

CHURCH LAWTON

February 2020

Church Lawton School, Cherry Tree Avenue, Church Lawton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. ST7 3EL

Email: admin@naschurchlawton.cheshire.sch.uk | T: 01270 877601

Principal: Mr Paul Scales

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

I cannot believe we are nearly at the end of the first spring half term. It has gone so quickly with all the many activities across the school. We began the half term with mock examinations for some of our secondary students. The teachers and learning mentors have worked incredibly hard in the run up to these mocks to prepare the students and support revision sessions. We are all very pleased with the student's fantastic efforts and very promising mock results. These results will shape the teaching and revision going forward, in order to support the pupils and achieve the best possible outcomes when they sit the external examinations in the summer.

Our Primary and Middle school pupils have been focussing on their confidence and skills at swimming this half term. This is a vital life skill as well as a great sporting activity to keep healthy. We are pleased to say that swimming will continue for these pupils up to the Easter holidays.

Secondary students had a fabulous day at Clip and Climb, bravely climbing and challenging themselves with this adventurous activity, well done! Continuing with the sporting theme, we have had our after school sports club with Mr Oakes, where the students have enjoyed badminton again. After the February half term holiday we will be offering multi-sports on the sensory field.

During this half term, we have had a number of musical achievements. The Love Music Trust continue to provide a wide variety of 1:1 music lessons and we have students learning guitar, keyboards, drumming and cello. Some of our musical students have formed their own school band and had their first official performance when all the Principals from the other NAS schools visited us. They were also entertained by the girls from Darwin class performing a dance for them. They were incredibly impressed! Middle School have singing and percussion sessions and Matthews class have been participating in Japanese drumming. This drumming group, led by Mr Proctor, have composed their own drumming performance over a series of lessons and the Love Music Trust invited them to enter the Cheshire School's Music competition. Mrs Clegg and I met the pupils and parents at Sandbach Boys School for the competition on the evening of Thursday 6th February 2020. The drumming group were amazing. Their performance was confident and well-rehearsed and it was commented on from the judges that they had great stage presence! I am incredibly proud of the drumming group and take delight in announcing that they were chosen by the judges to go through to the final! This will take place at Congleton Town Hall on Wednesday 25th March 2020. We wish the drumming group good luck and I will keep you all posted on their achievements at this event. A massive well done!



Karen Woodall - Head Teacher (Interim)



Here are some of the topics for each class for after the February Half term holidays so you can begin some preparations, research or visits to the library if you wish over the holidays.

Karen Woodall, Head Teacher

Class	Subject and topic area.
Churchill and Franklin Primary	Topic – On the farm. Literacy Churchill - set 2 RWI both reading and writing Franklin – RWInc speed sounds. Writing linked to On the farm. Maths – number - Churchill – addition Franklin - subtraction and division. Science - The environment RE – Easter. History – The Victorians. Geography – The water cycle. Art and DT – Linked to On the farm.
Hawking and Darwin Middle School	Topic - Contrasting locations up to Easter. 2 nd half term - The city of silk, Bhagalpur in India. India, Stories from other cultures, report writing, information texts and significant authors. Science - Classification of variety of life, including micro-organisms, plants and animals Geography – The Silk Road - contrasting location. Art/DT – Silk painting and paisley designs RE - Religious buildings.
Thompson and Lennon Middle School	English - Poetry, Newspaper reports, Shakespeare. Science- Plants reproduction, capillary action and photosynthesis, Physical and Chemical Changes Geography - Our planet, Earth, Maps, co-ordinates, British Isles. ICT- Spreadsheets and Branching databases Art – African masks.
English	Pi – Functional Skills Examination Preparation. Theta – Class Reader: ‘Holes’ by Louis Sacher. Omega – Media texts, non-fiction work. Gamma – Book covers and Poetry.
Science	Pi - GCSE revision covering all of the course content. Theta are learning are moving on to the GCSE topic Bioenergetics, this includes things like Photosynthesis. Omega and Gamma – Electricity.
Maths	Pi - Vectors, Algebraic Fractions and revision. Theta - Volume & Surface Area, Algebraic Manipulation. Omega - Circles, Graphs. Gamma - Equations, Sequences.
Food Tech	GCSE Year 1 – Practical Skills and food provenance GCSE Year 2 - Food Investigation assessment. BTEC – Skills enhancement and event planning. Matthews & Lennon – Home cooked comforts Middle School – Foods around the world.



