

NEWSLETTER

13th December 2024

'Tis the season....



What a past couple of weeks it has been at Chase Bridge! Our Year 6 children had an incredible time on their trip to Hindleap Warren. It was filled with adventure, teamwork and lots of laughter, fun and learning. From navigating obstacle courses to exploring the great outdoors, the children displayed courage and camaraderie, making memories that we hope will last a lifetime.

Back at school, our EYFS children charmed us all with their delightful nativity performances, showcasing hard work and growing confidence. Year 1 added their magic with a heartwarming sing song that brought smiles to every face. A huge well done to all the children for their creativity and effort! We'd also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Friends of Chase Bridge for organising a spectacular Christmas fair, which our whole community enjoyed. As we approach the final week of term, let's reflect on and celebrate all that we've achieved together this term.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas season and joyful countdown to the holidays with friends and family!

Mr Bishop, Mr Ostro and Ms Chadwick

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Times, dates and places for your diary

- Monday 6th January - **INSET DAY**
- Tuesday 7th January - **School re-opens for students; Swimming gala practice session**
- Thursday 9th January - **Netball match vs Archdeacon (home); Year 5 to Hampton Hill theatre (evening)**
- Friday 10th January - **EYFS Storytelling workshop**
- Tuesday 14th January - **4B swimming**
- Wednesday 15th January - **Tag Rugby games at Heathfield Primary**
- Thursday 16th January - **Boys & Girls football match vs St Edmund's (away)**
- Friday 17th January - **Year 2 Great Fire of London Dance workshop**

Holiday dates for the academic year 2024-25

Monday 6th January - **INSET DAY**

Tuesday 7th January - **TERM STARTS**

Monday 17th - Friday 21st February - **HALF TERM BREAK**

Friday 4th April - **TERM ENDS**

Tuesday 22nd - **TERM STARTS**

Monday 5th May - **MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY**

Reception admissions 2025

If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021, they will start their reception year in September 2025. Parents and carers must apply for a place by **Wednesday 15th January 2025**. You can apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk. You must apply for a place for your child even if they already have a sibling in school or if your child is currently in our Nursery. Click [here](#) for Richmond Admissions brochure. We have one school tour remaining for prospective parents: **Tuesday 17th December at 9.15am**.

Sporting News



The Year 5 Boys' Football Team took on the challenge of competing in the Richmond Schools Primary Tournament. Although it was their first experience, they rose to the challenge and performed brilliantly. They worked as a team, battled in every game and should be incredibly proud of their performance.

Congratulations to Oscar, Milo, Freddie, Samir, George, Moosa, Roman, Ellis, Oliver and Noah!

The new netball squad has also had an amazing start to the season winning their first match against Nelson! It was a high action, fast paced game with a great team spirit. **Congratulations to Francesca, Catriona, Jessica, Vienna, Ganeeve, Maya and Ronan!**

Year 5 Choir sing at John Lewis

Last Monday, the Year 5 choir were invited to sing Christmas carols in John Lewis, Kingston.

They sang on the top level, overlooking and performing to the whole shop. John Lewis staff and members of the public praised the choir afterwards for their wonderful singing and mature behaviour.

Well done to the Year 5 Choir!



A message from Governors

Another fantastic year at Chase Bridge! A big thank you to the whole school community for making it such a wonderful, caring learning environment.

I hope you all have the opportunity to enjoy the Festive Season with family and friends and best wishes for 2025.

End of term arrangements

If your child is due to attend the Lions **After School club** on **Friday 20th December**, please note that, having reviewed the number of children likely to attend, the school has made the decision that this session will not operate. Breakfast club will run as normal. This will allow staff to make the necessary preparations for the Spring term.

Arrangements will need to be put in place for your child to be collected at the end of the normal school day. Finish times for **Friday 20th December** are as follows:

Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2 - 2.15pm
Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 - 2.25pm

Richmond Parent Champions Network Promotion

The Parent Champion Network, part of AfC's Supporting Families team, works alongside other youth services to provide peer-to-peer support for parents. Set up in partnership with London's Violence Reduction Unit and the Mayor of London, the network is made up of volunteer parents who offer friendly, unbiased guidance to other parents who may need a little extra support.

We understand that parents can sometimes feel unsure about reaching out to professionals or services. Parent Champions bridge that gap, offering kindness, understanding, and practical advice to help families thrive.

Free advice, refreshments and wellbeing classes for parents.

