

MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER

Church Lawton School, Cherry Tree Avenue, Church Lawton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. ST7 3EL

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Principal: Mr Paul Scales



PRINCIPAL NOTES

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an exciting and busy half-term with the benefit of an extra bank holiday celebrating the King's Coronation. We finish today for the Whitsun holiday to enjoy a week off in the sunshine.

Whitsun is the name used in Britain, and other countries, for the Christian holy day of Pentecost. It falls on the seventh Sunday after Easter. In England it took on some characteristics of Beltane, which originated from the pagan celebration of Summer's Day. In 1972, the Government decided to permanently replace it, with a Spring Bank Holiday on the last Monday in May. It was a custom for children to receive a new set of clothes. In the Northwest of England, parades called Whit Walks. Typically, the parades include brass bands and choirs and Whit fairs took place. Other customs, such as Morris dancing, were associated with Whitsun.

It must have seemed like the proverbial stuck record at the start of this academic year (for those of us who remember vinyl), as I tell our students how quickly the year will pass and I can see the look of puzzlement amongst the sea of faces who are silently mouthing: "Oh, is Mr Scales already talking about exams taking place NEXT YEAR?". I look up and see the education staff nodding in agreement and before you know it Christmas has been and gone, Easter was a blur and we are now talking about exam timetables, colleges, and next steps in September 2023. I talk a lot about appreciating

PRINCIPAL NOTES



(Continued...)

the moment and not to wish your life away, but life does seem to speed up.

The first half of the Summer term was busy and extremely productive in terms of our Year 6 students. SATS week - A special well done to all of our Y6 pupils who have shown great determination and an amazing attitude to learning during their SATs week. The Year 6 students were able to demonstrate that their hard work has paid off by completing the different assessments in the areas of literacy and numeracy.

Our upper secondary and post 16 students have now commenced their summer programme of exams. The timetable is longer than before and we have a 6 week programme. Miss Norris and Mr Smith the Schools Examinations Officers will ensure that the exams are conducted and completed in line with the latest exam body instructions and guidance. We have the latest exams support and information on our website.

I have been extremely proud of the appreciation and understanding shown by all other students in the school in ensuring that areas around exams are quiet and noise free and allow their peers the ability to concentrate and do their very best.

Reaseheath College

Students in our year 11 groups have now completed their studies at Reaseheath an look forward to receiving their certificates for their completed work. I would like to congratulate the students for their hard work and determination over the past two years. A special mention also goes to the staff who have regularly accompanied our students. The year 10 students will continue to attend Reaseheath College to complete their first year of studies with a range of different topics ranging from Car Mechanics, to Equine Studies. The students have all worked tremendously hard.

Adventure Learning

Our Adventure Learning programme continues to go from strength to strength and the skills and participation amongst the students has been notable, to observe students confidence and self-esteem grow and flourish is a real joy for the staff who accompany students during these visits. We have also commenced the expedition training for some of our students to participate in the Cheshire East Duke of Edinburgh Scheme.

PRINCIPAL NOTES



(Continued...)

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and relaxing Whitsun holiday and hope you have a restful and relaxing break. We look forward to seeing you back on Monday 5th June 2023.

Please note our new office email address, should you need to email the school, is office@churchlawtonschool.org.uk

Yours sincerely,



Paul Scales

Principal



Special Events and Curriculum Days - Dates for the diary		
Tuesday 13 th June	Y7, 8 and 9 football match v Bluebell school team.	
Thursday 22 nd June	Coach trip to 'The Big Bang.' Science STEM fair for Y6, 7 and 8.	
Friday 23rd June	Afternoon Tea—Student Enterprise Project. All welcome.	
Friday 30 th June	Y11, 12 & 13 End of year Prom.	
Thursday 6 th July	Whole school open evening for parents – come and celebrate your child's achievements and meet their teachers for next year.	
Friday 7 th July	Non-Uniform – please bring in donations for the summer festival.	
Mon 10 th - Tues 11 th July	D of E Bronze Canoeing Expedition.	
Thursday 13 th July	Summer Festival.	