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Karen Woodall, Head Teacher

	Continued.
Life skills PSHE	PI – Portfolio completion. Theta groups – Asdan COPE units. Omega & Gamma groups – Life skills – First Aid.
Media Studies	Practical project work.
Geography	GCSE group – Fieldwork project (on Urban issues to be conducted in Crewe).
Humanities	Matthews form – The Black Death.
Computer Science	Scratch Programming and Exam Revision.
PE	BTec – Unit 2: Practical performance in sport. This half term the pupils will be exploring the rules, regulations and scoring systems in football. Pi – Invasion games theme: Mix of handball and netball. Theta - Invasion games theme: Mix of handball and netball. Omega - Invasion games theme: Mix of handball and netball. Gamma – Striking and fielding theme: Cricket. Lennon/Thompson - Striking and fielding theme: Cricket. Darwin/Hawking - Striking and fielding theme: Cricket. Primary – Multi skills/sports.
Careers	Pi, Theta and Gamma - Labour Market Information and Workplace Values. There will also be an introduction to Kudos. Omega – Exploring workplaces with Safe Opportunities.
Art, Craft and Design.	Graffiti Art.
PSHE Day	Friday 28 th February – Secondary & Middle school – Rights and Responsibilities.
Adventure Learning	Primary – Wednesday and Thursday afternoons – Swimming. Middle school – Thursday mornings - Swimming.. Secondary – Friday 3 rd April 2020 – Cheshire Outdoors.

School Calendar - Dates for you diary

Future Dates for your diary

Spring Term Dates

Secondary & Sixth Form parent meetings	Tuesday 31 st March 2020
Middle school parent meetings	Wednesday 1 st April 2020
Primary parent meetings	Thursday 2 nd April 2020

Summer Term Dates

End of Year Reports out to parents	Tuesday 7 th July 2020	To be confirmed
Whole school parents open evening.	Wednesday 8 th July 2020	To be confirmed



PARENT FORUM - 7th February 2020

A big thank you to all the parents who came along to our Parent Forum last week. We hope you found it useful. The issues and subjects raised during this forum will set the agenda for the next session. We will advise you of the date as soon as it confirmed.

IMPORTANT — Please read

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.



Personal & Emergency Contacts and Medical Information

Please keep school up to date with any new:

- ◆ email address
- ◆ telephone numbers
- ◆ emergency contact details
- ◆ medical changes
- ◆ changes in medication



Safeguarding





Visyon supports everyone slightly differently depending on their needs. Here are all of the different ways we could support you.

Visyon Groups
Creative and therapeutic groups both offer safe environments to explore your emotions through creative and social activities.

One-to-One Therapy
Therapy provides young people with a regular time to explore their emotions in a supportive environment.

Advocacy Support
Are you having difficulties accessing the services you need? Or feel like you're not being listened to? Get in touch.

Family Support
We can offer you hands-on support and guidance with all sorts of issues that affect family life.

Community Ambassadors
We work with the community to give you the skills to support young people

Parent Empower Hour
We offer a support group where parents can talk with each other and a Visyon worker to overcome issues they're facing.

Open Access
Use one of our open access sessions to have a chat with a Visyon worker and see how we can best support you.



Photography



Creative Group



Headspace Cafe



Self Care Kit



Tools For Schools

Schools
Between Tools for Schools, counsellors and wellbeing workers we have schools covered. Whether you're a school in need of support or a young person needing help in school - get in touch!



Light Painting

Mentoring
Mentoring is a solution focused and goal oriented approach to emotional support. Supporting a young person while they work towards their goals.



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**WE'RE A CHARITY
WE NEED YOUR HELP**

"Visyon has helped me get back on my feet and begin to like myself again."

"I have felt better every week after sharing how I feel."



You can support us in loads of different ways:

-  Donate through our website: www.visyon.org.uk
-  Do a sponsored challenge or host a fundraising event.
-  Get your business involved with a partnership or collection.
-  Ask others to donate to Visyon for your wedding or birthday.

