



CHURCHFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
School Street, Chesterton, Newcastle under Lyme, Staffs ST5 7HY
Tel: 01782 567430

Email: office@churchfields-chesterton.staffs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. D Beardsmore BA (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. C Pattison BA (Hons)

"Be the best you can be"

Part of the Collective Vision Multi-Academy Trust

16th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you're keeping warm and only moderately ruffled after Storm Claudia's latest attempts to rearrange the school grounds!

The Importance of Phonics

We've been working hard on phonics across school, so here's a reminder of just how important it is. Phonics teaches children how to match sounds to letters, blend those sounds together, and eventually read with confidence. As children move into more advanced stages of phonics, they're introduced to longer words, alternative spellings and trickier sounds — all of which help turn early readers into fluent ones.

Reading at home — even for just 5 minutes — has a huge impact. Whether you're sharing a book, practising tricky words, or even sounding out signs in the supermarket, these small moments all build confidence. Thank you for your continued support; it really does make a difference.

Parking & Driving Around School (Drop-Off *and* Pick-Up)

A gentle reminder for both morning drop-off and the busy afternoon pick-up: please park and drive safely and considerately around the school.

Please avoid blocking neighbours' driveways, stopping on corners or double parking. We want to keep everyone safe and ensure our neighbours can access their homes throughout the day. Thank you for your patience — we know the end-of-day rush can feel like a relay race!

Head Lice — Updated Advice

We've had several cases of head lice reported recently, so here's a little refresher on how to deal with them effectively:

✓ Check regularly:

Please check your child's hair daily for the next week. The earlier you spot them, the easier they are to treat.

✓ Treatment options:

- Wet combing: Apply plenty of conditioner to wet hair and use a fine-toothed nit comb. Comb from the scalp to the ends in small sections. Repeat every 2–3 days for two weeks.
- Over-the-counter treatments: Pharmacies can advise on lotions or sprays. It's important to repeat the treatment if the instructions say so — these tackle any newly hatched eggs.

✓ Top tips:

- Tie long hair back in school.
- Check all family members.
- Avoid sharing brushes, hairbands or hats.

With a bit of consistency, we can get on top of the little critters!

Parents Evening

We hope you've managed to make your Parents Evening appointment. If not, just pop in and speak to Mrs Brown or Mrs Darlington, who will be happy to help you find a time.

Children in Need – Weather Chaos!

Children in Need was certainly memorable this year!

Lots of children completed their sponsored events on Friday, but the weather continued to play havoc. On Friday evening, a tree came down in the playground thanks to Storm Claudia's visit — never a dull moment! Because of this, some activities had to be postponed and will now take place on Monday instead.

Thank you for your understanding and flexibility while the playground gets tidied up and made safe.

Weather Warning – Snow on the Way

The forecast is whispering the word *snow* this week (we're pretending not to hear it). Please make sure we have your most up-to-date contact details in case of any weather-related announcements.

Buddy Bench

We're delighted to share that our school has won a competition and has been gifted a brand-new Buddy Bench, generously donated by Young Minds in partnership with Marks & Spencer. Mrs Bagguley will now be working closely with the School Council to create a special launch for the bench and help all children understand how it can be used to support friendships and wellbeing during the school day.

What Is a Buddy Bench?

A Buddy Bench is a simple but powerful idea to help promote kindness, connection, and emotional wellbeing on the playground. If a child feels lonely, unsure who to play with, or needs someone to talk to, they can sit on the Buddy Bench. This lets other children know they might like a friend, a game, or some company.


The aim is to:


- Encourage inclusion and kindness
- Reduce feelings of loneliness
- Help children recognise when peers need support
- Build confidence in asking for help or friendship

The School Council will be helping all pupils understand how the bench works and how they can support each other in a positive, caring way.




