

Chopps Chat

February 2023



Year 1/2 on their trip to the Grace Darling Museum



Taking part in a fantastic workshop!



Exploring the museum!

Headteacher's Comment

As another half term draws to a close, it's a great time to reflect on all of the successes we've shared and also look ahead to the coming weeks with plenty more to look forward to.

The children began 2023 with enthusiasm and gusto and it has been marvellous to see so many children bringing work to me throughout the weeks. This enables us to share their successes and celebrate their pride in our Friday celebration assemblies. Thank you to the hard working parents and Grandparents who have sat down with children and completed topic homework together.

Year 1/2 have managed to enjoy several trips out of school as part of their learning around Grace Darling and other bold women through history. They enjoyed a trip to the Grace Darling museum and then again the following week to the RNLI station at Blyth.

It has also been great to see some of our Year 5/6 children heading out and about on their bikes on a Friday afternoon. Through our enrichment programme, we develop skills, confidence and stamina on site before celebrating by taking groups off site. So far, both groups have cycled through the woods and down to Riverside park with more trips planned in the coming weeks!

There's lots to look forward to in the coming weeks too so keep your eyes and ears peeled!

Thanks as always for your continued support.

Mr R. Smith

Polite Reminders

Whilst we actively encourage our pupils to be as active as possible, including cycling and scootering, please remember that all riders and scooters should dismount before entering the school premises. This applies to ALL of our pupils including those in Little Learners all the way up to Year 6. This also applies to parents or older siblings who may be collecting or dropping off.

We also ask you to be mindful of the language used on the playground. We have lots of children on the playgrounds both in the morning and at pick up times.

Conduct on site

All schools encourage close links with parents and the community. We believe that pupils benefit when the relationship between home and school is a positive one.

The vast majority of parents, carers and others visiting our school are keen to work with us and are supportive of the school. However, on the rare occasions when a negative attitude towards the school is expressed, this can result in aggression, verbal and or physical abuse towards members of school staff or the wider school community.

We believe staff, parents and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to work. Behaviour that will cause harassment, alarm or distress is contrary to the aims of the school.

Aims:

- That all members of our school community treat each other with respect.

Expectations:

- That adults set a good example to children at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community.
- That no-one on our school premises will be the victim of abusive behaviour or open to threats.
- Physical attacks and threatening behaviour, abusive or insulting language verbal or written, to staff, governors, parents and carers, children and other users of the school premises will not be tolerated and will result in the withdrawal of permission to be on school premises.
- Any parent / carer who is asked to leave the school premises will have the right to appeal the decision by writing to the Chair of Governors. Please note that incidents of rudeness will be logged with the Chair of Governors.

Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable and will not be tolerated towards any member of the school community: This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to

provide illustrations of such behaviour:

- Shouting, either in person or over the telephone
- Inappropriate posting on Social Networking sites deemed as bullying
- Speaking in an aggressive/threatening tone, either in person or over the telephone
- Physically intimidating, e.g. standing very close, pointing in their face
- The use of aggressive hand gestures/exaggerated movements
- Physical threats
- Shaking or holding a fist towards another person
- Swearing
- Pushing
- Hitting e.g. slapping, punching or kicking
- Spitting
- Racist or sexist comments

Unacceptable behaviour, if deemed necessary, may result in the Police being informed.

We reserve the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that no member of this school community is subject to abuse. School premises are private property and parents have been granted permission from the school to be on site. However, in case of abuse or threats to staff, pupils, visitors or other parents, school may withdraw a parent's 'licence' from entering the premises.

It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 for any person (including a parent) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The police may be called to assist in removing the person concerned particularly if the parent has been informed of the school's decision to bar and this is being flouted. School is not responsible for organising arrangement for children in the above circumstances. Parents will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing children into school. Parents have the right of appeal by writing to the Chair of Governors within 7 days of permission to enter the school premises being withdrawn.

Staffing

We're sad to announce that, after Easter, Miss Bason will be leaving Choppington Primary. She has worked tirelessly since arriving at Choppington in September 2021 and has made a huge impact on the practice in Early Years. We wish her all the best moving forwards and thank her for all of her hard work.

A new Early Years teacher will be appointed in due course.

New Arrivals!

Yesterday, Miss Sadler welcomed a beautiful baby girl into her family. Both Mother and baby are doing well and Miss Sadler's boys are relishing their roles as big brothers.

Congratulations Miss Sadler and family!