Please get in touch for more information: administration@visyon.org.uk

Where we work:

Visyon has bases across Cheshire East and Staffordshire Moorlands.

Our main base is in Congleton at: **Fellowship House, Park Road, CW12 1DP.**

For more information call us on: **01260 290000** or visit www.visyon.org.uk





Walking Group Fundraiser

Visyon is a mental health charity that supports local children and young people when they need it most.



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**Our new Safeguarding page will become a regular feature in our newsletters.
We will provide you with details of services in your area, advice and guidance.
If you have any safeguarding concerns please raise them with myself or any other
member of the Safeguarding Team on 01270 877601.**

Lorraine Clegg

**Designated
Safeguarding
Lead**



Carol Arthurs

**Designated
Safeguarding
Deputy**



**Catherine
Lewis**

**Safeguarding
Governor**



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Adventure Learning

A really fun half term to start the year of 2020! The children have thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the leisure centres these past 6 weeks! Churchill and Franklin have continued to build confidence, improve their swimming strokes and most of all, have enjoyed being in the water! Hawking, Darwin, Thompson and Lennon have developed confidence in their swimming abilities. They have even learnt new life skills in the water and we have some excellent, strong swimmers! Well done to all the children who got 'Swimmer of the Week'!



Next Half term

Hawking, Darwin, Thompson and Lennon will continue swimming at Congleton.

Churchill and Franklin will continue swimming at Crewe.

Churchill

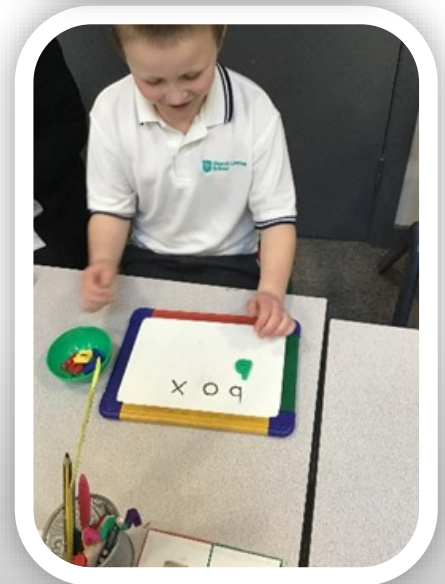
In Churchill class our theme this half term has been 'People who help us'. We have been making police cars and ambulances, as well as looking at what each emergency service does and learning about calling 999 in an emergency.

In English, we have been learning to identify final sounds in words and how to write and pronounce them correctly.

In Maths, we have been learning about matching numerals to objects, and adding two objects together. We have focused on writing numbers with correct formation and size.

In Science, we are learning about different materials. Things like plastic, wood, metal, fabric and glass and understanding their different properties. We have begun to learn hard & soft.

In Adventure Learning we are going to Crewe Leisure Centre, where the students are learning to swim. They are all learning lots of skills and have talked about water safety.



franklin



Over the last half term the boys from Franklin class have been very busy. We have been learning about 'People who help us'. In Art, we made police cars, an ambulance and a postbox!

In English, we have been learning about Police, Paramedics, Postal Workers and Doctors/ Nurses. All the Franklin boys know to call 999 in an emergency and know their own addresses. We even had a policeman (Mr Asprey!) come and visit us in class.

