

It has been so lovely to engage with you all during parent consultations this week. We hope you found your meetings both helpful and informative, as well as supportive for your child's learning journey. It was truly heartening to see parents and children together, discussing learning, progress, and school life. These conversations lay strong foundations for us to build upon as we move forward together.

As a dedicated team, we pride ourselves on assessing the learning of every child individually. This allows us to set tailored targets and provide the necessary support, ensuring that each child is capable of making progress and developing at their own pace. Your involvement in this process is invaluable, and we greatly appreciate the partnership we share in fostering the best possible outcomes for your children.

We would like to extend a big thank you for your generous donations during our Harvest and Foodbank initiative. Your contributions will provide much-needed meals to families within our community, showcasing what a true community can accomplish when we work together.

As we move forward, we want to remind you of the importance of attendance. Regular attendance is crucial for your child's success, and we are here to support both children and families in any way we can. Should there be any barriers or issues that might hinder your child's ability to attend school, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here to help and want to ensure every child has the opportunity to thrive.

Now, with just two weeks remaining in our first half term, it's hard to believe how swiftly the time has flown by. This feeling of a time well spent is a fantastic measure of a successful start to the year, and we look forward to the exciting weeks ahead.

Thank you once again for your continued support.



SCHOOL NEWS

School Attendance

Studybugs – report absence securely and help improve children's health

We're pleased that CHJS is using a new, more efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs.

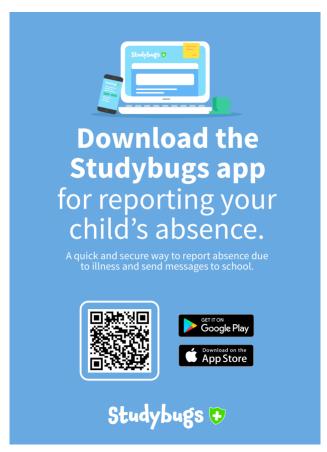
If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child's ill and unable to attend school.

Get the app using the QR code below or register now (https://studybugs.com/about/parents)

Top 3 reasons to use Studybugs:

- 1. It's integrated with our systems so we know right away if your child is unaccounted for.
- 2. It's quick and easy to register and use and automatically reminds you to keep us posted.
- 3. You'll be helping the NHS and other public health organisations improve children's health.

(https://studybugs.com/about/schools)



Mindful Mondays, Chalkwell Character Curriculum & Core Value Focus:

BEING READY - a skill for life!



Being Ready

We've spoken a lot about being ready to learn this half term, especially regulating our emotions.

How else do we show we are ready?

Step 1: Get anything you might need ready in advance



Part of being in school is to get ready for the rest of your life - adults won't always make your lunch, get your uniform ready or pack your bag for you. It's good to start doing this independently when you can.

This goes the same for equipment in school, try to keep your trays and lockers tidy and stocked with the right things. If something is missing, try to solve this problem yourself.

Step 2: Listen carefully to instructions

This goes back to our active listening skills.

In order to be ready for whatever is happening next, you need to track the speaker, understand what they are saying and then respond appropriately.



Have you ever tried teaching somebody something new, like a game or skill? It's very hard to do if they don't listen to you.

Wait until the speaker has finished giving the instructions before you move on.

Step 3: Respond appropriately to instructions

It is respectful to follow instructions as quickly and sensibly as possible. This helps the day flow better - less stress, happier people!

Sometimes your response will just be following the instruction, for example, lining up at the end of break, sometimes it will be using words to show you understand.

If you do miss an instruction, remember our tips from last week - first try your brain, then the board, then a buddy, before the boss!



Your Turn:

Imagine you are making a "Get Ready With Me" for a school day - what are all the things you **need** to do and include in your video?

Does it change depending on the day of the week?



This Week:

As well as being emotionally ready, we need to be ready in the sense that we have the things we need for a successful day of learning.

House points will be awarded this week for children who are showing that they consistently follow the uniform policy, they have their equipment ready (including things like colour level reading books and water bottles) and they listen to instructions.



Core Value - ENQUIRY: WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Enquiry: World Mental Health Day

What is World Mental Health Day?

- World Mental Health Day is a special day celebrated every year on 10th October.
- October.

 World Mental Health Day is a chance to learn new ways to look after ourselves, and to remember that everyone deserves good mental health, no matter who they are or where they live.



Why do we have World Mental Health Day? • To remind us that our feelings are important. • To help us learn how to care for ourselves and each other. • To make sure everyone, everywhere, can get help when they need it.

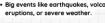
What is Mental Health?



