



Chelmondiston CofE Primary School Newsletter

25.09.26



Parents in need of advice or support?

School Nursing Service

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/childrens-health/school-nursing-service>

0345 607 8866

Help and/or advice with parenting issues:

Freephone Parents Advice

Centre helpline on 08088 010722

<https://www.parenting.org/>

If you have a **safeguarding** concern please talk to a member of our DSL team:

Kerry Palmer-Long, Lesley Etchingham or Tracy Whayman

For general information about our **Early Help Offer** and other **general information about safeguarding**, both in school and beyond, please follow the link to the safeguarding section of our school website.

<https://www.chelmondiston.suffolk.sch.uk/safeguarding/>

The Good Samaritans

Mia	Cygnets	For being a helpful and kind friend to others
Wills	Melissa	For being a positive role model and using initiative to help others organise their equipment
Effi	Edith May	For always being ready and willing to help in class
Joubert	Thistle	For cheering on his peers during swimming
Charlotte	Edme	For looking out for others and being kind and caring

Well done everyone!

Diary dates from Monday 28th September to Friday 9th October 2026

Monday 28th September -

Afternoon walk to the river KS1

Wednesday 30th September -

Yr4 swimming (instead of Thursday 1st Oct).

Friday 2nd October -

Y3 Forest School begins (more details to follow)

Tuesday 6th October -

Yr3/4 trip to The Longshed, Woodbridge

Thursday 8th October -

Yr4 swimming

Please note that the date for the PTA Christmas discos has changed to **Friday 4th December** (not 11th as originally published).

On Thursday 1st October, our new catering company, Miquill, will be offering **every** child in school a **free school meal**. If your child would like to have this, they just need to tell their teacher which meal option they would like on the day. Please take up this offer as this is our school census day and we can benefit if there is a good take up of school dinners. Please see the attached flyer - Golden Ticket!



Message from our PTA

Welcome back everyone!

It was great to see so many of you at the Coffee Morning this morning and I thought the Year 6 pupils were all fantastic at hosting.

The PTA are on the look out for as many new members as possible so please, if you are able and would like to join our enthusiastic team, drop myself, Clare, a message on 07496031668. It really is such a rewarding role to have for your child at school.

Our next AGM is being held at The Butt and Oyster on Tuesday 3rd November at 8pm, so again, if you would like to come along, please do let me know. Clare

Message from the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

It will be of no surprise that it has been a busy fortnight at school. Now that we are back into the flow of the school routines, I am pleased to report that children are immersed in their learning throughout the school. You may have noticed that we were acknowledged in local media as still being the only school in Suffolk with 'Strong' categories in all areas by OFSTED over the last academic year. To find out more about what your child will be learning this term, please see the class Topic Overview on our website by following this link: <https://www.chelmondiston.suffolk.sch.uk/termly-topic-overviews?action=saved>

Last Friday was our Jeans for Genes day, where we raised £109.50 to support families who are affected by genetic conditions as well as enjoying wearing denim to school.



Thank you to all those who joined us for our first coffee morning today and/or brought or made donations. It was a magical moment when the whole school arrived and sang beautifully. Well done to the Year 6 pupils who carried out their serving duties diligently and politely. We raised an incredible £210.42 for the McMillan cancer charity.



Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions about school, please contact your child's teacher, email the office or catch me before or after school on the playground.

Warmest Regards,

Lesley Etchingam, Headteacher

Here are our amazing learning highlights from the last fortnight:

Cygnets

The Cygnet class children have been enjoying their class story, 'I'm going to make a friend.' We have used the story to discuss ways to make friends and the children have come up with a list of ways they can greet people and ask them to play. The children have also been exploring how to say hello in different languages. In daily phonics sessions, the children have been learning how to read and write sounds.

Cygnet class have shown their creativity while making art with natural materials and creating their own musical instruments.



In Focus Child sessions, they have been getting to know their peers, exploring photos sent in from home, asking questions and enjoying activities based on the interests of the focus child.



Melissa

Melissa class has enjoyed reading the class text, 'Beegu,' who is an alien who landed on the wrong planet. The children have been thinking about feelings and adjectives to describe how she might be feeling and have even made her a friend out of clay. They have written speech bubbles, sentences with expanded noun phrases and some thought provoking poetry.

