



CHK PARENT NEWSLETTER

SHARING THE LIFE AND
LEARNING OF OUR
KINDERGARTEN DAYS

As the days grow colder,
the children have been
exploring autumn's
colours, gathering
nature's treasures, and
deepening their sense of
rhythm, warmth, and
belonging in our
kindergarten — and our
garden now has more
acorns than we know
what to do with!

October
2025 edition

“OUR HIGHEST ENDEAVOR MUST BE
TO DEVELOP FREE HUMAN BEINGS
WHO ARE ABLE OF THEMSELVES TO
IMPART PURPOSE AND DIRECTION TO
THEIR LIVES.” — RUDOLF STEINER



Welcome Dear Parents

Welcome to our very first CHK Newsletter! Here we share moments from kindergarten life, celebrating the children's growth, their discoveries, and the gentle rhythm of our days together. Through each season's unfolding, we hope this newsletter helps keep our community connected and reminds us of the beauty found in simple, meaningful moments.



As we share our very first CHK Newsletter, we would like to thank all the parents who took the time to complete our recent Parent Survey. We are so happy to have received such thoughtful and encouraging feedback. Of course, as in all walks of life, there is always room to grow and improve.

This newsletter has been created in response to your suggestions – a way to help families stay informed about the children's learning, their daily experiences, and to strengthen the connection between kindergarten and home.

We want to reassure you that each child receives a written report at the end of the Michaelmas Term, a verbal report during a meeting with their key person at the end of the Easter Term, and another written report at the end of the Summer Term. In addition, following your feedback, we will be rotating some of our activities to ensure that all children have the opportunity to take part, no matter which days they attend.

All of these developments are thanks to your openness and care, as we continue to listen, reflect, and strive to meet the needs of both our children and our parent community.



News From *Spindlewood*

We have a gentle weekly rhythm in the Spindlewood Room, offering comfort, familiarity, and space for discovery. Our youngest children have thrived in the security of a predictable flow of play, care, and shared experiences in their newly opened room.



In Spindlewood we have had treasure and nature baskets, inviting curious hands to feel, shake, and discover simple objects from the natural world. Some days have brought dry messy play — grains, sand, and textures to scoop, pour, and explore. Furthermore, we have had drawing, expressing early creativity through colour and movement. We have our wet messy play, delighting in water, bubbles, and soft splashes.

Through these simple, meaningful experiences, we have supported each child's growth in physical development (PD), language (CL), and personal, social, and emotional development (PSED).

As autumn has unfolded, we have filled our room with gentle colours, natural materials, and seasonal treasures reflecting the world outside. The Spindlewood Room has been a warm and nurturing beginning to the rhythm of life at CHK.

Next up we see a return to bread baking, where the children watch, smell, and feel the dough as it comes to life.

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News From *Oak*

We have had a joyful rhythm in Oak, where the children have grown in confidence, imagination, and independence. They have thrived within the comfort of familiar routines, sharing stories, songs, and creative play as friendships deepen and curiosity flourishes.



We have had a busy and joy-filled start to the autumn, working together in the garden to clear weeds, dig over the soil, and collect bulbs for drying and planting. These shared experiences have supported physical development through digging and carrying, as well as understanding the world as the children observe seasonal changes and care for the earth.

Families joined us for our Michaelmas bulb planting, building personal, social, and emotional development (PSE) through collaboration and a sense of community. We have also been preparing for Martinmas by making lanterns and exploring leaves through rubbing, painting, and cutting, which has encouraged expressive arts and design (EAD) and early fine motor skills (PD).

Our circle times and stories have nurtured communication and language (CL) as well as emotional understanding, helping the children connect with the season's themes of light, kindness, and caring for the natural world.

Check out our blog for more curriculum insights: charthamhk.co.uk/blog



News From *Maytree*

We've had a vibrant half term in Maytree, where the children have embraced longer projects and imaginative play with enthusiasm and care. Their growing curiosity has led to rich conversations, thoughtful creations, and moments of shared responsibility as they deepen their connection to one another and the world around them.



It has been a creative and purposeful autumn in Maytree, filled with stories, making, and joyful exploration. The children have listened to and retold *The Little Red Hen*, *Hedgy Hedgehog*, and *Squirrel Nutkin*, joining in puppet plays that brought each story to life. Inspired by these tales, they have baked bread rolls and loaves, discovering the simple pleasures of mixing, kneading, and sharing food together. These experiences have supported communication and language (CL) through storytelling, understanding the world (UW) through meaningful tasks, and personal, social, and emotional development (PSED) as they work together and care for one another.

Creative work has continued with drawing, painting in golden yellow, and crafting with beeswax. These activities have encouraged physical development (PD) and expressive arts and design (EAD) as the children explore colour, texture, and form. Handwork such as mending and crochet has offered calm, focused moments, nurturing concentration, coordination, and perseverance — skills that grow quietly through gentle, purposeful activity.

As autumn deepened, the children have shown growing independence, imagination, and care for their environment, reflecting the season's warmth and light in their play and daily life.

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Festival News *Michaelmas*

We had a joyful and heartwarming time celebrating our Michaelmas Festival, gathering together with parents and children to honour courage, light, and community. The children joined in songs, stories, and shared tasks that reminded us all of the strength that lives within and around us. It was a beautiful way to come together and welcome the changing season.



We have had a busy time celebrating our Michaelmas Festival — a moment in the year that calls us to find courage, warmth, and light as the days grow shorter and autumn deepens.

In the weeks leading up to the festival, the children listened to stories of bravery and kindness, sang songs of light, and took part in creative work that echoed the season's golden tones. On the day of the festival, together we prepared our garden, with parents and children helping to dig over the soil, clear weeds, and ready the beds for bulb planting.