What Are Tricky Times?

Tricky times don't have to be giant disasters. They can be small or big changes in our lives that make us feel worried, sad, or unsettled.

- Moving house or school.
 Losing something or someor
 Feeling left out or worried.
- Illness or change at home.
 Community problems like a power cut, storm, or lockdown.
- Big events like earthquakes, volcanic



Who Can Help Us? When times are tricky, we can look for helpers. Helpers are the people who make us feel safe, cared for, and listened to. Family: parents, carers, grandparents · School: teachers, staff, friends ays helpers around us!

How Can We Help Ourselves?

It's really helpful to notice what makes you feel better when big emotions come up. Everyone is different, so finding what works for you is an important part of looking after your mental health. Your coping tools might include things like:

- Talking to a safe grown-up.
 Drawing or writing about our feelings.
 Playing or do something fun.
 Taking deep breaths.

- Being kind to yourself.

You can even be a helper too! - By being a good friend, listening to others and being kind.





Reflection

- Everyone should be able to get help when they need it.
- Just like doctors look after our bodies, there are special services and helpers who look after our minds.
- Sometimes it can feel hard to get help, especially when lots of people need support at the same time.
 That's why it's important to work together and keep talking about our feelings.
- You are never alone.



Newsround - what is mental health?

Newsround - looking after your mental health

World Mental Health Day

Take a brain break - choose from the selection in your Regulation Station or choose one of the calming videos below...



Bubble Bounce! Mindfulness for children!

Grow your strenght and confidence

Candle & flower breathing - Relaxing Mindfulness & Deep Breathing Exercise for Calm & Focus

World Mental Health Day

Take a brain break - choose from the selection in your Regulation Station or choose one of the energising videos below...



ROCK PAPER SCISSORS GAME | EXERCISE BRAIN BREAK FOR KIDS

Brain break - Autumn this or that

Brain gym exercises

WEEKLY WAKE UP WEDNESDAY PARENT GUIDE



BE AWARE, GET ADVICE & BE UP TO DATE ON ALL THINGS ONLINE

We all know how quickly the online world is changing and how important it is to keep our children safe as they navigate it. To support you with this, we are delighted to share a **free resource available through National College**.

The National College provides a wealth of knowledge on online safety, offering:

• Free, easy to follow courses designed to give you practical guidance

- Short, expert webinars on current online trends and issues
- Helpful guides covering apps, games, and digital platforms children may be using

By signing up, you will gain access to a wide range of trusted resources that can help you feel more confident in supporting your child's online safety.

Here are a few free courses to help get you started:

https://nationalcollege.com/courses/os-for-parents-carers-of-children-aged-3-7

https://nationalcollege.com/courses/os-for-parents-carers-of-children-aged-7-11

https://nationalcollege.com/courses/certificate-in-understanding-mental-health-for-parents-and-carers We strongly encourage all parents and carers to make use of this valuable opportunity. Together, we can help ensure our children stay safe, happy, and confident online.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Hume

DRAMA OPPORTUNITY



PTA EVENTS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

Don't forget to book your quiz night ticket for next Friday 17th October, available at www.pta-events.co.uk/chalkwellhallpta

Don't forget to pre-order your wreath kit (ready for collection from 28th November at school) available at www.pta-events.co.uk/chalkwellhallpta

CHRISTMAS IS COMING TO CHALKWELL!!Event planning is now underway and we are so excited to spread some Christmas cheer! To make the events a success we need your help and every little really does make a huge difference in lightening the load! So if you can help with any of the following, please contact your class rep via WhatsApp, email ptachalkwellhall@gmail.com or sign up on our website under the volunteer tab.

- **T** Wrapping Grotto gifts Wednesday 22nd October after drop off in infant staffroom.
- A Christmas Fayre volunteers Saturday 29th November set up from 8.30am, running a stall anytime between 11.30 & 3pm, clearing away from 3pm
- 🍖 Bazaar set up Tuesday 2nd December from 1.15pm
- Junior bazaar stall help Wednesday 3rd December 9-12 & 1.15-3pm
- Infant/nursery grotto Wednesday 3rd December 9-12 & 1.15-3pm elves needed!
- > Infant bazaar stall help Thursday 4th December 9-12 & 1.15-3pm
- Junior grotto Thursday 4th December 9-12 & 1.15-3pm elves needed!
- ✓ Bazaar clear up Thursday 4th December from 3pm children welcome to wait together.







