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## September 4th 2020 Newsletter

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Checkendon CE Primary School

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We've had an excellent start to the autumn term; new pupils have settled in brilliantly and it already feels like they're part of the team! As well as welcoming Harry, Kay-Jay, Lara, Rafe and Saskia to Owllet Class, we also have a new addition to Owl Class, Wilf, who joins us as a Year 1; we hope they will all be very happy here at Checkendon School.

It has been a bit different for all of us, pupils, parents and staff, returning to school for the beginning of a new academic year in the time of Covid 19. I have been very impressed by the sensible response to necessary safety arrangements, positive attitude to learning and exemplary behaviour of all our pupils. It's going to be a great year!

As you would expect, we continue to amend school activities in line with government guidance and we will not be holding the customary Class Meetings this term. However, Curriculum Newsletters will be provided, as usual – so look out for these next week. After this extended period of uncertainty, we are offering an extra opportunity for parents to discuss children's progress. Autumn Parents' Evenings will take place via Teams during the week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> October – invitations will be sent out in due course.

If you have any concerns or questions for your child's teacher before then, please do phone or email the school office and we'll do our best to help.

Warm regards,  
**Gillian Seymour**

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## Thought for the Day

I've always loved  
the first day of  
school better than  
the last day of  
school. Firsts are best  
because they  
are beginnings.

Jenny Han



## Pictures of the Week

### Owlet Class

It's been a lovely first few days and the children have settled beautifully. They have hunted for treasure in the outside area, learnt about what they do and don't like and had lots of fun using the learning resources inside the classroom!



## More Information



### A Note from Emma Davies

Emma has spaces available for piano lessons before school, lunch time and after school. She is able to offer face-to-face or Zoom tuition. Please contact [daviesepiano@gmail.com](mailto:daviesepiano@gmail.com) for further information.

**Stop the Spread** The virus hasn't gone away. COVID-19 cases are on the rise and it's up to all of us to #StopTheSpread. Our safety is in our hands and the advice is simple: wash your hands regularly, keep your distance and avoid busy gatherings, wear a face covering (and dispose of it safely), and avoid car sharing, if possible. Showing symptoms? Self-isolate and call 119 to book a test. Find out more: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/stophespread](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/stophespread)



### Save the Date

The PTA will be holding the AGM on 21<sup>st</sup> September. Time and venue (there is a chance the meeting will be held via Zoom) to be confirmed.

### Good Behaviour Policy Update

Three small amendments have been made to the Good Behaviour Policy to bring it into line with the current safety arrangements. For the time being we are unable to offer Hot Choc with Mrs Seymour, visits to Mrs Seymour for stickers and internal exclusion now refers to a child working in a different room rather than classroom. Please find the amended policy on the school website.

### A Note from Revd Kevin Davies – Sunday Worship

I'm pleased to tell you that we are now able to offer early services on a Sunday morning in two of our churches, with a Holy Communion at Woodcote at 8.30am, and Morning Prayer at Checkendon at 9am, commencing this Sunday 6th Sept. However, for the foreseeable future, our "main" morning services will continue to be online. This coming Sunday your service choices (via Zoom) are:

Description of Service	
10am Service of the World led by Revd John. Readings and prayers to start the day with God.	For Zoom Meeting IDs and Passwords please refer to <a href="http://langtreechurches.org/sunday-services/">http://langtreechurches.org/sunday-services/</a>
10am Worshipping Together with Revd Linda. An informal and friendly service to explore your faith.	
11am Morning Prayer with Revd Kevin. A prayerful service with readings, hymns and a short talk.	

And finally.....

**Q: What do you get when you drop a piano down a mine shaft?**

**A: A Flat Minor**



### Unexpected Visitors

Today we had some unexpected visitors on the school field!



Charity, Carob and Twinkle have now been safely returned to the equestrian centre ☺

**Below:** Some of the children were pictured back in their classrooms eager to learn and be reacquainted with friends.

### Owl Class



### Panda Class



### Rhino Class

