

CHURCH LAWTON

July 2022

Church Lawton School, Cherry Tree Avenue, Church Lawton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. ST7 3EL
Email: admin@naschurchlawton.cheshire.sch.uk | T: 01270 877601

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Welcome to the final newsletter of this academic year. What a year it has been! We are starting to emerge from the confinements of the last two years and although Covid has not gone away, we are experiencing more of the normality which we once took for granted.

Students have experienced a wide variety of experiences ranging from joining the school part way through the academic year, having face to face teaching, sitting examinations in the summer, and going out into the local and wider community to participate in a wide range of adventurous or learning outside the classroom activities.

Students have again been supported with our recovery curriculum. We are continuing the approaches concerned with the fundamental wellbeing and positive development of our pupils. We will continue our planned activities. Our mission as teachers will be to maintain and advance the journey which leads pupils back to their rightful status as a fully engaged learners.

The school is to welcome some new students in September and we have already completed a number of transitions for these students over the summer term. The school is also saying goodbye to a students who are moving onto specialised and further education colleges and supported apprenticeships. The school is very proud of all that you have achieved, and we wish you the very best for the future. We await with eager anticipation for exam results. Letters have been sent to parents and students regarding collecting your results.

In our Adventure Learning programme, we have completed experiences in a vast array of activities ranging from water sports to bushcraft and archery. Adventure Learning is a core component of developing students self-confidence and esteem whilst also developing resilience. We look forward to seeing what Miss Richards has planned for the next year. I would like to thank Mrs Condliffe who has been managing Adventure Learning this year whilst Miss Richards has been on maternity leave.

The school's Duke of Edinburgh Award Group has been dormant this academic year due to the restrictions around the pandemic, however in September the Duke of Edinburgh scheme will re-start, led by Mr Biscoe-Taylor and Mr Warrilow.

As with all schools, there are some goodbyes to staff and hellos to new staff. Sadly, we are losing Mrs Hext this summer as she moves into semi-retirement. Mrs Hext has championed English and PHSRE throughout the Secondary and Sixth Form and has been an active participant on the Duke of Edinburgh team. We will certainly miss Mrs Hext and wish her all the best for the future. The school is also saying a fond farewell to Mrs Edge, Miss Kelly, Mrs Roberts, Miss Travis and Mr Carosy, all of who have all found new positions in different organisations. All these staff have been instrumental in supporting our students in their education and have developed very positive relations with both parents/carers and students.

In September, we will be welcoming Miss Nicholson as our new Assistant Education Psychologist, Mrs Ellis, English Teacher, Mr Warrilow as teacher of Science and Mrs Elliott, Miss Caddy and Mrs Woerner-Powell as Learning mentors.

Coming Soon – Second Hand School Uniform Scheme

We are looking to establish a Second Hand School Uniform scheme. It will provide good quality used items of school uniform to pupils at our school. The scheme will be co-ordinated by our School Council.

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If at the end of this summer you have items of uniform which are no longer useful or your child has grown out of and are of good quality please send them into school. We would respectfully request that these items are laundered prior to being sent into school.

Taking children out of school in term time

We have noticed an upturn in the number of applications for authorised absences for a family holiday in term time. Principals can only give permission to take a child out of school when there are exceptional circumstances. Please do not ask the school to authorise holidays during term time due to the location being quiet or not as busy. We simply cannot authorise these events. You are also risking a [school absence penalty notice \(fine\)](#).

Details about what the school counts as exceptional circumstances are agreed by the Principal and governors and included in the [school's attendance policy](#).

If you want to take a child out of school, the parent or carer the child lives with, must apply to the school in writing explaining the exceptional circumstances. The Principal will follow the school's attendance policy to decide whether or not to approve the application. You will then receive a letter informing you of the decision.

If the Principal does not approve the application and you still take your child out of school, the school will record the absence as unauthorised. You may then get a [school absence penalty notice \(fine\)](#).

