,
Mike McNama, Headteacher



Important—We have been informed that a group of boys have been playing football on the road in front of the junior school. This week, it was witnessed that a car narrowly missed the group and another car had to swerve. This is not a safe place to play football, even with the road closure, cars still drive along the road. We will be having another road safety assembly soon. Please remind your children not to play outside of the school on the roads. Thank you.

Seat Belt Safety

We've had reports of children not wearing car seats. Please be reminded of the following:

The Law

- **Children must use a child car seat until they are 12 years old or 135cm tall — whichever comes first.**
- Once a child is over 12 or taller than 135cm, they must wear a seatbelt.

Only **approved** child car seats (labelled with **ECE R44/04** or **R129/i□Size**) can be used legally in the UK.

Why It Matters

Using a proper child car seat dramatically improves safety:

- A correctly fitted car seat can reduce the risk of fatal injury in a collision by up to **71%**.

Children are far more vulnerable in a crash, and an ill fitting or missing car seat greatly increases the risk of serious injury.

Important Reminders

- **Babies must be rear facing until at least 15 months old.**
- Never place a rear facing seat in the front passenger seat without first disabling the airbag.
- Booster cushions and seats must be used according to the manufacturer's instructions and your child's height/weight. Incorrect or unsuitable car seats can result in a **fine of up to £500**.

Working Together for Safety

Please ensure your child always travels in the correct car seat, even on short trips. Taking a few extra moments to check that the seat is properly installed and suitable for your child's age, height, and weight can make a life saving difference.

Thank you for helping us keep every child safe on the road. If you need guidance choosing the right type of seat, you can find official information here:

www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules.



WEAR SEAT BELTS

Vasant Panchami

Spring has arrived, endless beauty spreads across the world.
In the mustard fields, flowers bloom in golden clusters.
The cuckoo begins its sweet song of "koo-hoo,"
Every living being feels joy in its soul—
May this happiness never end!

English translation of the Hindi poem Aaya Vasant by Sohanlal Dwivedi

Vasant Panchami is a festival that celebrates spring, learning, music, and creativity. This week, we have been learning about how Hindu and Sikh communities around the world mark this special occasion. In Hindu tradition, Vasant Panchami is dedicated to **Goddess Saraswati**, the goddess of wisdom, learning, and the arts. Many people choose to wear **yellow**, symbolising sunshine and mustard flowers, and make offerings with books or musical instruments to seek blessings for knowledge and creativity. In Sikh culture, **Basant Panchami** is a cultural celebration filled with **music, dance, and colour**. Although it is not a religious festival in Sikhism, it holds strong cultural importance, especially in Punjab. Traditional ways of celebrating often include **kite flying**, music, and dancing.

To bring this celebration to life in school, our assemblies explored the origins and meaning of Vasant Panchami. We also took part in energetic **Bhangra workshops** delivered by Avtar from Wise Move Dance, where children enjoyed lively Punjabi music and discovered how movement and rhythm play an important role in the celebration. These experiences helped us understand how colour, music, and creativity are woven into Vasant Panchami—and how these traditions bring people together in joyful celebration.

Children's comments:

- *"The dance teacher was really nice and explained things really well."*
 - *"I loved the music and drumming."*
 - *"It was really good trying on the different clothes that people wear to dance and celebrate."*
- "I really liked it when my teacher joined in dancing too!"*



Parent & Carer Coffee Morning ☕☕

I'm Olivia, the Education Mental Health Practitioner
(EMHP)

Join Us

I will be running a free parent/carer coffee morning on the theme of understanding anxiety in children.

You can expect to:

When:

Wednesday 4th February
at 9:00am- 9:45am

Where:

At Chester park Infants

Meet other
parents &
carers

Hear about
support
offered by the
MHST

Suggest
ideas for
future parent
& carer
sessions



Community Children's
Health Partnership



NHS
Avon and Wiltshire
Mental Health Partnership
NHS Trust

MHST
Tools to thrive

Share our Learning Evenings

We will be holding our Share Our Learning evenings on **Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th February 2026** from **3.30pm at the Infant School and 3.40pm at the Junior School**. This is a 10 minute appointment for you to speak with your child's class teacher and to look at the work they have completed so far this year.

Booking is now open and needs to be made through the **Arbor app**.

Thank you

[Book Online](#) ➔

Thursday 29th January—PINS Coffee Morning—9am at Chester Park Junior School—All Welcome

Wednesday 4th February - EMPH - Anxiety Coffee Morning—9am at Infant School

Thursday 5th February—Friends of Chester Park Cake Sale after school at both schools

Tuesday 10th February—Share our Learning Evening 3.30-6pm

Thursday 12th February— Share our Learning Evening 3.30-6pm

Friday 13th February—End of Term 3

Monday 23rd February—Start of Term 4

Thursday 5th March—World Book Day— Children can dress as a book character for the day!

