



# Pride News...

Head of Centre Message...

Date – Issue 26.10.2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to our returning students and families and a warm welcome to our new children and families who joined us this September. It's been truly heart-warming to witness the ease with which our children have settled back into their school routines after the summer break and the enthusiastic engagement that they are showing in their learning.

This term, we've been making exciting changes to our class bays which were previously corridor areas in the centre. We are passionate about fostering a love for storytelling and reading. To further this vision, each class now boasts dedicated spaces within their bay areas where our children can immerse themselves in books, creating more opportunities for our children to experience the pleasure of storytelling and enjoy reading and books. At the Piper Centre we firmly believe that every child can become a reader and find joy in storytelling and books.

We've enhanced our bay areas to provide our children with further sensory experiences for the essential movement stimulation that they require throughout the day.

### **School uniform update!**

I am pleased to announce that our Piper Centre Sweatshirts have now been produced and will be available to purchase in the next 4 weeks from: Monkhouse Schoolwear, 99 Northgate Street, Gloucester GL1 2AA Tel:01452 413339

### **Coffee and meet up**

We are keen to provide parents/ carers and families with the opportunity to connect over a friendly chat and cup of coffee. If you are interested in joining us at the Piper Centre to meet fellow parents, please contact me via Dojo, e mail or phone call. I would also value your thoughts on the best time of day to host these.

### **Swimming**

Weekly water confidence sessions will be starting again next term at the Chamwell Centre for Green Class initially. More information will be sent home at the start of next term.

Wishing you all a happy half term week. We look forward to welcoming our children back to Centre on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 .

Best Wishes, Mandy Walton

Telephone: 01452 923780

E mail: [mandy.Walton@willow.sandmat.uk](mailto:mandy.Walton@willow.sandmat.uk)

## Rainbow

It has been wonderful to welcome to welcome our new children and families into Rainbow class. We have been getting to know each other, learn new routines and settle into our new environment with each other. We have been developing our communication skills by continuing to encourage signing to make requests and follow routines through visual cues and symbols.



Our favourite stories this term have been Owl babies, Pumpkin soup and Pattan's Pumpkin. We have enjoyed musical interaction sessions with Reaching thru music and have learnt new songs including 'ten little fingers' and 'smile'.



With the autumn weather finally upon us, please can you send in a named pair of Wellington boots for outdoor learning.

## Blue

We have had a busy first term in Blue Class. The children have enjoyed getting to know their new peers and staff members, forming new relationships and exploring their new environment. It has been lovely to welcome them back.

This term, our topic in Blue Class has been 'The Enchanted Woodland'. We have had great fun exploring the Forest School area, where we have found bugs, used the mud kitchen, and shared stories. Our favourite story has been The Gruffalo. We retold the story using props, made animal masks, and even made our own Gruffalo Crumble! We also enjoyed reading Pumpkin Soup. We explored pumpkins through painting and chopping, and then tried pumpkin soup. It was delicious.

In PSHE, we have been focussing on recognising our own emotions and what it means to feel happy and sad. We used pumpkins to paint happy, sad, angry and excited faces.



Finally, we have enjoyed our music sessions this term. We have learnt many new songs, including I like to move it, monster party, and down in the jungle. We have used microphones to sing and used instruments loudly and quietly in performances. Blue Class have also been practising their dance skills. We have loved singing and dancing to our favourite song, Monster Party!





## Green

Hello everyone! What a term we've had in Green Class. The children have been settling in beautifully and have really come together as a class. Our topic this term has been 'Urban Pioneers', with a Geography focus. We have been on tours of the school, looking at what is natural and manmade. We used iPads to photograph what we saw during the tour, capturing areas from different angles and using the zoom function. We have been exploring urban art, creating our own graffiti tags, and making art inspired by 'Keith Haring'. We have also created our own self-portraits, using mirrors to closely explore our reflections.