Preparing for the summer holidays

The summer break can be a difficult time for autistic people and their families. Whether you are going away for some of the summer or staying at home, the change in routine can be a challenge. For those going away, everything from travelling to a holiday destination to using public transport and getting used to a new place and routine can prove difficult and create a great deal of anxiety. There can also be a number of sensory challenges with the change of weather, different smells, different noises, applying sun cream, wearing different clothes, all of which can be stressful.

For some, the summer may also be a time of transition - from primary to secondary school, school to college, university or to the adult world. Autistic people and their families may need support to manage this.

The National Autistic Society has published various guides to assist families during this time. Please see the links below to resources that offer advice on managing these issues:

Preparing for change

[Change: dealing with change](#) - our advice and guidance on managing change.

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Preparing for a holiday or day-out.

Key to a successful holiday or day out is being as prepared as possible. The following gives useful advice on planning a day out or a holiday:

- Our [holiday advice and guidance](#) for parents/carers, autistic people and holiday companies.
- [Going on holiday](#) - Scottish Autism
- Some museums have adjustments for autistic visitors. [Autism in Museums](#) is a website/blog that aims to raise awareness of accessibility for all in museums and it has links to some useful resources.

Using visual supports

- Read our [visual supports](#) guidance to help prepare an autistic person for change.

Sensory sensitivities in the summer

Many autistic people can encounter sensory difficulties in the summer, such as problems with applying sun cream, insects or bright sunlight.

- Read our [information and advice on sensory differences](#).

Transition

The summer break can be a period of transition from primary to secondary school, school to adulthood, or school to college/university. Read some of our transition articles that may be helpful:

- [Pre-school to primary transitions for autistic children](#)
- [Switching or starting schools](#)
- [Leaving school: transition planning for autistic pupils](#)

Personal stories

- [Travelling the spectrum](#): a parent's perspective on holidays and days out with her autistic sons.
- [Taking the stress out of summer for a child with autism](#) - Autism Together
- [Autism and school holidays](#) - Purple Ella

I hope you all have a restful and relaxing summer break and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Scales
Principal



Pre-loved uniform

We are looking to set up a second hand uniform scheme. If you have any good quality school branded uniform that you no longer need, please could you send it into school, washed and ironed, so we can then display it at parent events. Parents can then make a small contribution which we will donate to Cancer Research in exchange for the second hand garment.

Members of the School Council Team will be overseeing this scheme. Further details will follow in due course.



New uniform - Mapac

If you wish to order new uniform for September 2022, please ensure you place your order direct with Mapac by **31st July 2022**.

You can order uniform through Mapac either online or over telephone:



www.mapac.com



Telephone 01923 255525



my **child** at **school**.com

From 1st September 2022 we will no longer be accepting cash or cheques for school snacks, lunches and trips. All payments must be paid online through the Bromcom Parent Portal 'My Child at School' (MCAS).

Please ensure you can access your account prior to 1st September 2022. If you haven't already activated your account please do so at your earliest opportunity.

Safeguarding



NHS

"Can I even hug my best friend?"
 "Am I gonna make my nanna sick?"
 "How can I have fun in a face mask?"
 "Where's it safe to go anyway?"
 "Will I get judged by other people?"
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Really normal questions. In a really not normal year.

After a long period of living differently, lots of children are unsure how to get back to the things they used to do. If your child is worried, struggling or behaving differently and has a lot of questions about being back out in the world, Every Mind Matters is here to help you support your child's mental wellbeing.

