



Headteacher writes:

**“Lift up your faces, you have a piercing need. For this bright morning dawning for you. The horizon leans forward. Offering you space to place new steps of change.”**  
*-from 'On the Pulse of Morning' by Maya Angelou*

We have come to the end of term 4 and I am sure we all welcome the break. For those who celebrate Easter, Happy Easter and for those who do not celebrate Easter, have a lovely holiday. Easter is a time of renewal. Lent is the period before Easter, during this period Christians focus on preparing for the Easter celebrations. As part of this, many Christians will participate in fasting, reflecting and giving during Lent.

On Easter Sunday, I imagine many of you may receive or give an Easter Egg - the Easter Egg represents new life, rebirth and resurrection. Spring is a time where flowers begin to bloom again; the weather brightens and we get longer evenings. I hope you all enjoy the time away from school with friends and family.

Yours in partnership,

Mike McNama, Headteacher.

### Lockdown

The police incident within the community unfolded very quickly yesterday afternoon. Thank you for your patience, as the schools went into lockdown. This support is a real reflection of our community. The children were all kept safe and today have had a short PSHE session to share a small amount of information in an age-appropriate way. This is an isolated incident and the police have made arrests in relation to the incident. If you have information that would be helpful to the police, details of what you can do are listed below;

If you can help, please call **101** and give the call handler the reference number **5226089476**, or complete our [online appeals form](#).

You can contact the independent charity Crimestoppers 100 per cent anonymously on **0800 555 111** or via their [Anonymous Online Form](#).

No personal details are taken, information cannot be traced or recorded and you will not go to court or have to speak to police when contacting Crimestoppers.

### Wizard of Oz Theatre Visit

The Junior School children thoroughly enjoyed a performance of *The Wizard of Oz* this week. Who knew our assembly hall could transform so magically into Kansas, the Emerald City, and even the witch's lair—complete with flying monkeys! It was a joy to see our children so engaged and captivated throughout the performance.



And the good news is... we've already booked for next year!

The Infants will welcome *Snow White* in November, and the Juniors will be visited by one or two pirates in *Treasure Island* next March.

Theatre is such a fantastic experience for children, enriching their imagination and bringing stories to life. We're delighted to be able to share these wonderful opportunities with our pupils.



### Cake Sale

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped with the latest Cake Sale. We are pleased to announce we raised **£242.16**. We really appreciate the support from our school community and the Friends of Chester Park.



### Leave of Absence

We would like to remind all parents/carers that holidays in term time will not be authorised except in **very exceptional circumstances** and penalty notices or other legal sanctions may be issued as a result of taking your child out of school without authorisation.

Good school attendance is essential for your child's progress and skills for life.

In exceptional circumstances, you will need to complete a form to ask permission for leave of absence in advance.



### Number Sense— Number Neighbours: Spot the Difference

Number neighbours are numbers that come just before or just after another number. For example, the neighbours of **5** are 4 and 6.

When numbers are next to each other, the difference between them is 1 (e.g. 6 and 7). If they are both odd or both even and next to each other in that pattern (like 4 and 6, or 7 and 9), the difference is 2.

This helps children work out simple subtraction quickly (e.g.  $6 - 5 = 1$ ), understand the difference between numbers and notice patterns in odd and even numbers.

Encourage your child to picture a number line in their head and ask:

**What number comes before?**

**What number comes after?**

**How far apart are these numbers?**

Number Neighbours:  
Spot the Difference



Adjacent numbers have a difference of 1. Adjacent odds and evens have a difference of 2.

Spot number neighbours (adjacent, odds or evens) to solve subtractions of adjacent numbers (e.g.  $5 - 4 = 1$ ), of adjacent odds (e.g.  $9 - 7 = 2$ ) or adjacent evens (e.g.  $6 - 4 = 2$ )

## **Dates for your Diary**

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