These shared moments of care and purpose brought our community together and gave the children a strong sense of belonging and pride in their environment. We gathered to celebrate with songs, stories, and freshly squeezed apple juice that the children had helped to make. The story of Saint Michael and the dragon reminded us of the courage we each hold within to meet life's challenges with warmth and kindness. The children wore their golden crowns with pride, and the air was filled with laughter, music, and the scent of autumn.



CHARTHAM HOLISTIC KINDERGARTEN

Festival News *Michaelmas*



CHARTHAM HOLISTIC KINDERGARTEN

Festival Ahead *Martinmas*

We are looking forward to celebrating our Martinmas Festival on 11th November, a time to share warmth, light, and kindness as the days grow darker. The children will be preparing with stories, songs, and the making of the materials ready for their lanterns, to carry their light out into the world in a spirit of generosity and care for others.



As autumn deepens and the days grow shorter, the festival of Martinmas reminds us of the light that continues to shine within each of us, even as the outer world grows darker. It is a time to nurture warmth, kindness, and generosity – qualities that bring comfort to others and help our inner light to grow.

In the weeks leading up to the festival, the children will be crafting their lanterns and learning songs and stories that speak of caring, sharing, and bringing light into the world. These quiet preparations help them to experience the joy of giving and the strength that comes from carrying their own small flame with care and purpose.

We will gather for a special parents' evening and Lantern Assembly on 4th November, when parents and carers are invited to join us in preparing for this gentle celebration. Together we will sing, share light, and enjoy the simple beauty of lanterns shining in the evening darkness – a reminder that even the smallest light can bring warmth and hope to others.



General News

Extended Garden Time

We have enjoyed a wonderful week of extended time in the garden, spending long days outdoors as the season begins to change. The children have been busy exploring, creating, and discovering nature's treasures while finding joy in the open air and the company of their friends.



These unhurried days outside have offered rich opportunities for learning and growth. The children have dug in the soil, gathered leaves, built together, and cared for the plants around them, strengthening their confidence, coordination, and sense of responsibility. They have noticed the colours of autumn deepening, the leaves beginning to fall, and the changing light of the season. There has been laughter, teamwork, and quiet moments of wonder as they watched insects, searched for hidden treasures, and shared their discoveries

All the children, from the youngest in Spindlewood to the oldest in Maytree, share the garden together, creating a true sense of family. The mixed age groups have allowed the younger ones to learn through watching and joining in, while the older children have shown care, guidance, and responsibility. This blending of ages strengthens relationships between children and adults alike, with everyone knowing each other as part of one family

Our extended time outdoors this week has reminded us how beautifully children grow when surrounded by familiar faces, free to explore and learn within the living classroom of nature — a place where every age and stage is valued, and each child's light contributes to the warmth of the whole.





CHARTHAM HOLISTIC KINDERGARTEN

General News Birthdays

**"Here in this place
we celebrate your
day of birth, and we
wish you joy for
your life on earth"**

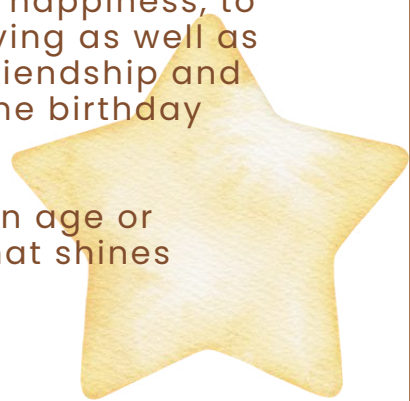
**- Kindergarten
birthday song.**



We have had lots of birthdays this half term, each one celebrated with joy, care, and a sense of wonder. Every birthday at CHK is a special occasion where the child is honoured with a story, a song, and a small handmade gift to mark their journey around the sun. These simple yet heartfelt traditions help each child feel recognised, loved, and an important part of our kindergarten community.

Birthdays hold a special place within our rhythm, reminding us that every child brings their own light and spirit to CHK. Through these celebrations, the children learn to share in one another's happiness, to wait patiently for their own turn, and to take joy in the giving as well as the receiving. Each gathering strengthens the bonds of friendship and fosters a deep sense of belonging that extends beyond the birthday table.

These moments remind us that growth is about more than age or ability – it is about kindness, connection, and the light that shines within every child in our CHK family.



General News *Last few things*

Flexible Pick-Ups

After the great success of our flexible pick-up time from 2:30 to 3:00 pm, we are happy to share that this arrangement will continue. Families have found it helpful in supporting smoother transitions at the end of the day, and we are pleased to keep offering this flexibility to our community. Please do be on time at drop off 9am latest.

Colder days

Please ensure that your child has a pair of slippers or indoor shoes as the colder weather draws in as our floors are a little chilly on the feet. Please arrive in the morning ready for the garden- Waterproofs on.

Oat Milk Craze

We provide free cows milk under the Nursery Milk Scheme. We are however unable to provide dairy-free alternatives, but families are welcome to send their own in a small, labelled flask or bottle (not a full carton, please, as fridge space is limited). We kindly ask that those who can drink cow's milk enjoy the milk provided at kindergarten.

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THAT'S ALL FOR NOW

WITH HEARTFELT THANKS
FOR YOUR CONTINUED
WARMTH, SUPPORT, AND
PRESENCE IN OUR CHK
FAMILY

Parents are always
welcome to make an
appointment to speak with
their child's key person at
any time, and please don't
hesitate to WhatsApp or
chat with a member of
staff during drop-off – we
are always happy to
connect.



“WHEN WE GIVE A CHILD TIME. THEY
SHOW US HOW WONDER BECOMES
WISDOM.”

- UNKNOWN