Better Health every mind matters

For expert tips and advice search Every Mind Matters

Parents Protect!
Together we can prevent child sexual abuse

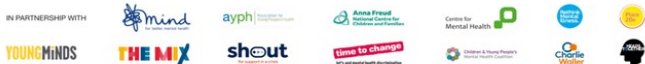
SMART Rules for Adults to Share with Children

Helping you protect your children from sexual abuse

www.parentsprotect.co.uk

Parents Protect!	SMART Rules
Together we can prevent child sexual abuse	for adults to share with children
<p>When you are dealing with children there are no hard and fast rules. A child's ability to understand safety rules and to put them into practice depends on a number of things including how old the child is, how the child has been educated or even how confident the child is. To help a child learn any set of rules it is important to go through them and explain why you want the child to remember them. There is no 'one-size-fits' all but here are a few suggestions.</p>	<p>Secrets These can be good fun, but if they make us sad or confused it's best to check them out with Mum or Dad or someone else you trust.</p> <p>Mates Take someone with you when you are going somewhere and stay together.</p> <p>Always tell your parents, carer or someone else you trust where you are going, who you are with and when you will be back.</p> <p>Respect your body and remember it is private. No one has the right to touch you on your private areas (those covered by your swim suit).</p> <p>Tell your parents, carer or someone else you trust if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or frightened.</p>

stop it now! UK'S PREMIER
Concerned about a child or the behaviour of another adult?
Call 0808 1000 900 for confidential information, advice and support



<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/care-and-support-for-children>

livewell
Cheshire East

Home / Livewell / Care and support for children

Care and support for children

How do I get early help for my child? READ MORE	Are you concerned about a child? READ MORE	Are you a young person looking for support? READ MORE
Support for parents READ MORE	Children's Centres READ MORE	Early years and childcare READ MORE
Support for children and families affected by disabilities READ MORE	Services from Children's Social Care READ MORE	Fostering READ MORE

Safeguarding



Well-being and Safeguarding—Useful resources

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/livewell.aspx> & <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/care-and-support-for-children> - Well-being and support services in Cheshire East
<https://nsmind.org.uk/> - North Staffs Mind charity

<https://www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/> - Cheshire West and Chester

https://hsm.manchester.gov.uk/kb5/manchester/directory/home_page - Manchester

https://www.stoke.gov.uk/info/20095/coronavirus_covid-19_closures_and_information/377/support_services - Support services for Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire

helpline@cruse.org.uk – support for anyone who has been affected by a bereavement

<https://www.winstonswish.org/supporting-you/bereavement-support-young-people/> - bereavement support for Young People

<https://www.griefencounter.org.uk/get-support/children-and-young-people/secondary/> - bereavement support for children and young people.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/my-feelings/grief-and-loss/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/mental-health/find-an-urgent-mental-health-helpline>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help> - Domestic Abuse support

999 or 112 Police (emergency)

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/11_18/

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7/

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/

IMPORTANT - Attendance

Please telephone school by 8.30 a.m. ***every morning*** your child is absent, and state the reason for the absence. Where possible, please make any Doctor, Dentist or Medical appointments either before or after school hours.



If appointments are during the school day please hand in a copy of your appointment card or letter to the school office, thank you.

Adventure Learning



This half term, Middle School and Primary pupils have been visiting Park Hill Farm and learning all about Farm life. Students have been exploring the wildlife in the surrounding fields, learning about cows and pigs and pond dipping. The students have enjoyed these activities and have learnt such a lot about 'a farmer's life'.



Our Secondary students this half term visited Tittesworth Water sports reservoir and what a fun couple of days this was! The weather was glorious and the pupils participated in canoeing and kayaking. All the students joined in and had a great day.



Churchill

In Churchill class we have been taking part in lots of science experiments this term, including a fantastic science workshop where we made slime and used an airzooka.



For Adventure Learning we learnt about 'the farm' with farmer John and farmer Pat. In between visits, some very cute piglets were born!



In Art, we have been continuing with our junk modelling and have created some lovely animals and underwater creatures.

Inspired by our farm visits, we have been carrying out lots of bug hunting as the grass in our sensory field has grown out and begun to dry. Grasshoppers, bees and enormous beetles to name a few. The diversity of life in our school is simply amazing.

