



CHELLASTON JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mr James Emery

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Dear Parents,

As the Summer Term draws to a close, I write to celebrate the success of the pupils and remind parents of a few things prior to September.

Review of Summer Term 2018

Firstly, it has been another hectic term during which pupils have worked really hard, completed assessments and enjoyed learning across the curriculum. The lovely summer weather has been with us for the whole of this half term, so the children have spent many lunchtimes playing on the field with their friends. We aim for all children to be happy at school, so thank you to the team of Midday Staff who supervise the children each lunchtime. With 512 children now at CJS, we have had very few incidents of any poor behaviour during this time. This is testament to the positive relationships between staff and pupils over the lunchtime.

School Sport continues to go from strength to strength, under the leadership of Miss McGinty and Mr Gadsby. This year has seen a vast increase in the number of pupils, both boys and girls, who have participated in sporting events at school and against other schools. Many other staff have also supported the sporting life of the school including Mr Beeston (Football), Mrs Holmes and Mrs Chapman (Athletics), Miss Ballington (Swimming Gala) and some old Headteacher (Cricket). Year 4 have all completed their swimming sessions at Repton School. Girls' football has taken off this year and we have some girls involved in the Derby County Ladies U11 squad. The school qualified for the County Final in Athletics and a Year 4 football team represented Derby County Academy and played a tournament at Aston Villa's Academy. It has been brilliant to see so many pupils keeping active and enjoying competitive sport.

Music and Drama is always high profile at CJS and rightly so. Last term saw the school production of Jungle Book, directed by Miss Fogg, wow the audiences of pupils, parents and the local community. We have so many talented youngsters who may well have a future in the West End! Year 4 have now completed the Soundstart lessons, which



culminated in concerts from Chatsworth and Duffield classes on Tuesday this week. All pupils were very engaged with their music and gave a lovely performance. We do hope that many children will consider continuing with their instrumental tuition in the years to come.

This term we celebrated our learning in all areas of the curriculum. The school Governors came for a visit and discussed curriculum developments with Miss Fogg. The Governors were very impressed with the interesting lessons and the skills, attitudes and knowledge of the pupils. The focus on talking about your learning, working together, asking questions and being creative are all important skills for the future. We continue to plan a number of interesting school trips to enhance the learning. We try to get the balance right between the basics and fun activities, as we aim to help all children be happy at school, develop positive relationships and enjoy their learning.

Fund-raising is a very important aspect of school life and this year has seen the School Council raise nearly £800 for the school charities of HeartLink and Uganda. The council have been a great success this year and been great ambassadors for CJS. Under the guidance of Mrs Collins and Mrs Richardson, they have done a super job and should be very proud of themselves. The PTFA have done a sterling job as always and raised a huge amount for the school. Thank you to the committee and all those who work so hard behind the scenes.

Regular attendance at school is vital if children are to achieve their best. This week in assembly we presented over 50 children with gift vouchers to recognise 100% attendance for the year. This is a significant achievement and one which will help the children in the years to come. I urge all parents to avoid holiday absence during term time as this clearly has an effect on the progress of pupils. Thank you for your support to ensure that your child attends school regularly.

There are many pupils at CJS who volunteer to help out in various ways. Mrs Edwards recognised the commitment of the "Plant Waterers" and the "Litter Pickers" in assembly yesterday with a well-earned certificate. The children concerned are at the heart of what CJS is all about. They are working together to make our world a better place. Well done, everyone!

Once again, the children have achieved very good SATs results in Year 6. Please see the website, under "Our School" for further information on test results. Suffice to say the school maintains a strong position, well above the National, which reflects the commitment of all pupils and staff to achieve the highest standards possible. The team of staff have worked to focus on specific areas of English and Maths, under the leadership of Ms Onion and Mrs Atwal. However, I feel very strongly that life at school is about much more than

SATs. Here is a poem we included in the Weekly Bulletin (18 May this year), which is still very relevant:

SATs don't measure sports
SATs don't measure art,
SATs don't measure music,
Or the kindness in your heart.

SATs don't see your beauty,
SATs don't know your worth,
SATs don't see the reasons,
You were put upon this earth.

SATs don't see your magic,
How you make others smile,
SATs don't time how quickly,
You can run a mile.

SATs don't hear your laughter,
Or see you've come this far,
SATs are just a tiny glimpse,
Of who you really are.

