

Welcome to the academic year 2025-26! It has been absolutely fantastic to see the children coming back into school this week, filled with smiles and excitement. We've had such a brilliant three days; the children have been a real credit to us all! What an exciting year in store!

As September rolls in, it brings with it added excitement and a wonderful opportunity for us to further develop our already great school. We are thrilled to announce that we have now officially converted to an academy within the Tenacitas Trust. This change marks a significant milestone for our school, unlocking fantastic new opportunities for development and growth.

Being part of the Tenacitas Trust will empower us to enhance our success in ways that truly reflect our unique identity and strengths. Both our children and staff will receive the support they need to thrive in our distinct context, working collaboratively with our community to make learning even more enriching. We are looking forward to all the exciting development opportunities that lie ahead; we can't wait to get started—watch this space!

In the meantime, we are focused on supporting and nurturing our children during this term. We aim to deliver our outstanding Chalkwell Curriculum, ensuring that every child has the chance to shine. The enthusiasm and energy displayed in the classroom already hints at the engaging and inspiring activities we have planned.

We encourage you to stay connected with us throughout the term. We will be sharing updates on our progress and the exciting projects we have in the pipeline. Your involvement is invaluable, and together we can create even more memorable experiences for our children.

Have a great weekend, everyone! Let's make this year one to remember!



SCHOOL NEWS

THE CHALKWELL CURRICULUM

As we kick off this new half term, we couldn't be more excited about the amazing learning experiences ahead. Our Chalkwell Curriculum is truly world class, designed to provide deep enrichment and ignite curiosity, creativity, and enquiry. With outstanding teaching and learning at the heart of what we do, we believe every child will find joy and excitement in their lessons.

We have some fantastic topics lined up for each year group, sparking interest and encouraging creativity both in school and at home. We can't wait to see how our brilliant children express themselves through their creative tasks!

For a sneak peek of what's in store this term, click on the links below.

Year 3 - Could you have survived the Stone Age?

Year 4 - What makes a great warrior?

Year 5 - Made up myths or legendary legacy - who were the Ancient Greeks?

Year 6 - How would 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' differ in a Caribbean setting?

Let's make this half term full of inspiration and fun!

Mindful Mondays, Chalkwell Character Curriculum & Core Value Focus:

The first week of our Chalkwell Character Curriculum has seen us focus on getting back into the groove and learning about how our brains work best and how we can use brilliant strategies to regulate our emotions and boost our learning alongside a strong mindset. We read the story - 'The Magical Yet' which teaches us about the incredible power or resilience, being positive and determined.





How do we get ready to learn?

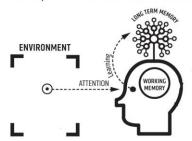
What is learning?



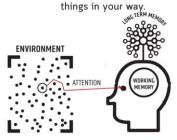
Learning is when we move information from our working memory to our long term memory.

Working memory is like HQ in Inside
Out and long term memory is like a
huge storage area. If our brains don't
move the information there, then
they can forget it easily.

It's easier for us to move the information to our long term memory when there are less distractions.



It's harder to pay attention if the environment is noisy and busy. Think of it like an obstacle course - you can be quicker without



What do we do in our school to have the best environment for

Ready

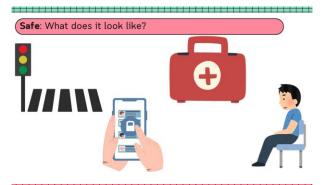


Respectful

Safe







Ready also means that our emotions are regulated and ready to learn - they are in a place that allows us to concentrate. Which unregulated emotions could make learning tricky?



We can sort these emotions into 4 different groups called Zones.



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The blue zone is a zone of low energy, when our brains or bodies are moving slowly, maybe because we are tired, hungry or sad. We mmight need rest if we're in this zone or time out to recharge.



The green zone is a comfortable place to be - this is a great place as we feel safe, calm and focused. We are "good to go" in this zone.

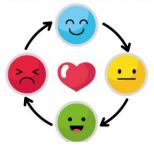


The yellow zone is more energetic than the green zone - we feel less in control here which can make learning more difficult. We should think carefully about our choices when we're in this zone.



The red zone has a lot of overwhelming emotions that are hard to control. If you're here, you might need a pause to regulate and regain control.

Challenge: sort these emotions into the different zones...



Once you can name an emotion or a zone, then you can learn to **regulate** it. All the zones are ok, but if you feel like your feelings are stopping you from achieving what you want to achieve, then you can use a regulation strategy.

This is what our regulation stations are for.









Your challenge for this week is to practise identifying which zone you are in at different times - use the check in charts after break and lunch to tap in to how you are feeling.

Remember, we all experience these 4 zones and it changes day to day. All the zones are ok!



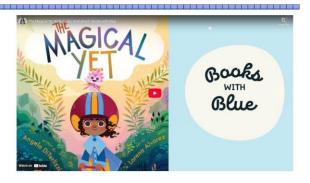
The Magical Yet



This week we have all started a new school year - how do you feel when you start something new?

How do you feel when you're doing something that feels difficult?

Is there anything you find challenging? How do you tackle it?



What do you think is the real magic of "yet"?