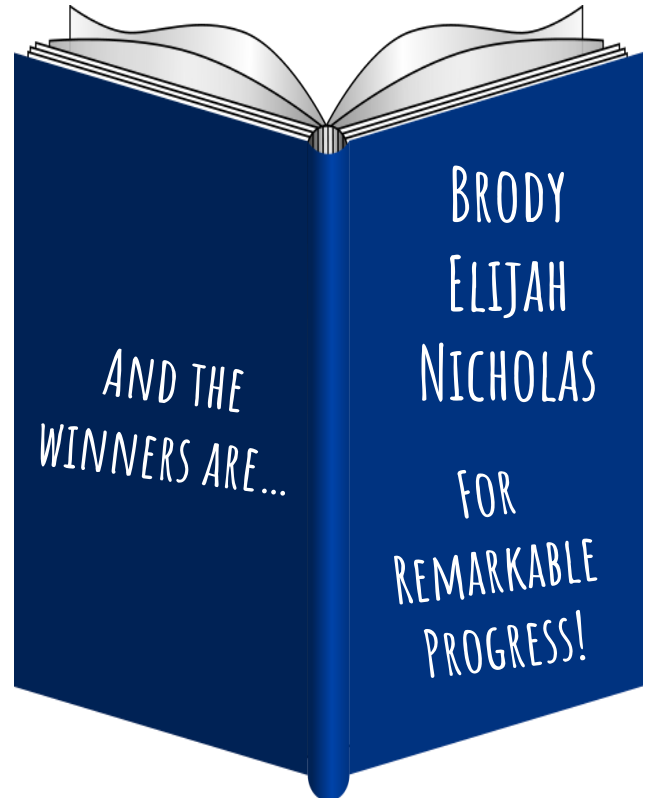
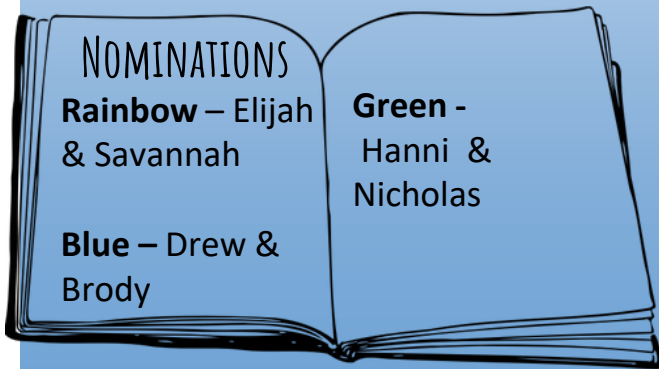
In English, which comes under our curriculum area of 'My Communication', which includes reading and writing, we have been recounting what we have seen during our school tour, as well as planning and writing about our own 'Fantasy City'. We have been doing lots of phonics and are continually reading and promoting reading for pleasure. Green Class have been enjoying our weekly PE session with Liam from the Gloucestershire Schools Sports Network, where we have been working on functional PE skills as well as developing team work and turn taking. In maths, which comes under our curriculum area of 'My Thinking', we have been working a lot on our number skills. It's been a wonderful and exciting first term and we're looking forward to the rest of the school year.





STAR READER...

## THE PIPER CENTRE'S STAR READER SPECIAL SURPRISE AWARD



Each term teachers will nominate a star reader from their class. A star reader is someone who has shown progress in reading, shown enjoyment of reading someone who has overcome difficulties in reading or shares their love of reading with the class or a friend. At the Piper Centre, we know the key to knowledge is reading and we want to inspire a lifelong love of reading! The Piper Centre has a special surprise book for the Super Star Reader to take home, keep, read and enjoy!



# Pride News...

## Attendance Superstars

This term: **92.04%**

Our year so far: **92.04%**

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



gg98860872 www.gograph.com

Class	Attendance
Rainbow	95.12%
Blue	86.19%
Green	95.07%



### 18 OR MORE DAYS

Excused and unexcused absences represent lost time in the classroom and lost opportunities to learn.  
 • Missing just one day every two weeks can add up to 18 days in a year. Absences add up before you even know it.



### 10 TO 17 DAYS

• Students who are absent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school before their senior year.  
 • When students miss a day of school it actually puts them two days behind their classmates.



### 9 OR FEWER ABSENCES

• Students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.  
 • Children benefit and make the most of their educational opportunities if they attend school regularly and on time.







## Spotlight on the Curriculum Early Reading at Home:

**When you tell a story and share a book together** you are bonding with your child, inspiring a love of reading—and are helping them develop strong early language and literacy skills that will become the foundation for their future learning and success. Studies show that reading aloud is one of the most effective ways to develop your child's language development. To help you and your child get the most out of your Storytime, here are some early literacy tips from early learning experts:

**Start now.** Reading is an important way to encourage and develop language and writing skills.

- 1. Make sharing books and reading an enjoyable and fun part of your daily routine.** Establishing a routine helps ensure that sharing books together is part of your daily schedule, such as at naptime and bedtime. It also creates times during the day that both of you can look forward to.
- 2. Look at photograph albums together Try board books, cloth books, noisy books.** Board books, cloth books and noisy books are great options for children who like to touch things as they learn.
- 3. Take turns with your child.** Encourage your child to turn the pages of a book and respond to her when she points or reacts to the story and pictures. Take turns by naming the pictures and actions that you can see on each page.
- 4. Ask your child questions.** As you read to your child, make the experience interactive by asking him questions, such as "What do you think will happen next?" "who's that?" "What can you see?"
- 5. Reread your child's favourite books.** Children enjoy completing sentences in familiar stories. Read her favourite books over and over to help her learn through repetition. Leave a gap to encourage your child to fill in the last word in a repeated sentence.
- 6. Point out similar words.** You can point out words in a book that begin with the same letter to your child to help him become familiar with the letter and begin to associate certain words with that letter.
- 7. Count objects on the page.** As you read to your child, count objects on the page together to help her also strengthen her early math skills.
- 8. Read with passion!** Using highs and lows in your voice at the same point in a story and using lots of exaggerated facial expression helps your child begin to remember the words.
- 9. Just keep reading.** Reading to your child helps him develop a habit of listening to stories and loving books. One of the most important pieces of advice is to make sure you are reading to him often. No matter how old your child is —these tips will help you capitalize on this valuable time with your child, making reading a fun, educational and memorable experience for both of you.