George B produced this beautiful piece of poetry:-

*Lost,
Worried and sad
She didn't understand
Scared
Thoughtful
She thought she heard her mother calling, calling
She wasn't supposed to be here
Happy
She found her friends.*

In Maths, the children have become much more confident with place value and recognising tens and ones in a number. The children have estimated numbers on a number line and have made their own number lines on the playground. The children have been map makers in Geography and created their own treasure maps and used directional language using a compass to find the treasure. They also looked at aerial view maps and created their own classroom map. In Art, the children have explored primary and secondary colours and how thick and thin lines can give texture to their art work.

The children enjoyed an afternoon developing spirituality - learning how we focus our minds, on how we are all individuals and that we are all unique. The children listened to each other and joined in with mindfulness activities of yoga, breathing exercises and drew what they found was beautiful in the world.



Edith-May

This week, Edith-May has been responding to the wonderful illustrations in our book: 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. They have been role-playing and imagining a conversation between a mother and her son, when, after a lightning storm, Dad has disappeared. The children have written with great passion and employing wonderful vocabulary in their writing for impact, as these examples show:

Dear Dad,

I'm miserable about what has happened, I am inconsolable. Please, please return soon. I feel very heartbroken. Where are you? When did you go? Why did you leave? I feel surprised you haven't turned up. The times I've spent with you. My tummy's rumbling for the lovely, spicy, juicy crunchy chicken you make and those lovely lemon cupcakes. I love those puppets you craft me and the skills you do on your bike..... Ezra B

Dear Dad,

Please come home! It is not the same without you. I can't have my morning pancakes anymore nor have my bedtime story! I'm so confused, where are you Daddy? I need you to support me in Sports Day and hockey. We can't have our Friday 'Movie Night' either. Chloe

In Maths, Edith May concludes their learning on place value before moving on to column addition and subtraction. Dienes have been regularly used in class to support conceptual understanding of Place Value.



In Art, the class has been busy painting contrasting colours which will be cut up and shared to become a collective response to the work of artist Paul Klee.



Mixing and applying contrasting colours



Byways Abstract by Paul Klee

Thistle

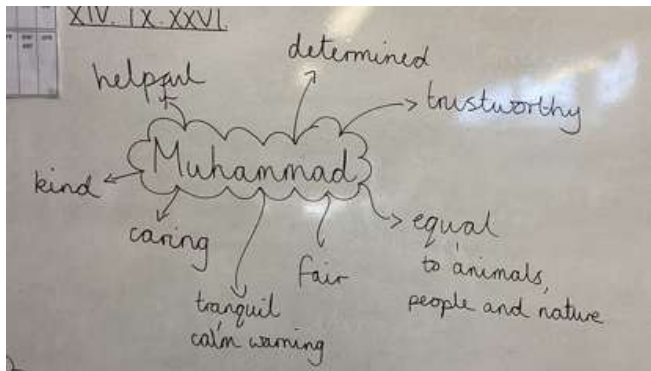
Thistle class has had an excellent fortnight.

As writers, the children wrote a setting description of the farm in *Charlotte's Web*. They focused on sentence structure and including expanded noun phrases. The children also created a kenning poem about Charlotte. This involves using nouns and verbs to describe a character.



As mathematicians, the children learned how to read Roman numerals and discussed where they may have been exposed to them before. Afterwards, Thistle focused on rounding 3 digit numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000, using rhyming to help them remember the steps.

As citizens of the world, the children are learning about the religion Islam and have been introduced to Muhammad, the Seal of the Prophets. The class analysed narratives to decide on the type of qualities Muslims believe Muhammad obtained.



In D.T., the class constructed their own structures using cocktail sticks and marshmallows.



And finally, the children enjoyed their first swimming lesson of the year. I was impressed with how far they have come and their progression from last year. Well done Thistle. Keep it up.

Edme

Edme Class have had a very productive fortnight, working well alongside their new classmates and striving to do their best as they settle into their new class and new routines.

As leaders, the children have put themselves forward for a range of class responsibilities, being keen to show what they could bring to their new role. We have been impressed by how seriously they have taken this process and their readiness to get stuck in.

As mathematicians, the children have developed their understanding of place value, becoming confident to identify the value of each digit in numbers up to millions, flexibly partitioning these and being able to put them into ascending and descending order with ease.

As writers, the children have enjoyed chorally reading parts of our class book and discussing their understanding of the characters and the plot. They have written heartfelt letters in role and explored what it would be like to live in the harsh conditions of the workhouse.

Finally, in Music the children have learned how to play chords to accompany the South African call and response song, Shosholoza.