Friday 13th March—Red Nose Day

Thursday 19th March— Inset Day—School Closed to all pupils

Friday 20th March—Inset Day—School Closed to all pupils

Monday 23rd March—Eid Party & Coffee Morning—More information to follow.

Week Beginning 30th March—Easter Cake Sale—More information to follow

Thursday 2nd April—End of Term 4

Monday 20th April—Start of Term 5

Tuesday 19th May—Infant School Sports Day

Wednesday 20th May—Junior School Sports Day







Friday 22nd May—End of Term 5

Monday 1st June—Start of Term 6

1st—5th June—Chester Park Belonging Week—More information to follow

Friday 5th June—Belonging Picnic and Summer Fair from 2pm

Tuesday 21st July—End of Term 6

	Dojo Hero 	Pot of Gold 		Dojo Hero 	Gold Card 
Class	Infant School		Class	Junior School	
Badger	Jasper		Pine	Jahzara	Arthur, Jasmine
Rabbit	Malaya		Willow	Jess	Marshall, Rupert & Ollie
Squirrel	Idriss		Cedar	Xintong	Finley, Leo, Bonnie
Bumblebee	Hanya	Redyar, Yusuf	Hazel	Kai	Saaliha, Alana
Hedgehog	Zeniyah	Elwood	Chestnut	Zahara	Kharlian, Emily
Otter	Vinny	Aleena, Alan, Meme, Ruben	Hawthorn	Zayan, Cassie	Mary'Anne, Gracie
Owl	Amira	Theo, David	Sycamore	Vanessa	Nali, Nart
Fox	Charlie	Vinnie, Aamal, Peggy	Maple	Thandie	Tasif, Hashim
Ducklings		Ariya	Ash	Shanya	Phoebe, Hafsah
			Whitebeam	Maria	Joseph, Destiny
			Hornbeam	Kamsi	Isla, Sophia M
Congratulations to this weeks winners!			Oak	Naomi	Dilawar, Amelia

Class	Weekly Attendance	Class	Weekly Attendance
Badger	83.6%	Pine	98.5%
Rabbit	88.8%	Willow	96.1%
Squirrel	88.9%	Cedar	91.7%
Bumblebee	91.6%	Hazel	92.4%
Hedgehog	89.3%	Chestnut	96.3%
Otter	96.3%	Hawthorn	95.4%
Owl	87.9%	Sycamore	93.9%
Fox	86.9%	Maple	94.8%
		Ash	92.9%
		Whitebeam	97.7%
		Hornbeam	90.0%

Hi everyone

We're starting a new Family Club at the Community Hall on Lodge Causeway.

Wednesdays (term time) 3.15pm-4.45pm

This is a warm after-school space with food, play, and community for local families.

We're looking for a few friendly volunteers to help with things like:

- serving food
- crafts & games
- welcoming families
- tidying up

You don't need special skills — just a warm heart and a bit of time. Even one afternoon a month would make a big difference.

If you're interested or want to know more, please message

Matt mattstone@kingswaybenefice.org,
Kirtan Kirtankaur488@gmail.com or
Melissa melissapalmer258@gmail.com

FAMILY CLUB
WEDNESDAY 28TH JANUARY
ST JOHNS COMMUNITY HALL
LODGE CAUSEWAY
EVERY TERM TIME WEDNESDAY
3.15 PM - 4.45 PM
SNACKS - CRAFT - GAMES
FOR MORE IN FO
MATT : 07470471359
MELISSA
MELISSAPALMER258@GMAIL.COM
KIRTAN
KIRTANKAUR488@OUTLOOK.COM

strengthening families strengthening communities



Starts Thursday 15th January 2026

9.15am to 12.15pm

11 sessions

Settlement Site, Ducie Road, BS5 0AX

An inclusive course to help parents raise happy confident children, from babies to teens

Scan here for more information or to book!



Free Course and Creche!

Or call Sally or Laura on 07492 870557



www.wellspringsettlement.org.uk info@wsb.org.uk
Settlement Site, 43 Ducie Road, BS5 0AX - 0117 3041400
Wellspring Site, Beam Street, BS5 9QY - 0117 304 1400

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Friends of Chester Park



CAKE SALE



FUNDRAISER
ON



Thursday

50p
cakes

5th



February

after school at Infants and Juniors

DONATIONS NEEDED

HOMEMADE OR SHOP BOUGHT!



ALL CAKES NUT FREE PLEASE!



Donations can be left at
Infants or Juniors reception from
Tuesday 3rd February

Any questions please get in touch with the Friends Whatsapp

