

# Chapel Street Community Primary School



## Curriculum Update: January 2019

Thank you to everyone who attended our Parent Curriculum workshops in November. Please see below for details of our Parent Curriculum Sessions with Clive Davies OBE (Focus Education). Clive has been working with us, since last Summer, to help design our new curriculum. His session will include updates about what we have been doing and why – there will also be opportunities for you to ask questions and share your own ideas for what you would like your children to learn and how.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January – 2:00pm to 3:00pm**

Please sign in at the main office to school.

Two of the key questions raised by parents were, 'How can I find out more about what my child is learning in school?' and 'How can I help my child with their learning at home?'

You also asked for more opportunities to celebrate children's learning, effort and achievements. We have started a Half Termly Celebration Assembly to help with this. The first of these was today and the children really enjoyed having their parents in school, to see their certificates awarded.

**We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the meeting on Tuesday.**

### How can I find out more about my child's learning?

- **Website:** Over the next few weeks we will be busy adding photos, videos, examples of work and information about our learning to the website – so that we can keep you up-to-date more regularly – please visit often to see what's there.  
[chapelstreetprimary.co.uk/curriculum.html](http://chapelstreetprimary.co.uk/curriculum.html)  
[chapelstreetprimary.co.uk/classes.html](http://chapelstreetprimary.co.uk/classes.html)



- **Overview:** Every teacher sends home an Overview of learning, in the first week of a new half term. This will tell you the topics your child is covering and important dates, as well as other helpful information.



- **Reflection days:** At the end of every half term each class shares their learning with parents, carers, family and the wider community in a way that the children have decided. This might be an invite to watch a presentation by the children, turning their classroom into a museum or sending home a link to watch a video they have made.



- **Teachers:** Your child's class teacher is very happy to talk with you about your child's learning – you can speak with them at the start / end of the school day or phone the office for an appointment. Please ask them if you would like to see your child's work.



## How can I help my child with their learning at home?

As well as the ideas and resources shared on the school website you might find the following useful to help your child with their learning at home...

- **Homework:** Teachers send a **Home Learning Enrichment** tasks home at the start of a half term. These provide specific ideas for things you can do to support your child's learning at home – that are hopefully also fun for you to do together.



- **Talking:** Talking regularly with your children is a great way to help their learning and understanding develop. This could be talking with them about their current topic in school, books they are reading or things you enjoy. We are fortunate to have families who can speak a wide range of languages, many of whom are multi-lingual. It's ok if you are not confident speaking with your child in English – the most important thing is that you are talking to each other lots, in whatever language is most comfortable for you. Talking, in any language, will help your child's development and understanding. If your child does not speak English as their first language, then becoming secure and confident in their home language first will help their success with English.



- **Playing:** Play is one of the most important, easiest and free ways to support your child's development, learning, understanding and well-being. Play can be anything from doing a jigsaw or puzzle together, painting, drawing, jumping in puddles outside, singing, dancing, playing hide and seek and throwing / catching a ball to make-believe games, building dens using sheets and dressing up together. Why not speak with Mrs Ortoft (Reception) or Mr Gough (Year 3) about joining our Active Families Club to help you find more time to play with your children and have fun at school and at home.



- **Reading:** There is lots of research to show that children who are read to and with, frequently at home, make significant progress compared to their peers – including older children. Reading doesn't have to be a book – it could be a newspaper, comic, something online – and you can borrow books for free from the library. All children should be reading for at least 10 minutes every day.



- **Parent workshops:** We are very pleased to be offering a series of Workshops for parents to improve their confidence in things like ESOL, Phonics and Digital skills. Please speak with Mrs Atheron if you would like to take part in these.

We also run sessions, throughout the year, for parents and carers to join their children, in the classroom, and found out how things like maths and reading are taught at our school. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like to find out more.



- **CGP Books:** Some parents have asked about books they can buy to complete some extra work with their children at home. In school we use some resources made by CGP. They have some books, which can be bought online, in supermarkets or high street stores that support learning in English, Maths and Science for all age groups. [www.cgpbooks.co.uk/primary-books](http://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/primary-books)