Reporting an absence



The absence line: 01270 877601, option 1

Church Lawton School monitors pupil absence on a daily basis.

Therefore, parents/carers are expected to telephone school <u>by 8.30 a.m.</u>

<u>every morning</u> your child is absent, <u>clearly stating the reason for the absence.</u>



SUBJECTS & TOPICS

KAREN WOODALL, DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Next term's subject and topic areas can be found below and overleaf. Please feel free to begin some preparations, research or reading if you wish over the half-term holiday.

Class	Subject and topic area.
Donaldson Primary	English - Superheroes (fiction) focus on writing including punctuation and apostrophes. Maths - Multiplication and division facts, number bonds and subitise. History - Changes in our families' lifetime. Science – Humans keeping healthy and our bodies
Shakespeare Primary	English- Superheroes and Plays Maths- Fluency of Number and coordinates Science- Electricity Humanities- The Romans QOL life skills - Self-care and well-being
Darwin & Thompson Middle School	Geography - India. English - Hugo, exploring text types. Science - Evolution Maths - Core skills plus money and time. Computing - Sensing RE - Judaism
English Secondary	Y8 Gamma and Zeta - 'My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece' and poetry from other cultures. Y9 Delta and Epsilon - War poetry and 'Julius Caesar' Y10 Sigma - 'Julius Caesar' revision and War and Conflict Anthology poetry Y10 Omega - Functional skills English Y11 Theta and Pi - Short stories and creative writing
Science Secondary	Y9 and Y8, following the same topics: 'Reproduction, Movement and Variation.' Y10 The last topic of their course, 'Ecology' Theta & Pi – Revision.
Maths Secondary	Gamma & Zeta - Constructions Loci and Circles Delta & Epsilon – Scatter graphs, Transformations and Pythagoras Theorem Omega - Fractions Decimals and Percentages Sigma - Sketching Graphs, Linear and Quadratic equations, and their graphs Theta/Pi - Revision, functional maths
Food Btec	Level 1 – Baking techniques, Level 2 – Foods of the world.
Quality of Life Curriculum/ Life skills.	KS3 – Cooking summer recipes. Year 9's - NCS sessions – sports, team building and managing finances. KS4 & 5 - Travel training, planning a meal including shopping and cooking on a budget.
Media Studies	Media - creating and sharing a media product.
Geography	KS3 - Our warming Planet, Global warming, Greenhouse Gases, Climate Change and The Earth's Atmosphere. GCSE - Fluvial landforms, Managing floods, Glacial landforms, Economic opportunities in glaciated areas and Manging Tourism in the Lake District.



SUBJECTS & TOPICS

KAREN WOODALL, DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Subjects and topics continued below. Please feel free to begin some preparations, research or reading if you wish over the half-term holiday.

History	Year 8 & 9 - How was Baghdad connected to the wider world and The life of Mansa Musa and the Medieval Mali. Year 10 - Migration Empires and the People Year 11 - Entry level work and GCSE revision
RE	Year 8 - What is suffering? Year 9 - The role of women in world religions Philosophy, Religion & Ethics – Revision.
Music	Primary - Developing pulse and rhythm skills, introduction to 'so mi la' pitch songs and playing them from notation on boom whackers. Middle - Consolidating chords C, G, F and A on Ukeleles, composing songs using those chords and notating them. Using the outdoor instruments to create duets, trios and quartets! KS3 - How to mix and master their compositions on Logic Pro and will be working as a group to create new pieces of music. BTEC - Finishing coursework and learning how to record and master their recordings, looking at case studies of commercial songs made in a studio.
German	KS3 - German artists and using future tense to plan an art project. KS4 – Baking German recipes and learning conversational language.
PE	All Secondary groups - Athletics / Rounders Middle school - Athletics / Invasion Games Primary - Monday Fundamentals - Wednesday Bike-ability. Btec Sport - Unit 2: Practical performance in Sport
Computer Science	KS3 Scratch coding KS4 Yrl0s an intro to Python KS4 Yrl1s Python interview questions as prep for next year/the future.
Careers	Money and Finances.
Art and Design. Btec	Year 1 students are starting their new 2D unit. They will be creating ideas for their own street festival. Year 2 students have now completed their final unit so will be completing their own themed extended project.
KS3 Creative	Groups rotate between Gardening, 2D painting and drawing techniques looking at artists including Cezanne, Monet and Van Gogh. 3D wire art influenced by Giacometti.
PSHE Day	Friday 9 th June
Adventure Learning	Friday mornings - Middle school, Friday afternoons - Primary – Wilderness Academy outdoor activities including bushcraft, archery, climbing wall. Secondary – KS4 & 5 Monday 3 rd July and KS3 Monday 10 th July Activities at Tittesworth Reservoir, Derbyshire.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