Co-op Local Community Fund

The Co-op Local Community Fund supports projects across the UK that members care about. We have been successful in applying to be included as one of their worthwhile causes. You can help us by downloading the Co-op app and selecting Choppington PTFA as a local cause. That means, for every £1 spent in store, 2p is donated to us. Whilst this might seem a small amount, it soon adds up!

Click on this [link](#) to become a member.

Schoolcomms

School Gateway is our communication app available on Android, iOS and the web. It'll work on phones tablets, laptops and even smart watches.

When you log into the app, each of the services we provide will appear in a list for you to choose from.

We plan to use the app to make it easier to communicate, send messages/reminders, pay for trips and meals, sign up to clubs and much more.

An email will be sent next week with set up details. If you'd prefer a letter with instructions, please call in to the office.

The app is free to download and will become our primary means of communication so please do download and sign up.

Click below for a link to the Apple Appstore



Click below for a link to the android store



Attendance

In recent weeks, we have noticed an improvement in attendance figures and we are grateful for all of your support in this matter.

If your child is feeling unwell, we once again listed below the guidelines we follow:

Sickness and Diarrhoea - If your child has been sick or suffered from diarrhoea, they must be absent for 48 hours since the last case.

COVID - Children must isolate for 3 days after a positive lateral flow test or until they begin to test negative. Lateral flow tests are available from most pharmacies and chemists.

Coughs and colds - It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

High temperature

If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.

Chickenpox

If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over.

This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Cold sores

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a cold sore.

Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.

Conjunctivitis

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis.

Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

If you have any queries or questions, you can visit the Government website or speak to a member of the office staff who will assist you.

Parent Questionnaires

Many thanks to those of you who completed the parent questionnaires sent out at the end of the last term.

We have collated the information and are grateful for your comments and responses.

The survey was overwhelmingly positive. Below are some of the results:

98% of parents responded that their children liked attending Choppington Primary School.

100% responded that their children felt safe at school.

100% of you also responded that you felt the school was clean and attractive.

100% responded that they would recommend Choppington Primary to other people.

We also noted that some of you felt that you were unaware of targets for your children or how they are doing academically. We have discussed this with staff to ensure these areas are covered in greater depth during termly assertive mentoring meetings.

We also recognise that some felt that more notice could be given on upcoming events and we completely agree with this! We've since introduced schoolcomms meaning we can once again send text messages and emails alongside our social media page and class dojo.

Many thanks once again for all of your input and continued support.

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 7th February, we participated in a day of internet safety tasks. Children discussed how to remain safe online and also shared experiences of times when they perhaps felt unsafe online.

We've continued to share posts on online safety on our school Facebook page each Thursday.

Useful links for online safety.

NSPCC

The NSPCC has this page with tools and advice for how to keep families safe.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Thinkuknow for parents and carers

CEOP's Thinkuknow Parents and Carers site features advice to help keep children safe online, and to deal with any problems that crop up.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Internet Matters

Internet Matters is an industry backed website with internet safety resources for parents.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

Parent Zone

Parent Zone has lots of articles, videos and advice for parents looking to support their children online.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/>

YoungMinds

The YoungMinds parents helpline is for anyone who is concerned about the wellbeing of a child or young person.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-helpline-and-webchat>

Click CEOP

If you have been a victim of online abuse or you're worried about somebody else, you can report it to CEOP securely

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

Childline

If you are being bullied, or you are not ready to make a report to CEOP, you can talk to Childline anonymously online or on the phone - No worry is too big or too small.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Be Internet Awesome

The Be Internet Awesome Family Guide gives families the tools and resources to learn about online safety and citizenship at home.

https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_us/

Safer Internet Centre

UK Safer Internet Centre is a partnership of three leading charities with a mission to make the internet a better place for children and young people.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

Dates for the Diary

- Fri 17th Feb - Break up for half term
- Mon 20th Feb - Nutri-troops workshop for KS2 children (lunch provided)
- Monday 27th Feb - School re-opens after half term.



- Thursday 2nd March - Y1/2 Science workshop (during school time)
- Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day
- Wednesday 8th March - Year 3/4 trip to pizza express
- Friday 17th March - PTFA Mother's Day afternoon (2:30pm)
- Tuesday 28th March - PTFA Easter Coffee afternoon
- Friday 31st March - School closes for Easter break (1:30pm finish)

Any additional dates will be shared in the coming weeks.



About us

[Facebook](#)
[@choppingtonps](#)

Choppington Primary is a school at the heart of the community of Choppington, Northumberland. We are a school where every child is encouraged to achieve their very best. This is a happy, vibrant place to learn – we aim to give children the skills for life and a wealth of memorable experiences.

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