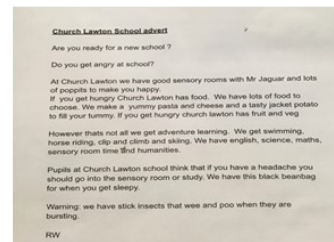
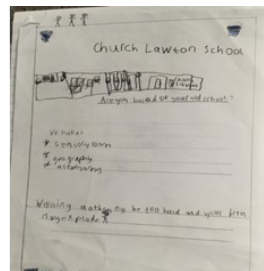
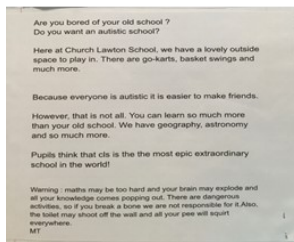
We have had several transition sessions towards the end of term, getting to know our new class friends and teachers. We are all looking forward to September but in the meantime have a wonderful summer break.



Franklin

English

In Franklin class this term we have been working on persuasive writing. We have used rhetorical questions in our work and have produced radio adverts using chrome books. We have also created posters to advertise our school and what it offers.



Science

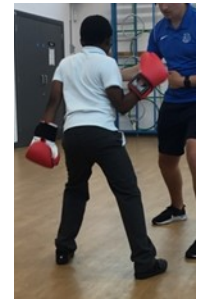
In Science we have been learning about the human body. We created a life size illustration of the structure of the body.

We also enjoyed a visit from Sublime Science and had the chance to get involved in practical science experiments.



PE

We have even tried boxing this half term which we all enjoyed.



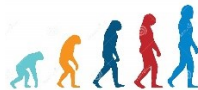
Maths

This half term in maths we have completed many practical lessons. We have been measuring perimeters and calculating area.



Adventure Learning

We have been to Park Hill Farm for Adventure Learning, where we explored the woodland and meadow areas for wildlife and met some of the animal residents.



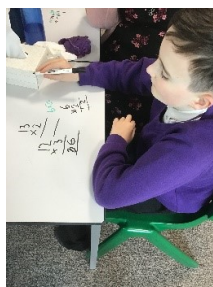
Humanities

Our trip to Nantwich has been a big part of our humanities this half term. We all enjoyed a swim in the brine pool, especially as we know the brine is pumped from under the ground in Nantwich. Acton Church was very interesting as we could see dints in the walls from musket balls in the civil war.



Maths

In Maths, we have been developing our core maths skills. We have been looking at extending our skills particularly in multiplication and division- using formal written methods and some of us have been using decimals too.

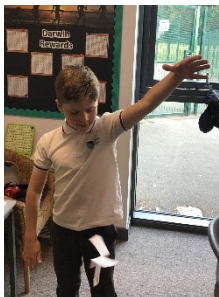


Computing

This half term we have been learning about logic gates and Boolean theory. The students have learned about and, not and or gates. We have had a go at creating logic circuits too.

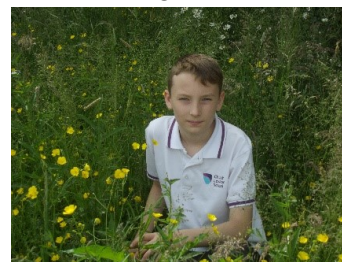
Science

This half term we have been investigating lots of different science questions, exploring the effects of the environment and how we can change outcomes by adjusting variables.



English

Instructions have been a focus for our English work- it has been a challenge for some of us to think carefully about the language we use to give instructions. We have revised our knowledge of imperative verbs and temporal conjunctions. We also explored photography and perspective with some great results.



Coming Up:

The end of the year and for some of us a move to new classes. We have already welcomed two new students who were ready to start their transition to Middle school and we will be seeing two students moving to new schools. Have a great summer. See you in September!

Adventure Learning

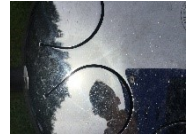
Down on the farm we have experienced a range of different animals and environments.