INFLUENCERS

In today's digital age, social media influencers play an increasingly significant role in shaping the opinions, interests and behaviours of our children. While many of these individuals can have a positive effect, influencer, culture can also present certain risks – such as encouraging consumerism, affecting self-esteem and blurring trustworthiness. To help ensure a safe online environment for young people, it's vital to maintain open communication, set sensible boundaries, promote a healthy self-image and teach digital media literacy. Our guide delves deeper into all of these.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

HEIGHTENED CONSUMERISM

A major way that influencers make money is through brand partnerships and sponsored content. As a result, children who follow them may be exposed to a steady stream of advertising: this can lead to materialistic attitudes, unrealistic expectations and an increased desire to have the latest products. Many influencers have built huge brand empires around their large, impressionable following.

THE SOFT SELL

Some influencers aren't always transparent about the motivations behind their posts, blurring the lines between genuine recommendations and paid-for promotions – and young people sometimes find it difficult to distinguish authentic content from advertising. Many major social platforms have taken steps to make sponsored content and ads easier to identify, but it remains an area of concern.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Inspired by their favourite influencers, children may start sharing more of their own lives online – which could reveal personal information or details about their daily routine. This openness can put them at risk of cyberbullying or even predatory behaviour. This is exacerbated by live streaming, which gives young people no time to consider the potential consequences of saying too much.

UNDERMINING SELF-ESTEEM

Many influencers share images and videos of themselves and their activities, which are often painstakingly curated and edited to present an idealised version of their life. Children who follow these influencers may develop distorted expectations about body image and the concept of beauty, which can potentially lead to negative self-esteem and even mental health issues.

Advice for Parents & Carers

KEEP TALKING

Chat to your child about the content they consume on social media and the influencers that they like. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear online, and listen to any concerns they might have. Maintaining this line of open, honest communication can help your child to make informed decisions about which individuals they follow and what content they engage with.

SET SOME BOUNDARIES

Agree age-appropriate boundaries for your child's social media use, including time limits and privacy settings (the two major operating systems on mobile devices, Android and iOS, have these controls baked in). Try to keep an eye on your child's online activity and discuss it regularly with them – including reminding them of the potential risks that can arise from following influencers.

Meet Our Expert

A former director of digital learning and currently a deputy headmoster and DSI, Brendan O'Keeffe's experience and expertise gives him a clear insight into how modern digital pystems impact the experience of children, staff and parents—and which strategies help to ensure that the on line world remains a useful educational tool rather than a minefield of risks.

SUPPORT A HEALTHY SELF-IMAGE

Reinforce your child's awareness that real life isn't usually as picture perfect as it may appear on social media – and how some content (particularly that of influencers) is often curated, staged or edited to look more glamorous. If possible, highlight examples of other influencers who share authentic, relatable material which acknowledges their imperfections and struggles as well.

PROMOTE MEDIA LITERACY

Talk to your child about the concepts of sponsored content, advertising and potential influencer bias. Teach them to critically evaluate the information they're presented with online and to consider the possible reasons behind content creation. This can help young people develop the skills to make healthier decisions about the influencers they choose to follow and the content they consume.



