

Chopps Chat ✨

A message from the Headteacher

Welcome everyone to the latest edition of Chopps Chat. As we edge closer to the end of the academic year, things are certainly not slowing down in school – quite the opposite. There's plenty going on, and in this newsletter you'll find lots of information about events taking place over the next couple of weeks.

I want to take a moment to praise how brilliantly the children have coped with the recent heat. Even on the warmest days, they've continued to give 100%, producing fantastic work and throwing themselves into numerous rehearsals. We have two class assemblies coming up: Year 1/2 kicked us off with a fabulous assembly all about Australia. Today's assembly will be followed by Year 3/4 who will be sharing their learning on the Victorians. After that, our whole-school drama production of Trolls will take centre stage before our tear-jerker of a Year 5/6 leavers' assembly. We'll also come together for our end-of-year celebration assembly on the final day of term at 9:15am, where we'll celebrate achievements, attendance, and say a fond farewell to our wonderful Year 6s.

A huge well done must also go to our group of Year 4/5/6 children who recently attended Ford Castle on a residential. They pushed themselves out of their comfort zones and represented the school beautifully – we're incredibly proud of them.

A quick reminder that sports day is scheduled for the afternoon of Tuesday 7th July (weather dependent), and school will close for the summer holidays at 1:30pm on Friday 17th July. You'll find other important information further on in the newsletter. We hope you all have a wonderful summer. Stay safe and enjoy the break if we don't see you over the next couple of weeks.

Attendance and Late Arrivals

This term's attendance has once again been much lower than we hoped. While we fully recognise that illness has played a part, we are still seeing too many children missing significant periods of time from school. Research consistently shows that regular attendance is one of the strongest predictors of academic progress. Even small amounts of missed learning add up quickly. Children who are frequently absent often struggle to keep up with new concepts, lose confidence, and find it harder to build secure foundations across the curriculum.

We are also seeing an increasing number of children arriving late. Although a few minutes may not seem like much, those minutes accumulate across the year:

5 minutes late each day = 25 minutes lost per week

25 minutes per week = over 16 hours per year

16 hours = roughly 3 full school days of learning lost

That's before considering the impact of missing the calm, structured start to the day – a time when routines are set, instructions are given, and children settle into learning. To support families, we offer:

Breakfast Club from 8.15am

Soft opening from 8.45am

Registration at 8.55am – all children must be in school by this time

If you are finding mornings difficult or feel you need support getting your child into school on time, please talk to us.

We are here to help, not judge, and we want to work with families to make sure every child has the best possible start to each day.

Dates for the Diary

Important dates for the diary

Thursday 2nd July - Year 1/2 class assembly

Tuesday 7th July - Sports Day (Subject to weather) @ 2pm

Thursday 9th July - All Star productions performance of Trolls @ 2pm

Friday 10th July - Early Years sports day and picnic @ 10:45am

Friday 10th July - Year 3/4 class assembly @ 2:30pm

Thursday 16th July - Y6 leavers assembly @ 2pm

Wednesday 15th July - Y6 lunch trip to Raffaellos

Friday 17th July - Celebration assembly. All parents welcome @ 9:10am

School closes for the Summer holidays at 1:30pm on

Friday 17th July. School reopens to students on

Wednesday 3rd September.

Further dates or any changes to dates will be shared via social media/email/class dojo

Fond farewells

We are sad to announce that both Mrs Preston and Miss Clark will be leaving us at the end of the academic year. Both have worked tirelessly during their time here, supporting families and helping our children make exceptional progress and both will be a huge miss. I'm sure you will join us in wishing them both all the best moving forwards in their new jobs.


Mr Sharp and Mrs Towers will be joining us from September in their new roles as Year 3/4 teachers.


Home Reading

Remember to log home reading on our fabulous Learning with parents reading log. All parents should receive a message each week with a magic link to follow. Any issues, please let us know ASAP!

Parking reminder

 A little parking reminder, lovely families! 

We know that finding a space during the busy morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up can feel like a bit of a treasure hunt  — especially on those soggy, puddle-filled days!

However, we kindly ask that cars do not park on the grass verge outside the school. When the ground is wet, tyres can easily churn up the grass, leaving it muddy, uneven, and not-so-lovely for our children and community. 

Your support helps keep our school looking welcoming and safe for everyone — and we truly appreciate it. Thank you for your continued support! 

Ford Castle

Recently, some of our pupils from Year 4/5/6 visited Ford Castle on our annual residential trip. This was the first time that we had visited the centre which is situated in the beautiful countryside in Ford.

The children got to stay in the actual castle which is steeped in rich history but has been converted into an activity centre. The children enjoyed climbing activities, laser tag, aeroball, archery and much more.

The children had a fantastic time and represented the school brilliantly. Well done to everyone involved!

A huge thank you must also go out to Miss Clark and Mrs Ball who gave up their own time to accompany the children to ensure that the trip could go ahead. These trips require a great deal of planning as well as the continued effort needed to ensure that everyone enjoys the trip safely!



Safeguarding

At Choppington Primary, we take the safety and well-being of our students as our utmost priority. Our designated safeguarding lead is Mr. Smith, with Mrs. Broderick and Mr. Palmer serving as the deputy safeguarding leads. Together, they ensure that robust safeguarding measures are in place and that our school remains a secure and nurturing environment for all our children.

Safeguarding encompasses all aspects of student welfare, from protection against physical and emotional harm to promoting their overall well-being. It extends beyond the school premises to include online safety and safeguarding during educational trips or activities. We believe that an effective safeguarding system is built upon a partnership between the school and parents, wherein both parties play a vital role. By working together, we create an environment that encourages children to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. When home and school collaborate effectively, we can identify and address any concerns promptly, ensuring that our students feel safe and supported at all times.

We understand that parents are a valuable source of knowledge about their child's well-being and personal circumstances. Therefore, we encourage you to inform the school of any significant changes or issues that may impact your child's welfare. It is important to remember that even the smallest concern should be brought to our attention, as it allows us to provide the appropriate support.

If you have any concerns or worries, we urge you to reach out to the school immediately. Our staff members, from class teachers to support staff, are always ready to listen and work in partnership with you to find solutions that best meet the needs of your child.

Moreover, we request your cooperation in adhering to the school's policies and procedures relating to safeguarding. These guidelines are in place to ensure the well-being of all children and to maintain a safe and inclusive learning environment. By familiarising yourself with these policies, you can actively contribute to our collective efforts to safeguard our students.

We truly believe that the collaboration between school and home is a key factor in a child's educational journey. By forging a strong partnership, we can provide the best possible educational experience while ensuring the safety and well-being of our students.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to working together with you and continuing to provide a high-quality education for your child.

EVERY DAY COUNTS

School and future success starts with good attendance!



100%

Your attendance is excellent!

Our target for all students

DAILY LATENESS EQUATES TO...

3

DAYS LOST

5 MINUTES LATE
15 hours lost to learning

6

DAYS LOST

10 MINUTES LATE
30 hours lost to learning

10

DAYS LOST

15 MINUTES LATE
50 hours lost to learning

97%

Well done!

6 DAYS ABSENCE

24 lessons missed

You're on the right path for success, keep it up!

94%

At risk of persistent absence

11 DAYS ABSENCE

44 lessons missed

A poor attendance gives you less chance of success.

90%

Persistently absent

19 DAYS ABSENCE

76 lessons missed

Very poor attendance has a serious impact on your education and may reduce your life choices.

Remember

Your education is important - don't miss out!