Dates for Your Diary

 Tuesday 18th November – Parents' Evening (3:15–4:30)


 Thursday 20th November – Parents' Evening (3:15–6:30)

Your chance to hear how brilliantly your child is doing. Letters will be sent out during the first week back.

Please note: 1W will not have a parents' evening at this time.

 Friday 21st November – School Fundraising Tuck Shop


Bring 50p for a bag of sweets — and we promise not to judge if a few grown-ups sneak some too!

 Wednesday 26th November (5:00–6:00pm) – EYFS Gruffalo Party Night

A magical evening of storytelling and fun for our youngest learners.

 Friday 5th December – Christmas Fair

School closes at 2:00pm, and the fair runs 3:30–4:45pm. Join us for festive fun, raffles, and mince pies galore!

 Saturday 6th December – Year 6 Trip to The Lowry: *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*


A fantastic cultural adventure — and a reminder to staff to pack snacks!

 Festive Craft Afternoons


Tuesday 9th December – EYFS (2:00–3:00)

Wednesday 10th December – Years 1 & 2 (2:00–3:00)


Thursday 11th December – Years 3 & 4 (2:00–3:00)

 Thursday 11th December – Prefect Christmas Meal (5:00pm)

A well-earned celebration for our prefects!

 Friday 12th December – Christmas Jumper Day (£1 charity donation)

Get your sparkliest, silliest jumpers ready — flashing lights encouraged!

 Monday 15th – Thursday 18th December – Christmas Jumpers All Week!

Let's keep the festive cheer going.

 Christmas Concerts

- Tuesday 16th December – EYFS (2:00–3:00)
- Wednesday 17th December – KS1 (2:00–3:00)
- Thursday 18th December – Selected Y4–6 children (2:00–3:00)

 Friday 19th December – School Closed for Staff Training

Children start their Christmas holidays a day early while staff spend the day learning new things (and probably finishing off the mince pies!).

Stars of the Week

Nursery Mrs Clowes Sara Warmbier for excellent talking in English this week, especially knowing lots of colours

Reception Mrs Nixon Albi Alcock for super week of learning

1L Rudy Barrow for always being a delight in class

1M Matei Ciortanu for trying so hard learning and applying English as an additional language

2B Maja Smykiweicz for excellent progress with her independent writing

2M Alessia Fiore for writing a fantastic story in independent writing

3P Tristan Birks for demonstrating brilliant resilience during our mathematics assessments

3R Finley Buckfield for super effort during his assessments

4B Brennen-Lee Dyer for an excellent independent write

- 4M Simona Rumenova for her amazing writing this week
- 5K Noah Taylor for a much-improved attitude to his learning this week
- 5S Chloe Hammonds for excellent work in English
- 6C Khaleesi-Mai Yeomans for being a resilient, hard-working and positive learner
- 6S Lola Brennan for being such positive influence on others in the class

PE Stars

- EYFS Ollie Gruska for excellent listening and showing creative movements
- KS1 Linkon Wales for super control when using travelling actions
- LKS2 Sophia Walker for performing gymnastics actions with fluency, control and balance
- UKS2 Brandon Collinson for performing Gymnastic actions in combination

Head Teacher's Stars

- NURSERY Leo Watson for excellent singing and joining in during carpet activities this week
- RECEPTION Aravika Vishwanath for being the best she can be
- KS1 Alarya Carnall for being best she can be, this week
- LKS2 Miriam Acholonu for being best that she can be
- UKS2 Oscar Arkle for making me smile

Attendance

Attendance best class this week: 1L 98%
 Well done to 3P, 3R, 4M, 5K, 5S and 6S who are all above 96%
 Whole school attendance for the week is 95%

Team of the Week

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|----------|--------------|
| R | 1,601 |
| Y | 1,598 |
| G | 1,554 |
| B | 1,601 |

Team of the Term

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| R | 17,338 |
| Y | 17,506 |
| G | 18,238 |
| B | 17,424 |

Diane Beardsmore
 Headteacher