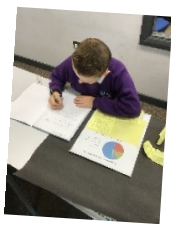
English

In English, we have revised different types of writing including audio descriptions for TV and headlines for newspapers. We also explored photography as a means of communicating information. And all of this from a John Lewis' 'The Man on the Moon' advert; 'Full Moon Service' photograph and the 1969 moon landings.



Maths

We've been looking at ratio and proportion; co-ordinates in all 4 quadrants and the many types of charts, graphs and tables.



Science

Heat and **temperature** are not the same thing. Mind blown, right? Actually, *heat* is a form of energy, while *temperature* is how hot or cold something is.



Geography

This term has all been about the 4th largest country; home to a billion people, the most spoken language and Kung-Fu Panda!



History

We have studied the causes of The English Civil War and learnt about life under Cromwell after Charles I was beheaded in 1649. Our studies culminated in a trip to Nantwich to see the site of the battle of Nantwich, St Mary's Church at Acton and to have a swim in the outdoor brine pool!



ART

We've been looking at Graffiti as an art form and learning about the work of a modern-day artist called **BANKSY!**



Adventure Learning

We've been down on the farm.





Attenborough

Well it has been a very busy half term, with assessments, reports, transition days, afternoon tea and an Adventure Learning trip canoeing and kayaking at Tittesworth Water Sports. Just to make sure that the students are ready for a summer break we are finishing the year with our Summer Fair on the 15th July and Language Day on 18th July.

It has been a wonderful experience to be the form teacher to Sam, Zach, Ebony, Charlie, George, Tobie and Dylan this academic year and I will miss our morning news debates, but all things change. It has also been great to work with the Learning Mentors, Mrs Travis, Miss Caddy, Mr Price and Mrs Moran. They have always been there for your children when needed and have helped and given both their time and knowledge.

I hope you, your children and the rest of your family have a great summer and find some time to rest before we begin again in September.

Best regards, Mr Shaw



Cadbury Form



This half term there has been an Adventure Learning day, where the students went canoeing and kayaking. Victor and Luke can be seen getting stuck into that activity and looking like experts on the water.

We also had a PSHE day which was a lot of fun. Students were given a task to make the longest marble track.

We also celebrated the Queen's Jubilee.

We had an afternoon of games and enjoyed food outside. Harry baked lots of really nice cakes which he shared with us which we really appreciated!

We have had two transition days, where the students have met their new form teacher and classmates. There were lots of fun activities where we shared our likes and dislikes so in September

we will all be in a good place having got to know each other a little. On that note, I would like to wish the students 'Good luck' in their new forms for next year – apart from Harry who is staying with me – lucky lad. I look forward to sampling his amazing cooking again next year.



Over the last year we have had 'Word of the Day' every Wednesday. This is where a long word is placed on the board and the

students have to create new words using the letters in it. The boys have done so well with that and William got a 10 letter word on the 6th of July which was amazing!

For the first time in Church Lawton School history, we participated in a football match against another school. We played really well and won 3-1. A huge well done to all involved. Definitely an achievement to be proud of!

**Wishing everyone a well deserved break.
Thank you for a great term!!
Cadbury Form**



Matthews

Matthews class have been in our science laboratory performing chemical analyses of cations and anions. This has been a continuation of all the great and exciting experiments our students have been able to conduct all year round in the Lab. This has really brought science to life and made for a really interesting and enjoyable subject.



On the last Adventure Learning of the year, the students from Matthews form got stuck into the kayaking and canoeing and really impressed the staff. The organisers said it was the best group they've had in 4 years which is a real credit to the amazing young people they are all growing up into.



This group has been a real joy to teach and I wish them all the best in the future!



Nightingale

The final newsletter for this academic year!

All the exams have been completed, and we are so proud of all the hard work the students have done.



