



23rd July 2024

Dear parents and carers,

It did...the sun did stick around for sports week! Let's forget about the miserable wet weather inbetween my last newsletter and this one because we've definitely not had a miserable time here at Cheveley Park: it's been one jam-packed, fun end to the term - our Facebook posts say it all ☺

Year 6s

I'd just like to start off by saying a goodbye and good Luck message to our Year 6 children: *When I started as the headteacher here in school, you lovely lot were a term into your Reception year – in some ways, it seems like it was only yesterday! It has been a pleasure to watch you all grow and mature into the individuals you are today and I'd like to wish you lots of happiness. Remember, life is what you make of it so, grab it with both hands and keep being the best versions of you that you can be. Go for it, guys!*

Wraparound

Many thanks for your patience regarding information about our wraparound provision in school from September. Following on from June's newsletter, a flier was shared with you all which included the key details (timings, prices etc.). I'm delighted to now be in a position to share our [wraparound brochure](#) which is much more detailed and does contain the answers to the questions some of you have asked. We have no doubt that procedures will evolve as we find our feet and any updates will always be shared with you as promptly as possible.

Updates from the Local Authority

Please click the links below to see information we have been asked to share with you:

[What's on Durham](#) - A range of activities, hubs and resources available for families from pregnancy up until a child reaches the age of 19.

[Summer Holiday Activities 2024](#) - A range of activities available throughout Durham for during the summer holidays.

[Family Hubs Activity and Programmes Guide](#) - Family hubs are here to help you and your family during pregnancy, through your child's early years and throughout school. They have a range of activities, groups and programmes for mams, dads and carers to attend as well as for children and young people.

[Durham Adult Mental Health Support](#) - Adult Mental Health Information.

[Referral – Durham Mental Wellbeing Alliance](#) - Offers a range of support services for various mental health concerns. The service accepts self-referrals or referrals made by organisations. For more information, please call 0300 3044 5527.

[Help for families - your virtual Family Hub](#) - Support for families in all areas of family life.

Back to School – Attendance Campaign / Parental Survey

Colleagues from the Local Authority's attendance team have asked us to encourage parents to complete the attendance survey contained on the Council's attendance webpage <https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2339/School-attendance-and-absence> as the views on parental communications will be used to inform local school attendance promotion activity / campaign in the new term via our communications team.

Attendance

We've come to the end of our first year of monitoring children's attendance in line with the government's 'Working together to improve school attendance' document. In August 2024, this document becomes statutory and we're definitely in a good place to be able to adhere to the guidance and requirements it specifies. We will continue to monitor children's attendance (including minutes lost) on a half-termly basis (or more frequently where there are concerns) and will communicate with parents and carers. We also aim to communicate more regularly where children's attendance is positive. We've seen some real successes with improved attendance this year and we'd like to thank you for working with us. Thank you also for accepting our policy regarding evidence being required for appointments during the school day: providing this has really improved authorised absences overall. If you have any questions regarding attendance, please don't hesitate to contact me or Karl.

Friends of the school

I'd like to thank the Friends of the school for the final time this academic year – your support and dedication never goes unnoticed. This term is a busy one for the Friends and their planning and organising of sports day refreshments and raffles along with the summer fun afternoon and everything that this entails – is no mean feat. Many thanks to parents and carers for supporting these events and to staff for also donating bottles for the raffle. As always, all profit made is spent directly on our children and we're very lucky that this coming year, once again, money raised from the Friends' events will be equally shared between all classes in school and will go towards reducing the cost of a school trip. This is fantastic and much appreciated as we firmly believe that experiences outside of school enhance our curriculum but can, at the same time, be costly. The money will certainly help towards covering the travel costs of one school trip for each class this coming year – that's a LOT of money...thank you so very much 😊

Uniform

In September, it's important that all children adhere to the expectations of our school uniform policy – a reminder of what is expected can be found here: [Uniform Policy](#). This policy is reviewed every two years, once this is done in September, it will be shared with all parents and carers. However, there will be no changes as to what children are required to wear for their school uniform and school PE kit. Remember that Cheveley's swap-shop is always open in the porch of the main entrance into school: please come and help yourselves to anything. And, if what you need is not there, please ask as we do have spare swap-shop clothing.

Goodbye, Debs!

After 22 years of service at Belmont Cheveley Park Pre-School (or Giant Steps as it was when Debs joined!), Deborah is retiring. She has seen a lot of children (and staff!) grow up through the school. Deborah has been a key member of staff and we will miss her very much. Enjoy the peace and quiet, Deborah! Thanks for everything and make sure you keep popping to see us, Debs 😊

Thank you!

What a year...what a team! Our fantastic Ofsted report and statutory data results are among many things to celebrate this year. I'd personally just like to thank everyone for another fabulous year at Cheveley Park. Your children are a sheer joy and it is our privilege to spend each day with them. The support from parents and carers is hugely appreciated. And, staff...where do I start? Thank you...thank you...thank you 😊

Have a fantastic summer break everyone. Stay safe and we'll look forward to seeing children back in school on Thursday 5th September.

Warm wishes,

Amy



Amy Goodwin

Headteacher & Designated Safeguarding Lead