Mapac 😥 Your Official School Uniform Supplier

WELCOME TO MAPAC

We are delighted to be working with your school who have entrusted us with providing your children's school uniform.

1. HOW TO REGISTER & ORDER

- CLICK THE UNIFORM LINK FROM YOUR SCHOOLS WEBSITE...or...
- Visit <u>www.mapac.com/education/parents</u> or search online for 'Mapac find your school'.
- Use the 'LOGIN/REGISTER' tab at the top of the page and fill in your details (even if you don't need to order straight away, it means you'll start receiving Mapac updates and offers!)
- Once on your dedicated school page, simply add everything you need to your basket, register (if you haven't already) and then check out.

2. ORDERING GUIDE

Under normal circumstances we aim for all orders to be sent out within 10-15 working days. During our busier periods (especially over the summer) or if anything unexpected occurs, it can take longer, so please allow us some extra time to get your order to you.

Delivery to your home / work all year round!

IMPORTANT SUMMER ORDERING INFORMATION

To receive your order before the start of term please order by 31st July.

We do everything we can to send out all items as soon as possible but a high volume of orders or unforeseen circumstances may occasionally lead to delays.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to call or email us. We are happy to help!

T: 01923 255525 | E: parentcustomerservices@mapac.net

office@churchlawtonschool.org.uk 01270 877601 www.churchlawtonschool.org.uk



From **5th June 2023**, due to supply issues, Mellors Catering will no longer be able to offer cheese oakcakes and toasted teacakes at snack time. If the supply situation changes we will of course inform both students and parents by the most appropriate channel.



Middle and Primary pupils have had an amazing time at The Social Farm this half term. The pupils have participated in various activities each week including feeding and bedding out the animals, making a giant bug hotel, pond dipping and seed sowing. The pupils have really enjoyed spending time with the animals; feeding the lambs, holding the ducklings and hand feeding the goats.

The pupils have also learnt lots of new skills including; making their own flour from grains, how to milk a cow, making a bio-degradable bird feeder and making their own butter. The pupils then were able to taste their own butter on a slice of bread.

Next half term, the pupils from Middle and Primary will be going to Barnswood Scout Camp and participating in activities that include; bush craft, shelter building, archery, orienteering and having a go at the outdoor climbing wall.









The Secondary pupils enjoyed their day at Barnswood Scout Camp this half term. They had a go at the outdoor climbing wall, team building activities and bush craft. All pupils and staff really enjoyed themselves and they learnt lots of new skills.

The Secondary Adventure Learning for next half term students will be visiting Tittesworth to have a go at canoeing and kayaking!







Donaldson



In English, Donaldson have been learning all about the Stone Age and dinosaurs. We wrote an acrostic poem about dinosaurs.

We enjoyed making hot cross buns for Easter. It was great fun mixing all the ingredients together, although the allspice had a funny smell.











In Maths, we have been learning our times tables, as well as learning how to measure in millilitres.

Our Art lessons have focused on cave paintings. We even had a go at sketching and painting our own. We made our own paint with coffee and spices.



We have been visiting Lakemore Farm for our Adventure Learning this term. We have especially enjoyed meeting the lambs and having a go at feeding them, they were so cute! We also milked a pretend cow and made our own butter.















Shakespeare



Shakespeare have thoroughly enjoyed the start of the summer term.

In English we have been learning about the features of a non-chronological report. Everyone has chosen their own European country to research and then wrote their own fantastic reports.















In Maths we have been learning how to find the area and perimeter of 2D shapes.

We have been working hard on our personal QOL (Quality of Life) targets.



In Science we've been putting on our lab coats and conducting new experiments each week, including exploring different states of matter. We've also been practicing our writing skills, and creating scientific reports based on our research.







In Humanities we have been learning about human and physical features of Spain. We have also been learning about the eight points on a compass.

In Art we have been using oil pastels to create our own artwork inspired by the work of Wassily Kandinsky.