So sitting at your table,
With a pencil and your test,
Remember SATs aren't who you are,
Remember **you're the best!**

There are many pupils who find learning a bit tricky and may need emotional support at times. We work hard to provide the right nurture for these pupils and aim to work in partnership with parents to overcome any barriers to learning. I would like to thank Mrs Holmes and Mrs Deane-Robson for their leadership in this area, together with the team of experienced teaching assistants who provide that extra adult guidance where needed. The important thing is that all pupils are making good progress for themselves, rather than comparing to the national average or other children in their class. The vision at CJS is definitely about doing MY best and celebrating MY achievements.

Technology develops at a very fast pace. At CJS, the Governors have invested over £30,000 to install new interactive whiteboards in every class. This is a very exciting initiative that will enhance our teaching and learning into the future. Thank you to Mrs Reader for her leadership in ICT and Computing, ensuring that we are moving forward and embracing new technology.



We are proud of standards of behaviour at CJS. The children generally respond very well to the expectations at school and maintain very positive attitudes to learning. Thank you to Mrs Stephenson and all the Senior Leadership Team (Miss Fogg, Miss Ballington and Mr Beeston) for taking a leading role in promoting positive behaviour across all year groups.

Thank you to Miss Fogg who, as Deputy Headteacher, provides great support and leadership in so many areas. Parents always know that they can contact either of us and we will work together to respond to parents. Miss Fogg continues to work with students and other teachers around Derby City and her experience and expertise is very much appreciated here at CJS.

As you are aware, the four schools in Chellaston have been collaborating and are looking to form a MAT in the Autumn/Spring of next academic year. My thanks go to Mrs Dolby, the School Business Manager, for completing much of the extra work involved to help us prepare for the transition. There will be further updates regarding the MAT process for parents early in the Autumn Term

It has been a sad end to the term as we say goodbye to long-standing members of staff. Mrs Clark is leaving, after 19 years at CJS. She is an inspirational teacher and will be greatly missed by everyone here. As you know, Mrs Slack is retiring after 24 years at the helm of CJS as office manager. I know staff, parents, pupils and governors will all miss her friendly and efficient approach. The children performed a lovely poem in assembly today, co-written by staff and pupils, together with some interesting song and dance moves from staff (but we won't go into that!). We wish Mrs Slack (Aunty Mo) every blessing in the years to come as she starts the next exciting chapter of her life. She is such a lovely lady who will be greatly missed by everyone.

Reminders for Parents

School Stationery

Each year, school provides various items of stationery for all pupils. However, we are aware that many of our children love bringing in pencil cases and their own stationery.

We are keen to promote independence and responsibility, so from September would like all children to bring a pencil case with their own stationery to school each day. Parents are asked to provide:-

- **One** pencil case in which to keep personal stationery. This should be able to fit into your child's tray.
- Coloured pencil crayons

- Felt tip pens
- Pencil sharpener (with a bin)
- Eraser
- Highlighting pen
- Glue stick
- Whiteboard pen

Please ensure all items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

School will continue to provide HB pencils, handwriting pens, rulers and other necessary equipment. There will be a small collection of stationery in the classroom in case pupils leave their pencil cases at home.

If your child is entitled to Pupil Premium, then we will provide them with a pencil case of essential items to be kept in school. Of course, they are welcome to bring in their own pencil cases if they wish to.

It is expected that **ALL children use a sharp school pencil** as these have the best handwriting results.

[Term Dates 2018 - 2019](#)

Earrings

All jewellery is discouraged. However, small, stud earrings are acceptable. If children do want to get their ears pierced, then please do so in the first week of the holidays so that pupils can participate in PE in September.

Holiday Tips

Sometimes, research shows that children spend too long in front of screens and devices, so here are some tips for the holidays, instead of playing online games:

1. Learn to prepare or cook a simple healthy meal
2. Read every day
3. Have some fresh air and exercise
4. Help your family clear away and wash up after meals
5. Visit a family member who may be lonely
6. Help out with jobs at home
7. Find out about the places you may visit
8. Keep a holiday journal –just a couple of sentences each day
9. Make your parents a cup of tea/coffee! (with supervision)
10. Have fun



Homework

At CJS we don't give out specific homework over the holidays, but would advise that children read regularly, practise times tables, keep a holiday journal and find out about the geography of any journeys and places that they visit.

Year 6

Year 6 have been stars this year. In addition to academic achievement, they have set a good example for the other year groups, enjoyed a great Activity Week and performed a brilliant Leavers' Assembly. It is clear that they have worked together to share their talents and achieve something very special. Thank you to Mr Beeston and the Y6 team for doing such a great job with the pupils in preparation for SATs and so much more this year. We know that you have the talent and attitude to achieve your dreams, so go for it! "If you can dream it; you can do it"

May I take this opportunity to wish all our families a pleasant summer break and I look forward to seeing all pupils on **MONDAY 10 September**.

Best Wishes,

Mr Emery