



# Chelmondiston CofE Primary School Newsletter

16.1.26



Parents in need of advice or support?

<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 Etchingam or Tracy Whyman

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

Ivy	Cygnets	For helping others when they are hurt or sad
Rupert	Melissa	For working brilliantly in a team with others
Arwyn	Edith May	For working brilliantly in a partnership
Isabel T	Thistle	For being a helping hand to others
Freya	Edme	For going out of her way to support others

Well done everyone!

### Diary dates from Monday 19th - 30th January 2026

Thursday 22nd January - Yr6 swimming

Thursday 29th January - Yr6 swimming

Friday 30th January - Edith-May sharing assembly - 2.40-3.10pm

**Future dates for you diary (these are also on the website calendar, link below)**

<https://www.chelmondiston.suffolk.sch.uk/topic/parentscarers>

Wednesday 4th February -	Cygnets sharing assembly - 2.40-3.10pm
Thursday 5th February -	First Yr2 swimming session
Tuesday 10th February -	Safer Internet Day Safer Internet Day parent workshop Yr5/6 - 2.30-3.15pm
Thursday 12th February -	Yr2 swimming
Friday 13th February -	Edme sharing assembly - 2.40-3.10pm

**Monday 16th - Friday 20th February - Half Term**

Monday 23rd February -	Young Voices concert at the O2 Arena
Wednesday 25th February -	Yr3/4 parent/child times table workshop - 2.30-3.10pm
Thursday 26th February -	Yr2 swimming Thistle sharing assembly - 2.40-3.10pm
Wednesday 4th March -	Melissa sharing assembly - 2.40-3.10pm
Thursday 5th March -	Yr2 swimming Twilight Tales - details to follow later
Friday 6th March -	World Book Day in school - details to follow later
Thursday 12th March -	Yr2 swimming Rec. - Yr5 parent/child learning log sharing session - 2.45-3.10pm
Monday 16th March -	Yr5 Bikeability Group 1- details to follow
Tuesday 17th March	Yr5 Bikeability Group 1 Parent consultations TBC
Wednesday 18th March -	Yr5 Bikeability Group 2

Thursday 19th March -	Yr5 Bikeability Group 2 Last Yr2 swimming session Parent consultations TBC
Friday 20th March -	PTA civvies day and discos
Monday 24th March -	Music concert - details to follow
Tuesday 25th March -	Cross country - details to follow
Thursday 26th March -	First Yr1 swimming session
Friday 27th March -	Last day of spring term Easter church service - 10.30-11.30am

Dear parents and carers,

It will be of no surprise that we have had a busy week at Chelmo! Not only have we had an Ofsted inspection, the snow on the first day back to school, starting new class novels/books, Cygnets starting Forest School sessions and Edith May class reading as much as possible to convert into water drops to feed the ailing class plant have all caused much excitement! Autumn House children have enjoyed bringing a teddy to school today to celebrate being the winning house last term.

We have much planned for this term and you can find more details about topic plans for your child(ren)'s class on our website via the link below. Also, please note the dates for our popular class sharing assemblies for this term. We will be running more parent workshops and other events and we will share details of these nearer the time.

<https://www.chelmondiston.suffolk.sch.uk/termly-topic-overviews?action=saved>

Congratulations to national champions Florence and Jude in Year 4, who have just won the UK Open Under 10s Ballroom title at the Empress Ballroom in Blackpool. Watch this space - I think we will be hearing more from the talented duo!

We are delighted to be working with the NHS MHST (Mental Health Support Team), who have already done staff training on the PD Day last week and who will be leading workshops for children this term and held a chat and coffee drop in session this afternoon for parents in school.

As always, please contact the office, 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

As mathematicians this week the children in Year 1 have been working on numbers to 20. They have been making the numbers on tens frames and with cubes, finding them on number lines and finding 1 more and 1 less of a number to 20. In Reception, the children have focused on finding ways to make 5. Using the songs 'five little men in a flying saucer' and 'five little speckled frogs'.



The weather this fortnight has given so many learning opportunities. The children have discovered how difficult it can be to break ice and what helps to melt the ice. The snow gave writing opportunities and a chance to look closely and study the frosty garden. As our new class story is called 'Blue Penguin,' the weather did set the tone and gave great inspiration for exploration and creativity.



As artists, the children in Cygnet class have learnt about stencilling. Making both positive and negative stencils to create pictures inspired by the scenes from 'Blue Penguin'. In Reception, the children have had the opportunity to create collages and paint icy pictures in the provision.



## Melissa

In Maths lessons, the children have been exploring money. They have been fantastic at using their addition skills to make different amounts and remembering the values of coins to use. They have also been solving problems involving money this week, including working out how to find change.



Our new Science topic is All about materials. The children have been sorting different objects based on the material they are made of, and thinking about describing the properties and why certain materials are used for different things.

The children all enjoyed Art this week, which was inspired by our book 'Leaf'. Using stencils they had made from paper, the children then created negative prints by painting over and around these stencils. They were very proud of their creations. Please let us know if you create any negative print artwork together at home!

## Edith-May

Edith-May is really enjoying our class book, 'The Wild Robot,' by Peter Brown, and the story has become the inspiration behind our reading wall chart. The children's reads are totalled each day and help our robot, 'Roz,' to reach the Mountain of Knowledge and also equate to drips of water for our class bulb, which is starting to sprout a green shoot - how exciting!

Linked to our book, the class has been researching robots and the children are now writing non-chronological reports on these incredible and complex machines.

In Maths, the children are finishing their unit on fractions and they can all be extremely proud of the progress they have made in this unit.