"Yet" can be a powerful way to think about difficult challenges. For some people, coming into a new classroom will be a challenge. They might think things like "I really don't like this new room, it's never going to be as good as my old class."



How could the magic of "yet" help them?

Using 'yet' to think about the challenges we face is a part of our **growth mindset** which is linked to **resilience**.

We'll learn more about this in our Mindful Mondays this term but for now, watch this video to see how to power of yet helped Austin...



<u>Challenge:</u> Create your own "Magical Yet" to go with you on your journey.

Write somewhere on your creature something you can't do yet and a way that you could work towards your goal e.g.

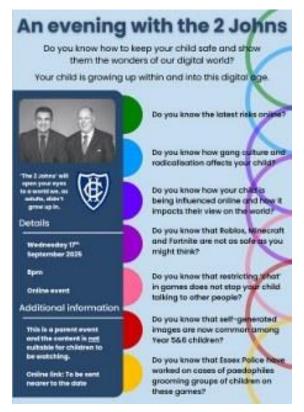


I can't draw butterflies accurately **yet**, but I can listen to feedback and make more drafts.

WEEKLY WAKE UP WEDNESDAY PARENT GUIDE



ONLINE SAFETY - The 2 Johns visiting Chalkwell



PTA EVENTS

SCHOOL DINNER MENU THIS TERM







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

Sporting Opportunities



Learning this week!

Year 3

We made it! Three days of excitement, learning routines, working on group challenges and discovering ways to help us all be the best learners we can be – we are definitely ready for the weekend!

The children have really impressed us already with their enthusiasm and enjoyment for anything we have presented them with and we have been thoroughly impressed with their confidence to ask questions to learn more about each other and their learning environment. In Computing, they learnt how to use 'Hit the Button' (a brilliant, free maths programme) and Dance Mat Typing. The children took part in a range of group activities to explore our Core Values of Respect, Co-operation and Responsibility and created some lovely artwork in response to sharing the story 'The Dot' when thinking about Resilience, Creativity and Enquiry.

We hope the children have enjoyed the first few days of their journey with us and look forward to welcoming them back on Monday when we will be having two 'WOW' days to introduce our new topic 'Could you have survived the Stone Age?'.

















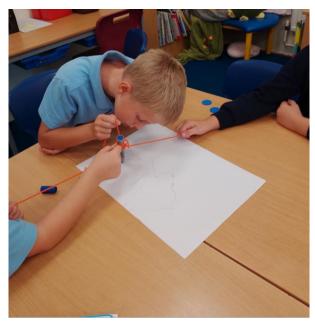


















Year 4

Year 4 have made a great return to school. This week, the children have enjoyed getting to know their new teachers and hearing about all of the exciting things they are going to be learning about this term. On Thursday, we had our WoW Day introducing our Anglo-Saxon topic. The children made oat cakes in small groups and each child in the group had an important role to fulfill. We had children who were in charge of weighing, mixing and adding different ingredients. The children also had the opportunity to make some Anglo-Saxon brooches and the teachers were really impressed with the creativity which the children showed. Well done year 4!















Year 5

What an amazing start to the new school year for Year 5! It's clear that we're in for a truly exciting journey ahead. This past week, the children have shown outstanding qualities, smoothly transitioning into upper school life with such positivity and enthusiasm.

Today was a fantastic highlight as we embarked on a wonderful day at Nuclear Races. The children tackled obstacles with determination, overcoming challenges head-on while displaying remarkable teamwork and support for one another. Their enthusiasm was infectious, and it was a joy to see them embody resilience throughout the day.

A massive well done to Year 5 for making such a strong impression so early in the year! We are all incredibly proud of each and every one of you. Onwards and upwards—we can't wait to see what amazing things the rest of the year has in store!



















Year 6

Welcome back, Year 6! What a welcome it has been! Year 6 have returned from the summer holidays full of energy and enthusiasm, diving straight into an exciting DT challenge! Their task has been to design and create a waistcoat for a teddy bear that could be sold in a toy shop, inspired by the magical theme of A Midsummer Night's Dream. Not only did the children carefully plan their designs, but they also got stuck into the practical challenge of sewing their garments. We have been so impressed with their resilience, determination, and creativity as they brought their ideas to life. It's clear that this year is already off to a brilliant start, and we can't wait to see all the amazing things they will achieve in Year 6!



























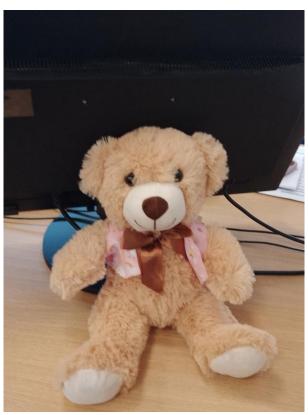












Achievement Awards



As we've had a short week to start, we will be holding our first Celebration Assemblies next week and we will delight in giving recognition for showing our core values of Respect, Resilience, Responsibility, Cooperation, Creativity and Enquiry. Roll on next week!

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.

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.

OUR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK - 96.4% (+)



Lower School Winners = 4SR (100%)



Upper School Winners = 5GH (100%)



Community News



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

Wednesday 10th September - 6pm Year 6 Residential Bawdsey Manor - Parent Meeting

Friday 24th October - Last day of half term

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

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/