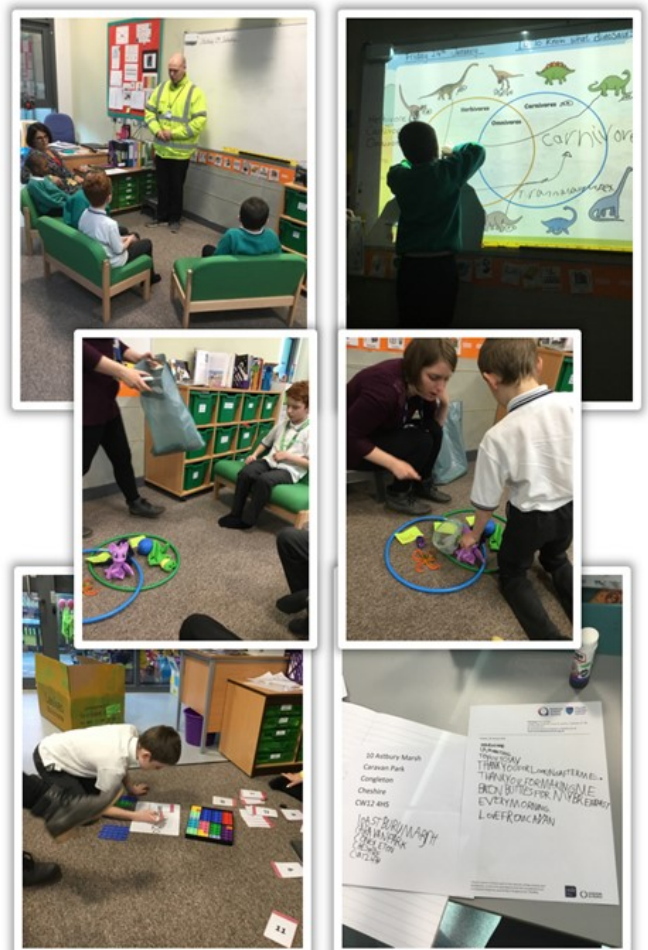
In Topic, we learnt about Hanukkah and more recently we have been learning about dinosaurs.

In Science, we have been learning about different materials including metal, plastic and cardboard... and can even sort objects into 'hard' and 'soft'.

In Food Tech we have made a variety of dishes including cheese roll ups, dinosaur biscuits and Toad in the Hole.

Maths work has been focused on number bonds up to 10 and 20, at which all of Franklin class have done amazingly well!

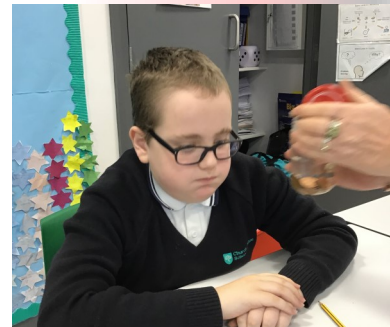
We have enjoyed going to Adventure Learning. This half term we have been going swimming twice a week! We have also enjoyed our P.E. lessons in the hall and Music with Churchill class.



Hawking

This half term Hawking class have been very busy learning about the history of Stoke-on-Trent, the class was very shocked by the working conditions for children in the Potteries. We have carried this into other areas of the curriculum, for example, studying the willow pattern in Art, and in Sensory we have been discovering the taste, touch, sound and smells of the Potteries. At the end of this term we will be visiting the Gladstone Pottery museum.

In Science, we have been looking at dissolving and separating and have created our own experiments.



27th December 1858
 Dear Diary,
 I woke up at 4 am. I was exhausted and upset. It was dark and I couldn't see anything, not even a bit of light! I had water for breakfast, nothing else. My stomach was still rumbling, it felt like I had no stomach at all. At 7 or 8 am, I was sweeping the floor. I killed 7 rats! The factory was like a prison or a torture place.
 Later at 10 am a boy named John refused to do his work (coal mining). His master beat him up with a cane. He cried loudly, it was a horrible sound. Soon that day he got hanged. He was only 8 years old! At 12 pm another child named Mark cried for 4 minutes until his master spotted him! The master then wacked him hard with a WOODEN sound. He cried more and more. Some kids were annoyed with him crying but I know they felt sorry for Mark.
 At 3 pm my hands and feet were hurting terribly but I didn't give up! I didn't want to get beat up, so I carried on. Later that day a boy named Harry (he was 10 years old) died of hypothermia because it was freezing! I felt Goosebumps all over me.
 Only 1 hour until bed time. Tomorrow is Christmas day and we won't have any presents. We will still work even if it's Christmas or not. The master is coming up the stairs. I should properly stop writing. See you tomorrow.
 By Logan Easby



A diary entry from a child living in a work house by Logan.

DARWIN

This half term we have introduced our amazing fish tank and it's inhabitants. We started the project just before Christmas when we let the water stabilize. Now we have fish in the tank! They've provided plenty of interaction for the children, who've taken great delight in naming them. I don't think the fish mind having multiple names!!