In Science, the class has started to learn about 'Electricity' and understand how a circuit works. As well as learning about electrical safety in the home, children have been sorting which appliances use batteries and which use mains electricity for their power source and discussing the advantages and disadvantages of both.

The class 3D Art project began with carefully observing and drawing 3D natural objects. There are certainly some talented artists in Edith-May!



## Thistle

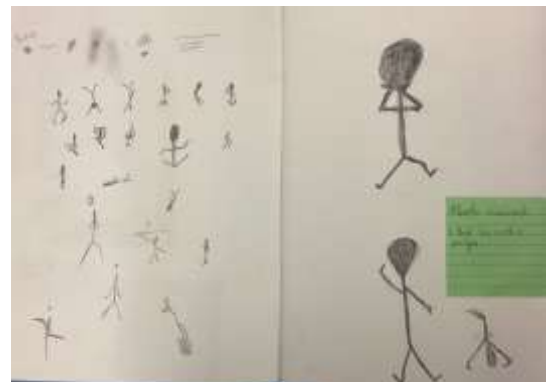
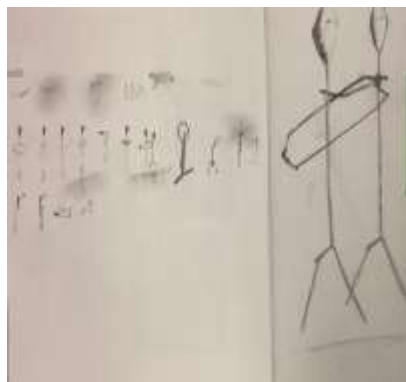
Thistle class has had a marvellous start to the new year and to the new term and we are ready to learn and progress! Over the last two weeks, the children have planned and written a short narrative inspired by their class text, *The Viewer*. The class has focused on including a range of sentences which include using relative and non-finite clauses.

As mathematicians, Thistle class has concluded their fractions learning and will be moving on to multiplication and division. This week has had a focus on subtracting fractions with different denominators.



As scientists, the class began their new unit, *Earth and Space*. The children researched different planets, debated about the status of Pluto, and wrote a fact file with the information learned.

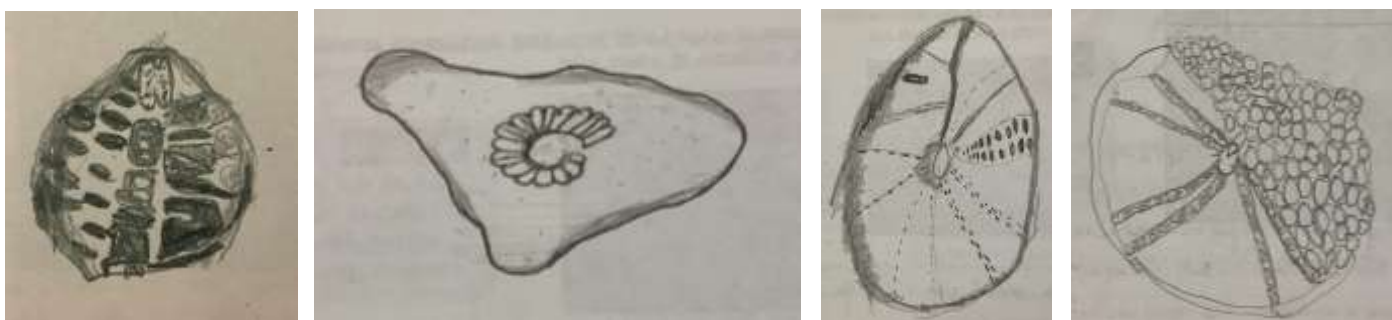
As artists, their new unit, *3D Art*, had a successful start. The class focused on sketching in the style of Alberto Giacometti, ensuring that the joints of the body are distinct. This will prepare them for creating their own 3D sculptures.



## Edme

Getting up and getting on in the darkest depths of January can be hard, but not for Edme Class. The children have returned to school after the Christmas break ready and raring to go. Well done, Edme. There is much to do this term and you have shown you are more than ready for the challenge!

Last week, Edme Class began their new unit of learning in Science - Evolution and Inheritance. They have begun to understand how fossils are formed and how these fascinating artefacts can teach us about the living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. As part of this learning, the children used key vocabulary to explain this process. After handling a collection of real fossils, the children also produced detailed, close observational drawings.



This week the children enjoyed the first lesson of the new History unit on Ancient Sumer. They have found out that the geographical location of this ancient civilization played a pivotal role in its success. Being located between two rivers - the Tigris and the Euphrates - Ancient Sumer benefited from the fertile soil in the area which allowed them to cultivate crops easily. The children were fascinated to learn that their farming success freed up time and brain space for inventing and being creative. Next week the children will learn more about the legacy of this impressive civilization.

1. Explain how the geographical features of Ancient Sumer influenced the rise of the Sumerian civilization.

The Sumerians were successful because instead of having to worry about rain when they didn't have rain they had two rivers (Tigris, Euphrates). As they didn't need to worry about rain, they invented (wheat, barley, the scupper). They could work on clay tablets with sharpened reeds. The mountains also help by protecting the civilization from enemy.

**Vocabulary:** Tigris Euphrates fertile crescent farming

On your map, label:

- The Tigris river
- The Euphrates river
- Mountainous regions
- Areas of fertile land
- Areas of desert

Finally, as well as going swimming, the children have thoroughly enjoyed their PE sessions with Mr Dale this fortnight. They have been developing the skills to play dodgeball more strategically - using upper and lower body weaving movements, ducking, jumping and using leg lifts to avoid being hit by the ball. The children thoroughly enjoy these team games and the friendly element of competition that drives them to win.