Parent Carer Champions Network (PCCN) Informal discussion & support with parenting matters, signposting to further resources & more.

A couple of hours of respite from the usual, socialise, share ideas and practical tips for parenting children and young people.

Mindfulness classes

Focus on wellbeing for parents once a week. Experience a sense of serenity, feel good, switch off from everything else, breathe, just be yourself and enjoy.

When: Mondays, 11.00am to 1.00pm, except Bank Holidays.

Where: Power-station Youth Centre, 121a Mortlake High Street, London, SW14 8SN

Enquires: sanya.walker-batson@achievingforchildren.org.uk

For more information, please click the website below.

<https://kr.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/community-information/information-and-advice/parenting-support/vru-parent-champions-network>

Embracing Age - Festive Hampers

We are delighted to share the success of our Hamper of Cheer Campaign, in partnership with the wonderful charity, Embracing Age. Over the past few weeks, our school community came together



to collect donations, and the response was incredible.

Shabnum from 'Embracing Age' was overwhelmed by the sheer generosity of the

Chase Bridge community and sends her heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you who contributed.

The hampers were thoughtfully prepared and distributed to three local care homes: Deer Park View, Marling Court, and White Farm Lodge. These gifts brought smiles and warmth to the residents during this festive season.

Above, you'll find a picture of residents from Marling Court and Deer Park View with their hampers, showcasing the joy your kindness has brought. Thank you once again for your support in making this campaign a heart-warming success.

Helping Children Relax: Breathing Techniques and Emotional Awareness

Understanding emotions and managing stress are essential skills for children. Relaxation techniques like breathing exercises can help children feel calm, focused, and in control of their feelings. Here are two easy breathing methods that we have been focusing on in our assemblies, which you can also help your children with at home.

Five Finger Breathing

1. **Spread out your hand.**
2. Use the pointer finger of your other hand to trace up and down each finger.
3. **Inhale** as you trace up a finger, and **exhale** as you trace down.
4. Go slowly and focus on the feeling of your breath and the movement.

This exercise is great for calming down and steadying our breathing.

Box Breathing

1. Imagine drawing a square in your mind.
2. **Inhale** deeply for 4 seconds as you "draw" one side of the square.
3. **Hold your breath** for 4 seconds while tracing the next side.
4. **Exhale** for 4 seconds on the third side.
5. **Hold** again for 4 seconds to complete the square.

Repeat this a few times to find a steady rhythm and relax our minds.

Why Relaxation Matters

Relaxation helps children manage big feelings like frustration or anxiety. Teaching these skills early gives them tools to recognise and regulate their emotions, making challenges easier to handle. Encouraging children to practice these techniques regularly - whether they're feeling stressed, overwhelmed, or just need a quiet moment. This will help them build confidence in their ability to cope with challenges. Breathing exercises like these are simple, but their benefits can last a lifetime.

Families Holiday Conversation Cubes

As we approach the festive season, I'm delighted to share a simple and meaningful activity that you can enjoy with your family over the holidays.

This resource is designed to encourage connection and reflection, helping families to look back on the year that's passed and think ahead to the new year. It's a wonderful opportunity to create moments of joy, reflection, and meaningful conversations during the holiday season.

The conversation cubes are easy to use and can be a fun addition to your family gatherings, mealtimes, or quiet moments together. [Families Holiday Conversation Cubes](#)

Clubs - Spring term

Information has gone home today via Arbor regarding clubs for the Spring term. Within the letter there is a Google Form which you need to complete by **noon of Friday 3rd January**. Clubs will start the week commencing 13th January. Club information will also be accessible via our website [here](#).

Message from Friends of Chase Bridge



Last Sunday saw many of our families come together for the Christmas Fair - it was such a lovely afternoon, with games, food, arts & craft, Christmas shopping and more! Whilst Storm Darragh disrupted the plans a little, we hope you'll agree that the afternoon was filled with fun and festive cheer!

The Fair was the culmination of a brilliant term of fundraising, and on behalf of the Friends of Chase Bridge, we want to thank all of you for your support throughout the term with our discos, cake and uniform sales, our new Christmas wreath making evening and of course the fair. We have raised in excess of £8,000 which will help the school with improvements to the edible garden in 2025 as well as other projects.

Wishing you all a wonderful festive break, and we'll see you for more fun events in the New Year!

Poppy Appeal 2024

Just to let you know, Chase Bridge School collected £160.00 for the Poppy Appeal 2024. A fantastic amount!