It's been an exciting start to the summer term, for both staff and students and we cannot wait to continue learning and sharing our experiences as a class.

Miss Lilley, Mrs Gordon, Miss Caddy, Mr Jennings and Mrs Powell



Darwin & Thompson



First of all a huge congratulations to all our Y6 pupils who sat through their SAT's this term. It has been reported on the news that they were some of the toughest tests ever, but the children showed great resilience and determination. We are already very proud of them.

Well done Year 6!

English this term has been based around a book - The Invention of *Hugo Cabret*, written and illustrated by Brian Selznick. We've had some wonderful descriptive writing and matching artwork.













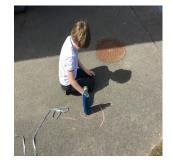


Maths has been re-inforcing the four operations and solving word and real life problems.

In Science we have been finding out about light including how shadows are formed; reflection and refraction, and the colour of light.









Adventure Learning took us 'down on the farm', feeding the animals, making bird boxes, planting seeds and building a scarecrow.











Darwin & Thompson





History has been a real focus this term – finding out about our local towns and villages; looking into where we live. Luckily, because of the make-up of the school, we have a lot of variety from Congleton to Crewe, Mow Cop, Macclesfield and even Manchester. We even invited our parents and grandparents to join us and talk about how the place has changed over the years; "back in the day".

History also included a trip to Nantwich Library, where we were able to view old maps and photos of local towns.

Quality of Life this term has included making our own pizzas and flap-jacks and buying our own lunch in a supermarket. We have also continued to work on our individual targets, whether this is organising our own school bag, tieing shoe laces, telling the time or beginning to recognise and manage our sensory regulation.











Finally, there was the Knife Angel, which we visited on our way to Nantwich Library. Standing 27 foot tall and made from 100,000 knives; it's amazing!











Some of our students went on a Geography trip to Carrs Park in Macclesfield early this term. Students were involved in a field study and made a cross profile of a river.

In Maths this half term we have been learning about vectors and expanding equations.

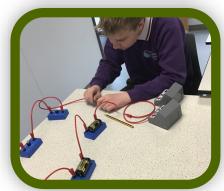
In our Life Skills lessons we have been gaining an understanding in first aid by applying bandages.

In English we have been reading the book "My sister lives on the mantelpiece", a book which gives our students a good insight into understanding different cultures. We have also been creating our own poetry.

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Cadbury form have been doing brilliantly this half term, as you can see from the photos. Achievements include, Form of the Week, Star of the Week, PE Award and 'student with most reward points! Great work Cadbury, you are superstars!





Ethan, Aiden and Lucas have enjoyed our Creative lessons, they have been making go-karts.

To help them prepare for their Duke of Edinburgh Award, Ben and Harry had a practise at putting a tent up. They did a super job.





Answer.... A comb!







New Student...

We'd like to welcome Jack to our school and Cadbury Form. Jack has chosen the riddle for this newsletter. Thank you Jack!

Riddle Me This! Chosen by Jack,

What has many teeth but cannot bite?

Answer below,

It's always brilliant to see students being creative outside of school. Below is a picture of Lucas with a pen holder he designed and made using a 3D printer. Well done Lucas!





We want to take a moment to celebrate the achievements and successes of our form group, from outstanding academic performances to impressive sports achievements and exemplary behaviour. Our students continue to excel and inspire us all. Keep up the fantastic work!

The Coronation Party was undoubtedly one of the highlights of the term. It was a afternoon filled with laughter, dancing, and unforgettable memories. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the organising committee and all the enthusiastic participants who made it a resounding success. Your energy and enthusiasm brought our Form Group even closer together.

We are incredibly proud of the accomplishments of our students. Throughout the term, we have seen remarkable progress in various areas. We continue to recognize and celebrate these achievements through our weekly rewards assemblies, where outstanding academic, sporting, and behavioural efforts are acknowledged. Let's continue to inspire and support each other in reaching new heights.