£5 PER PERSON





BRING A
PRIZE
FOR THE
RAFFLE
TABLE

WWW.PTA-EVENTS.COM/CHALKWELLHALLPTA

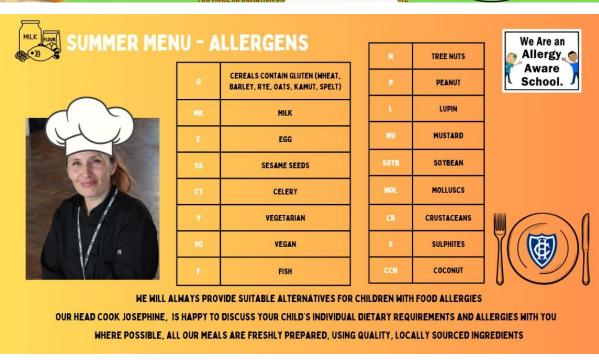






SCHOOL DINNER MENU - Next week: WEEK 1





OPAL





OPAL lunchtimes are as exciting as ever. Rain or shine, our lunchtimes are full of activities that enrich and promote play, teamwork and friendships.

We've been truly overwhelmed by the generous donations we've received recently and we want to say a huge thank you for thinking of us! Thank you again for your continued support.

So many wonderful play opportunities this week!





OPAL WISHLIST:

If you are able to add to our incredible offer at lunchtime by buying something off our wish list, we would be most grateful.

Have a look and see what you could buy to enrich our play offer by clicking the following link:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/C4RN99TIYQDH/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex

SPORT @ CHJS

Year 5/6 Tag Rugby

On Wednesday, 12 Year 6 children attended the Tag Rugby tournament, which consisted of 6 games - 3 to try and get into the Super 8 and 3 friendlies. While the team didn't manage to make it into the finals, they improved every game and were listening to and applying feedback both from Mr Fleming's coaching and the advice of their teammates. This allowed them to get stronger every match, meaning that they ended on an impressive 14 tries overall! While some of the children scored multiple tries, everyone made a valid contribution to making sure the try was scored, so they

can all count the tries scored as a team effort. The children should be proud of their spirit, their resilience and their sportsmanship. Very well done team Chalkwell!





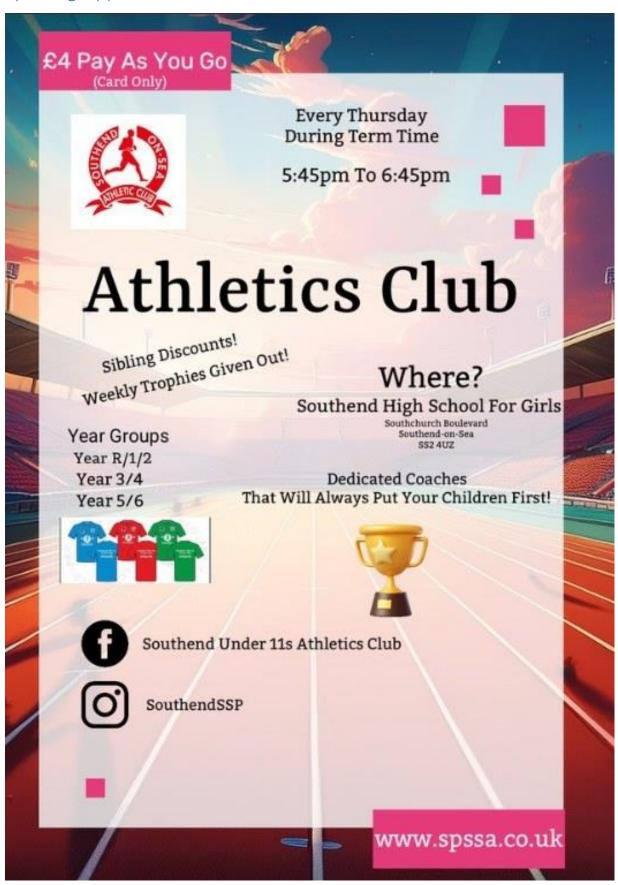








Sporting Opportunities





Learning this week!

Year 3

Another work of hard work and resilience for Year 3! In maths, we have finished our work with column addition and it's been great to see the progress made.

In English, we completed our first big piece of independent story writing, writing our own version of 'Rotten and Rascal'. We enjoyed showing our creativeness and showing off our writing abilities. We have been lucky to borrow an artefacts box from Southend Museum, which has given us a hands on experience of Stone Age artefacts.

As well as this, we have continued to look at the three different stages of the Stone Age as we were now on to the Neolithic period. We have learnt how things changed and develop during this time, and it was interesting to learn about Skara Brae.