Some of our students have been taking part in Travel Training.

This involved taking the bus from Church Lawton into Alsager, visiting the launderette, Costa Coffee and Asda, and then returning on the bus.



Our penultimate Adventure Learning was to Cheshire Outdoors, where the students had a fantastic time experiencing Archery, shooting an air rifle and handling Birds of Prey. Again, our students were amazing, listening brilliantly to the staff from Cheshire Outdoors and contributing to discussions.



Congratulations to Nightingale form for winning the Marble Run Challenge on PSHE Day. Many thanks to Alex for their bright idea and to Mr Hampson for his assistance!



From all the staff in Nightingale, we'd like to wish you all a lovely summer holiday.

Good luck to our leavers, Alfie, Adam and Freya, with their new adventures, and we look forward to seeing our returning students in September.

BRANSON

Another busy half term for Branson. We have been really proud of the students this half term and they have all worked so hard and most of them have sat exams. Well done everyone!

We are saying farewell to some of our form group this year and they are beginning their next steps at college. We wish them luck and we will all miss them.

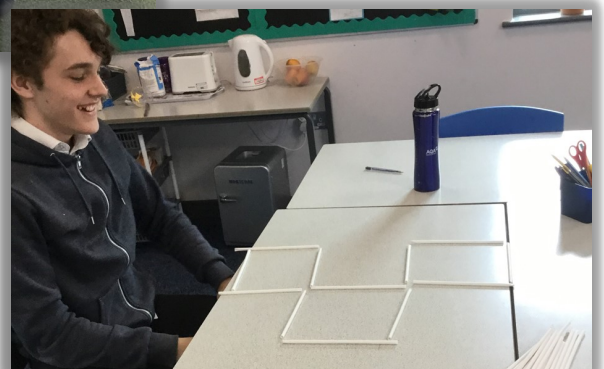
The whole form enjoyed the PSHE day this half term and all worked together to solve the challenges. A particular favourite was making a marble run. We also enjoyed the jubilee picnic and got involved with the different activities on the sensory field.

Adventure Learning this half term was fun too. We all enjoyed kayaking, canoeing and swimming at Tittesworth Reservoir. It was the perfect activity for a hot day.

We are all really looking forward to the whole school languages day too. Our form will be looking at Sweden. We will get a chance to explore other countries and cultures in the afternoon too.

All in all, a brilliant year for Branson. We wish you all luck next year.

Mrs Sercombe, Ms Hughes, Mrs Whitehead, Ms Munroe and Mrs Percival





Newton

Newton students have had an extremely busy term with exams, Adventure Learning, visits to Reaseheath, PSHE days and the Prom. It's amazing that students in Newton have found time for their usual lessons.

We have all been enjoying the final half term, especially our summer Jubilee picnic where we all spent time out in the sun and playing different field games. The 6th form afternoon coffee morning was also a brilliant event and it was nice to share some time in school with families. Harley has also enjoyed a recent travel skills bus trip into town where he was able to do a bit of shopping.

A highlight for all pupils has been the last of our Adventure Learning trips, canoeing at Tittesworth Reservoir. Rumour has it, that some of the Newton boys mistook the canoe for a gondola and poor Mr Fisher had his work cut out!

We have had a fantastic year as a form, so thank you from Mrs Hext and Mr Jacques to Zak, Alfie, George, Harley and Mackenzie for being a lovely group to spend time with. We wish you all well in your new tutor groups next year.





The Sixth Form pupils have finished their exams and some of them will be leaving us at the end of this academic year to pastures new.

This term the students have been busy raising money for their Prom by cooking breakfast baps for the staff. They have also been making gifts, planting flowers and designing games in their QOL lesson, which they have sold to raise money at an Afternoon Tea.

In PSHE we were set a series of challenges to complete. These included designing movie sets and creating a paper circle big enough for the class to stand in from 1 A4 piece of paper.

Wishing all our leavers all the very best for the future.