We have some thrilling events lined up for the term. Here's a glimpse of what's to come:

• Adventure Learning Trip: Get ready for an exhilarating adventure learning experience! We will embark on a trip filled with challenges, teamwork, and personal growth. Stay tuned for more details on this exciting opportunity.

• Bing Bang Convention Trip: Calling all science enthusiasts! We will be organizing a trip to the renowned Bing Bang Convention, where you can explore the latest innovations, engage in

interactive exhibits, and ignite your passion for science.

• Summer Fair: Mark your calendars for the much anticipated Summer Fair! It will be a day filled with games, delicious treats, lively entertainment, and an opportunity to enjoy the sunshine with your Form Group, friends and families.

As we embark on this new term, let's continue to support and uplift one another. Remember, your contributions and ideas are invaluable. If you have any suggestions or would like to get involved in shaping our Form Group activities, please reach out. Together, we can make this term a truly memorable one.





We have had another busy half term!

Our Year 11 students attending Reaseheath have now completed their two year course and are now set to pass. Our Year 10 students are still attending and enjoying their courses.

We have students who will continue with their exams after half term, and although anxieties are rising they are coping well. Good Luck, to everyone sitting exams, we know that you will do well! Our Year 11 students are also busy attending interviews for various colleges.

Four of our students have signed up for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. These students participated in their practice expedition, where they went canoeing from the Winsford Basin, they even ate their lunches on the water! Students are all looking forward to the accessed expedition after the holidays.



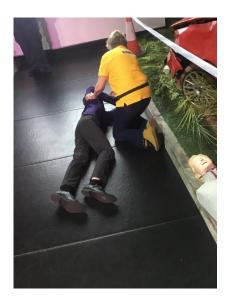




Welcome to our Branson May 2023 Newsletter. It is now exam season and our pupils have not only worked hard throughout the year but have been revising like crazy as they are all determined to do their best. It is a challenging time but they are all coping brilliantly.

We all learned about safety when we visited Safety Central in Lymm, activities ranged from risks within the home to road safety, fire safety and crime and punishment scenarios. The picture to the right is a student in the recovery position.





On the Friday before King Charles III's coronation we dressed up in red, white and blue and celebrated in school along with our friends and families.

The school photographer has been in and taken photographs of many of our students, not only within the school but also at Reaseheath College and at Adventure Learning trips.

Our year 11s have now completed their 2 year courses at Reaseheath and have all done very well.





It's been a very busy half term for Newton form. As you will know, we are in the middle of exam season, so there has been a frenzy of revision for some of our students.



As part of our PSHE curriculum we tried to give something back to our community and went litter picking around our local area.

It has also been the end of an era for some of our year 11 students with their last session at Reaseheath College. Well done to Immie, Joey, Mackenzie and Orla!

There was also a trip to Safety Central this half term which the students really enjoyed. They were able to take part in reconstructions of some real life situations, such as court rooms.





Newton have also been awarded 'Form of the Week' this half term and 'Star of the Week' has gone to both Orla and Mackenzie. We have also had special awards given to Immie and Joey for completing their art exam and for Mackenzie for completing his practical food exam. Well done to all!



Welcome to the latest edition of the Austen Sixth Form newsletter! As we reach the halfway point of the summer term, let's celebrate our fundraising success and acknowledge the hard work put into exam preparations.

Fundraising for the Prom

We're thrilled to announce our successful fundraising for the prom. Food sales and spring fair stalls contributed to our progress. Thank you for your dedication and teamwork!



Exam Season: Embracing Challenges, Achieving Success

As exams approach, we commend your hard work and determination. Embrace the challenges, trust in your abilities, and take care of yourselves. Success awaits you!



Student Spotlight: Duke of Edinburgh Award

We're proud to acknowledge one of our students undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Award. They demonstrated great leadership skills during the practice day and seem well prepared for the upcoming expedition. Keep up the fantastic work!



As the summer term concludes, let's celebrate our accomplishments, support each other during exams, and look forward to an unforgettable prom night.

Best of luck!