# Pride News...

## Half term fun!



The **Chamwell Centre** Charity  
Overcoming disability in Gloucestershire

### About Chamwell

The Chamwell Centre Charity provides a visionary and unique centre to enable disabled children and adults throughout Gloucestershire to overcome disability. To transform their lives and the lives of their families by providing a unique, fully accessible centre with a hydrotherapy pool, all-inclusive therapies, activities, sports, groups, work and social experience and an integrated community hub.

- 15 metre Hydrotherapy pool - hoist from the assisted changing room to the pool
- Extensive assisted changing room with changing beds and individual showers
- Accessible male and female changing rooms
- 3-tier soft play with overhead hoist
- Multi-use Discovery Zone for activities & meetings
- Pied Piper Playground - a large adventure playground
- Outdoor sports areas
- Charity Café, open to everyone - a community hub
- 'Changing Places' bathroom.
- Activities, Clubs & Adapted Sports
- Work experience for students with additional needs
- Volunteering opportunities for everyone, including people with a disability or special needs







# Pride News...

## Half term fun!



The **Chamwell Centre** Charity  
Overcoming disability in Gloucestershire



### HALF TERM - FRIENDLY ACCESSIBLE FUN! for children & young people with disabilities & their families

#### TUE OCT 31 TWIT TWOO OWL EXPERIENCE

A hands on, fully accessible OWL EXPERIENCE.  
Meet & fly owls Wally, Hibou & Henry

1 PM - 2 PM **£11 EACH**

#### TUE OCT 31

#### BOCCIA - HALLOWEEN

No experience necessary for this fully accessible sport hosted by National champion Archie

3 PM - 4 PM **£4 EACH**

#### THU NOV 2ND

#### FUN & FANCY DRESS

Lots of accessible fun, games & fancy dress for Halloween.  
Tin Can Alley, Giant Connect 4, Bow & Arrows, Ball games & lots more from 'Goals Beyond Grass'

11 AM - 3 PM - **FREE!**

#### FRI NOV 3RD

#### BALL FUN & GAMES

'With The Ball Coaching' are bringing lots of fun and ball games - fully accessible!

10 AM - 1 PM - **FREE!**

BOOKING IS REQUIRED FOR **ALL** EVENTS AS SPACES ARE NUMBERED.  
CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED AT ALL TIMES

Email [Bookings@chamwellcentre.org.uk](mailto:Bookings@chamwellcentre.org.uk) or call 01452 767700

OUR CAFE WILL BE OPEN DURING THE WEEK WITH HALLOWEEN TREATS TOO!



**TWIT TW**   
we have owls for you!

A HANDS ON, MEET & FLY THE OWLS EXPERIENCE FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND ADDITIONAL NEEDS



Wally

TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER 1PM - 2PM

AT THE CHAMWELL CENTRE CHARITY,  
Longford Lane, Glos GL2 9EU

MEET WALLY, HENRY & HIBOU.



Henry



£11.00 PER CHILD / YOUNG PERSON

Brought to us by



Walks with Hawks  
[walkswithhawks.co.uk](http://walkswithhawks.co.uk)

Advance booking and payment is required as there are only 10 spaces. Please email [Bookings@chamwellcentre.org.uk](mailto:Bookings@chamwellcentre.org.uk) to make your booking. Bookings are subject to availability on a first come basis. This is an indoor event. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.



## Dates for Your Diary

### Term Dates for 2023 – 2024

Term 1 from Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Term 2 from Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

Term 3 from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Term 4 from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

### Piper Centre Events

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023 – Children in Need

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 – Individual School Photographs

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 (9.00 am to 10.00 am) – Coffee Morning with SENDCo

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 (1.30 pm to 2.30 pm) – Christmas Performance

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 (9.00 am to 10.00 am) – Coffee Morning with Reading Leads

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 (9.00 am to 10.00 am) – Coffee Morning with Maths Leads

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Red Nose Day

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 (9.00 am to 10.00 am) – Coffee Morning with Writing Leads

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 (1.15 pm to 1.45 pm) – Easter Celebration

