



# Chelmondiston CofE Primary School Newsletter

26.09.25



Parents in need of advice or support?

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

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 Etchingam 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

Nula	Cygnets	For modelling sharing and kindness in class
Daisy	Melissa	For being a great learning partner
Will	Edith May	For showing resilience in his learning
Charlotte	Thistle	For being a kind member of the class
Ethan	Edme	For being a caring and considerate learning partner

Well done everyone!

### Diary Dates from Monday 29th September to Friday 10th October

- Monday 29th Music lessons with ZB today instead of tomorrow
- Wednesday 1st October Hilltop residential trip for Yr5/6
- Thursday 2nd Swimming Yr3/4
- Friday 3rd Yr5/6 return from Hilltop, ETA 3.45pm
- Thursday 9th Swimming Yr3/4

Dear parents and carers,



It's been yet another jam-packed fortnight with many highlights to share. It was wonderful to welcome so many families to our MacMillan coffee morning last Friday who were all well-looked after by our Y6s who were attentive and polite as they served refreshments. Thank you to all your contributions of tasty treats - we are delighted to announce that together we raised £311.



Our fundraising doesn't stop there - we raised £96.20 on our Jeans for Genes day a couple of weeks ago and we were delighted to be able to take so many food donations to church this morning for our Harvest Festival with Rev. Liesbeth. Once again, we were delighted that we were so well supported by families. This was our first church visit for Reception pupils, who enjoyed the whole experience - including walking with Year 6s, watching Edith May perform a Harvest rap and everyone singing our Harvest samba.



Here you can see Y3 and Y4 pupils enjoying their swimming lessons with Mrs Catchpole and Miss Mills. With our close proximity to so much water, we place high importance on our children learning to swim and so provide swimming lessons for children from Year 1 to Year 6, with our highest percentage ever of Year 6s being able to swim at least 25m (a National Curriculum requirement) in July this year.



As always, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or catch me on the playground before or after school if you have any questions about our school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Lesley Etchingham, Headteacher

**Here are our amazing learning highlights from the last fortnight:**

### **Cygnets**

Cygnets Class has quickly got into routines and are getting into the flow of the term nicely. Our new Reception children are showing confidence in their play and learning, making friends and having fun exploring whilst the Year 1's are being brilliant role models and show pride in the work they are completing.

In P.E all of the children have shown great control and skills during our sessions on ball skills.



During our Maths time the Year 1 children have counted 1 more and 1 less and started to compare numbers using the correct mathematical symbols. In Reception the children have made their own counting wands and enjoyed taking these around the class to count items.



This week, the eager children became scientists and went to explore the changing seasons and the start of autumn. They worked together to find the signs of autumn, collect interesting natural items and used them to make magic wands, collage faces and trees.