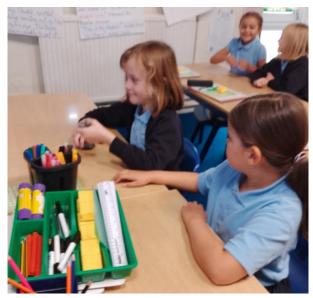














Year 4

Year 4 have had another amazing week, working hard and continuing with our Anglo-Saxon topic. Two classes have already been to the museum in Southend, with the other two visiting next week. The children thoroughly enjoyed their trip, learning about Anglo-Saxon artifacts and an additional bonus experience in the Planetarium.

In Maths, we've been brushing up on addition and subtraction and continuing to do timed tests where the children work towards winning a star or certificate. In our PE lessons, we have been continuing to play Dodgeball while also working on fitness and stamina, throwing and catching.

This term, our Science lessons are about solids, liquids and gasses. The children observed a melting experiment and continued to learn about the state of matter of objects.

In Design and Technology, the children have begun to plan, design and build a structure using lollysticks, sugar paper and paper straws. They have shown great resilience and team work, constructing their buildings with a partner.

Keep up the great work year 4!











Year 5

This week in Year 5 has been nothing short of exciting! We have been busy sharpening our coding skills and diving into the fascinating world of both music and game development. It's incredible to see us transform our ideas into interactive creations!

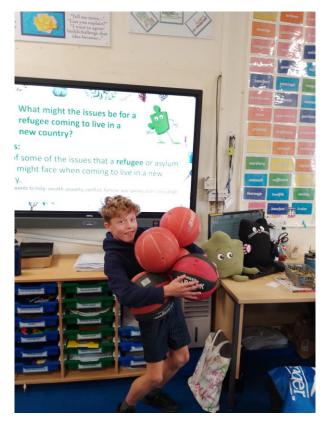
In PSHE, we embarked on a poignant journey to understand the experiences of refugees. Using tangible resources, we engaged in thoughtful discussions, developing empathy and insight into the challenges faced by others. It's heartwarming to see such compassion among our classmates.

Meanwhile, in English, our adventure continued as we explored the myth of Theseus and the Minotaur. Through drama, we rehearsed and performed scenes, bringing this ancient tale to life! We skillfully incorporated stage directions and sound effects, making the performances truly captivating for both the audience and us.

As we wrap up another week, we celebrate our creativity, compassion, and critical thinking in Year 5.











Year 6

This week in Year 6, the children have been busy learning across a range of subjects. In PE, they played invasion games linked to rugby, working together to discuss tactics and develop their teamwork skills.

In computing, they began using the data they collected to create their own Midsummer Night's Dream Top Trumps cards, showing great creativity and attention to detail. During writing lessons, the children applied the skills from last week's shared writing to produce their own versions of A Midsummer Night's Dream, impressing us with their imagination and effort.

As part of our RE topic, the class visited St. Peter's Church to compare local places of worship. The children were very respectful, asked thoughtful questions, and represented the school brilliantly throughout the trip



































Achievement Awards

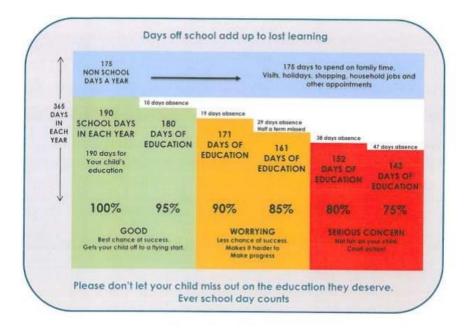


Today in Celebration Assembly it was a delight to give recognition to so many children for showing our core values of Respect, Resilience, Responsibility, Cooperation, Creativity and Enquiry. Well done everyone, I think we broke the record for the number of awards today - this reflects the number of superstars we have at CHJS!





Attendance & Punctuality



Please encourage good attendance and ensure your child is in every day.

Important facts about school attendance:

- There are 190 school days each academic year
- There are 175 other days for holidays and other activities
- The national average for school attendance is 95%
- 90% attendance represents 1 day non-attendance a fortnight
- 80% attendance represents 1 day non-attendance a week

At CHJS, we always strive for 100% attendance. We understand that illness occurs from time time but ask that you support your child's learning and us a school by ensuring your child is in school every day and on time.

Our aim is that every child is in school every session, every day so we can give them the best education we can. Attendance is a key indicator to a child's success so we will be looking to be even better every week! We will be focusing on ensuring attendance is as good as it can be next year.