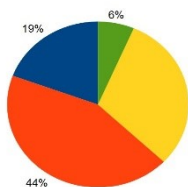
In preparation for our visit to the Gladstone Pottery Museum, we have been working hard learning about Stoke-on-Trent's past industrial might. The children have compiled numerous pieces of work on Josiah Wedgwood and his tragic, but amazing life. Whilst studying this period in time, the children have put themselves in that era and written their own accounts of the lives of a workhouse child.

In Food Tech we have created some culinary masterpieces to the tune of Bolognese, pasta bake, meat/veg & potato pie and banana loaf. Darwin can all chop and peel vegetables safely and have developed further important life skills, including washing up after themselves!!! Yes, they really do not have any excuses anymore!





MATHS



Maths this term has involved a range of data handling. We have looked at bar charts and even been able to produce our own pie charts using Microsoft Excel on the computer.

This Photo by Un-

ENGLISH



This term we have used a famous Roald Dahl book as the inspiration and starting point for our own writing. Students have been able to identify different genres and write blurbs, diaries, recipes, information texts and superlative character descriptions.

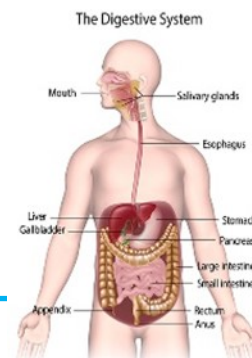
GEOGRAPHY



In Geography we have looked at how the Earth was formed, its layers, geological time periods, continents and oceans.

SCIENCE

In Science we have been learning about the digestive system. Pupils have been able to make their own models and label them. In other Science lessons we have been looking at the Earth's atmosphere and how it is changing. This is also in the news at the moment with a renewed focus on greenhouse gases, global warming and renewable energies.



FOOD TECH

A lesson all students look forward to and enjoy each week. We have made a range of things such as: Spaghetti Bolognese, pasta bake, paella and banoffee fudge loaf.



ADVENTURE LEARNING

Students have been amazing with their swimming this term. Each individual has carefully followed instructions, enabling them to progress in their stages. We have a range of skills going on; some children are just learning to swim whilst others are in the deep end, practicing life saving in the water.

Lennon

This term we have been learning about planets and the universe. How many planets we have and their distance from each other.



We have also been reading the book Matilda in English. We have really enjoyed finding out all the tricks she plays, especially on her parents. The children in Lennon have been making up their own little tricks which they would play on people.



In Food Tech we have been making sponge cakes, putting buttercream all over them and finishing by adding fondant icing. Lennon class enjoyed doing this and they learnt lots of skills such as mixing, spreading, whisking and rolling out.



Matthews

This half term has flown by and as usual we have been very busy!

Maths

- Fractions (adding, subtracting, multiplication and division).
- Converting between decimals fractions and percentages.
- Measuring and identifying angles.
- Angles on a straight line, around a point, in triangles, vertically opposite angles.
- Bidmas and directed numbers.
- HCF and LCM.
- Classification and properties of 2D shapes.

English

- Using language to create atmospheres and analysing how authors do this.
- Identify techniques used to make an opening interesting.
- Describing a setting.
- Locating information and making inferences from a text/image.
- Learning about characters from a text.
- Writing a 500 word story.

In Life Skills we have been learning some basic First Aid including the recovery position and CPR

Science

- Expansion and contraction.
- Link between temperature and dissolving.
- Elements, compounds and mixtures.
- Properties of metals and non-metals.
- Equations for metal and oxygen reactions.
- Experimenting with burning magnesium.

Creative

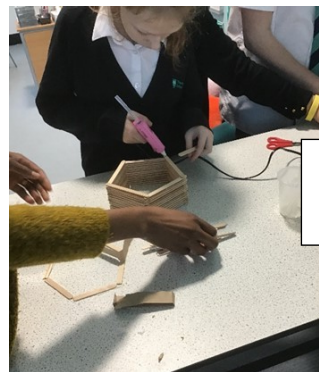
We have been using water colours and pens to create some fantastic silhouette pictures and have used lollypop sticks to create our own class model village!