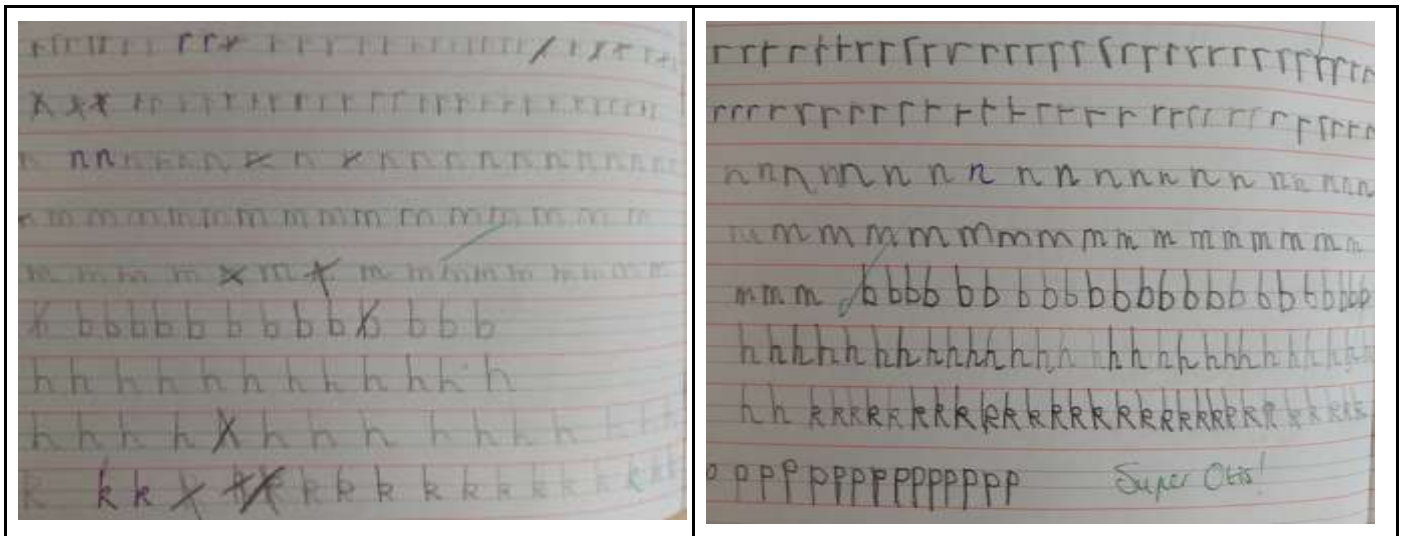


The class is enjoying finding out about Ruby in our class story Ruby's Worry. The children in Reception have been focused on the feelings displayed throughout the story whilst the Year 1's have written letters to Ruby to share what they might do when they have a worry.

## **Melissa**

Melissa class has been working very hard on handwriting. Learning to write well is a complicated business, with spelling and punctuation to consider, thinking about what to write and then actually forming the letters correctly to do so! As well as making writing more legible, being able to handwrite fluently can help children to concentrate on the other

elements of writing. All children have made excellent progress. Here are fantastic examples from Otis and Rupert:



In RE lessons the children have been learning about the celebration of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New year. Last week they tasted apples dipped in honey, a tradition which symbolises hope for a prosperous year ahead. In this week's lesson, they discussed the story of Jonah and the Whale, and how God gave Jonah a second chance. They made links to how we might give each other chances and the importance of forgiveness. They followed instructions carefully and made beautiful paper whales to represent the story.



### Edith-May

In English, Edith May class stepped into the world of *Arthur and the Golden Rope*. They took on the roles of villagers before, during and after the wolf attack, acting out their thoughts,

feelings and reactions. This role play really brought the story to life and helped the class understand the importance of Arthur's bravery. They also created detailed character profiles of Arthur, thinking carefully about his personality, strengths and challenges.



To support learning in Maths, the class built upon times tables knowledge by practising their multiplication skills in different ways, finding strategies that help them recall facts quickly. These skills are proving really helpful as they attempt more complex maths work.



As scientists, the class explored how solids can change into liquids by experimenting with the melting temperatures of chocolate. They enjoyed predicting, observing and recording the changes, while learning about reversible changes and the importance of careful measurement during experiments.



## Thistle

Thistle class has settled into their new roles in Upper Key Stage 2 brilliantly.

As writers, the class has studied closely their text, *The London Eye Mystery*, analysed characters and written an informal letter in the style of the main protagonist, Ted. The children are enjoying learning the new vocabulary from the text, such as 'cantilevered' and 'meteorologist'.

As mathematicians, Thistle are developing their place value skills by rounding to the nearest 100,000 and adding and subtracting using mental strategies.



Thistle are enjoying their History topic, Romans and explored the artefacts brought in by Mr McGinn.

As scientists, the class investigated air and water resistance, using key vocabulary such as 'streamline' and compared the difference between the water resistance of liquids: oil, syrup and water and measured how long it takes for a paperclip to float down.

Thistle enjoyed their first off-site visit to Pin Mill woods for their Forest School learning. The children respected the site, each other and themselves very well.

In R.E., the students are learning about Gospel and the four Gospel-writers: Mark, John, Luke, Matthew who are also known as the evangelists. Finally, as artists, the class created their own constructed hangings from recycled denim.