HOW MUCH SCHOOL HAVE YOU MISSED? 100% attendance means that you have been in school every day of the school year. Well done! 99% = 2 days missed of the school year 98% = 4 days missed of the school year 97% = 6 days missed of the school year (over 1 school week) 96% = 8 days missed of the school year 95% = 10 days missed of the school year (2 school weeks) 12 days missed of the school year 93% = 14 days missed of the school year 92% = 16 days missed of the school year (over 3 school weeks) 91% = 18 days missed of the school year 90% = 20 days missed of the school year (4 school weeks) 89% = 22 days missed of the school year 88% = 24 days missed of the school year 87% = 26 days missed of the school year (over 5 school weeks) 86% = 28 days missed of the school year 85% = 30 days missed of the school year (6 school weeks) 84% = 32 days missed of the school year 83% = 34 days missed of the school year 82% = 36 days missed of the school year 81% = 38 days missed of the school year 80% = 40 days missed of the school year (8 school weeks) 70% = 1.5 days missed / week 12 weeks missed / year = almost a whole term 60% = 2 days missed / week = Almost 4 months 50% = 2.5 days missed / week = Half a school year (19 weeks) 40% = 3 days / week Over half a school year

Attendance Guide for Parents/Carers



What YOU must do:

Try to telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence.

Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.

If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.

Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.

If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

Check your child's attendance every day.

Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.

Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.

If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.

CURRENT SCHOOL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK - 97.2%



Weekly Attendance by Year Group

Year 3 = 99.1%

Year 4 = 98.7%

Year 5 = 95.9%

Year 6 = 95.6%



Lower School Winners = 4BR (100%)



Upper School Winners = 5RM (98.7%)



Community News





Could you benefit from a motivational challenge that starts your health and fitness journey on the right track?



Fully Funded and Rewarding

- 9 Week health & fitness programme
- Award winning
- Safe, Supportive & Social



Get your Backside to the Trackside for our fully funded and rewarding nine week fitness programme. Build your fitness gradually in a safe, supportive and social environment and be led by our experienced, motivational fitness trainers who are there with you every step of the way.

The programme will finish with a 5km Fun Event



Find us on Facebook at 'Backside To Trackside CIC' for more information.

Text a school nurse directly to talk Young about health or emotional wellbeing: People scan this IF YOU'RE 11-19 YEARS OLD TEXT QR Code to find support PARENT OF 5-19 YEARS OLD TEXT **Parents QR** Code to find support **②** @SouthendSN (···) ChatHealth

Dates for your diary: (new additions marked with *)

Tuesday 14th October - Year 3 Trip to Hyde Hall

Friday 17th October - 1:30pm SEND Parent Forum

Frida 17th October - 7:30pm PTA Quiz Night (Dining Hall)

w/c Monday 20th October - Fund-raisin' event (return donation to school Friday 7th November)

Friday 24th October - Last day of half term

Monday 3rd November - First day back after October Half Term

Thursday 6th November - Year 6 boys Football tournament @ Garons

Monday 17th to Friday 21st November - Book Fair in school

Friday 28th November - Non-uniform day (in exchange for Wine & Chocolate for Tombola for Christmas Fayre!)

Friday 28th November - Governor Day

Saturday 29th November - 12-3pm Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 3rd December - Junior Bazaar

Thursday 4th December - Santa's Grotto visit - Juniors

Friday 5th December- Boccia & Kurling Competition

Friday 12th December - 1:30pm Year 3 Warm Winter Wishes - Assembly to parents

Monday 15th December - 6pm Carol Concert @ St. Michael's & All Angels

Friday 19th December - SANTA FUN RUN!

Friday 19th December - Last day at school - Christmas Holidays!

Monday 5th January - First day of Spring Term

Thursday 12th February - Last day of half term

Friday 13th February - Non-Pupil day (school closed to all pupils)

Monday 23rd February - Back to school after February half term

Friday 27th March - Last day of Spring Term - Easter Holidays

Monday 13th April - Back to school after Easter Holidays

Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday - School Closed

Thursday 21st May - Last day of half-term - May half term

Friday 22nd May - Non-Pupil day (school closed to all pupils)

Monday 1st June - Back to school after half term

Friday 17th July - Last day at school - Summer Holidays

Monday 20th July - Non-Pupil day (school closed to all pupils)

Contact us:

Chalkwell Hall Junior School

London Road Leigh-On-Sea Essex SS9 3NL 01702 478570 office@chalkwellhall-jun.southend.sch.uk Visit us on the web at:

https://chalkwellhall.co.uk/