Sam's silhouette picture

Food Technology

We have been learning all about cake decorating this half term. This has involved us making our own sponges, practising some decorating techniques, planning cake designs and then icing a cake according to our design.



Imogen using the glue gun to make Hagrid's cabin!



Reece rolling out icing for his cake.

We have drumming lessons on Wednesday afternoons and recently entered a music competition. We were brilliant and are playing in the final in March! We even made some of our own rhythms and played them as a class.



Newton

It's been very busy in Newton this term. We have welcomed two new students and lots of important milestones and experiences have been taking place.

Some of our students have been on a careers trip to AO Logistics in Crewe to get an insight into possible jobs and industries that they could move into, whilst others have been to visit Reaseheath College to see all the amazing facilities and courses they have to offer.

One of important things many of our students have been focussing on this term has been the mock exams. Many students have been revising and working hard towards these exams and the maturity of those involved has really risen to the surface. We are pleased to say that the mock exams were successful and all the students that sat them should be proud of how they did. These mock exams will give students a good idea of what they need to do to reach their targets in their exams this Summer.

Lastly, a member of Newton has reached a major milestone in his life, getting himself on the roads and even starting to drive to school on his motorbike. We're all really enjoying hearing about his experiences on the road.



BRANSON

This term Branson have enjoyed many different experiences in their Careers sessions. The students have visited the AO Warehouse in Crewe to learn about the different career paths that they offer. The students were given the opportunity to drive the forklifts and were given a tour of the warehouse. The pupils were very excited when we had a visit from a therapy dog, whose owner talked about how the dog helps students with disabilities. On another occasion we were visited by the author of

'Hal and the End Street', a book about growing up with autism. The author and his mother live in Cheshire and try to inform and educate people about the daily challenges and emotions that autistic teenagers experience every day.



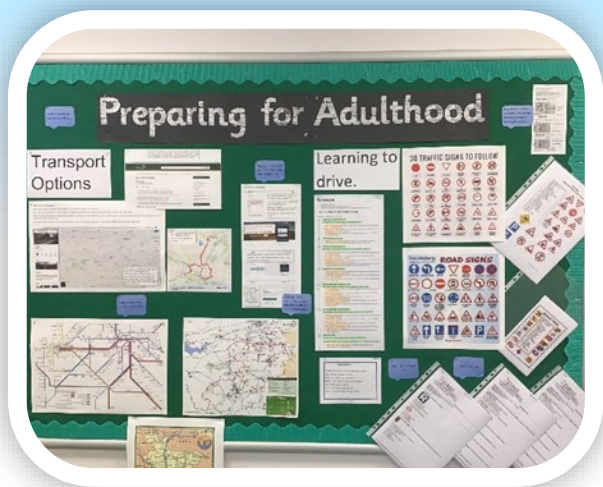
The school band has been practising every week this term. During Creative sessions. Imogen, Jack, Joselyn, Theo, Zach, Tom and

Lewis are learning how to play classic rock songs together. During a visit from Principals of other NAS schools, the band played their first gig. They have been working incredibly hard and will soon be ready to headline Glastonbury!



Austen

During this half term Austen pupils have been busy working towards their future qualifications and have sat their mock GCSE and A Level Exams. We are really proud of how they conducted themselves during this stressful time, and hope this will prepare them for the real exams later in the year.



Callum has been working towards his Food Technology mock exam. He will need to make a two course menu from beginning to end in three hours. Callum has decided to make Toad in the Hole and Victoria Sponge cake.

Georgie has started driving lessons which is exciting for her. We have a notice board in the common room which provides general information, factsheets and practice papers. Georgie has also been looking at college

places for her future options and has a couple of offers to consider.

Alfie has been cooking fizzy orange chicken and is now half way to completing his Science Entry Level Award.

Friday 7th February 2020 was Secondary Adventure Learning Day. It was a really good day and enjoyed by all who participated.

The quiet room in the Sixth Form has had a mini make over. We now have some soft furnishings and further sensory items. Students can use this space to work or take time when needed to listen to music, read, and use the sensory items available to them.

We are all looking forward to a busy half term after the holidays.

