



CHK PARENT NEWSLETTER

SHARING THE LIFE AND
LEARNING OF OUR
KINDERGARTEN DAYS

As November settles in, the children have been watching the last leaves fall, feeling the chill in the air, and finding joy in quieter moments of play and togetherness — and our garden is now carpeted with golden leaves perfect for crunching and collecting!

November
2025 edition

“OUR TASK IS TO HELP THE CHILD
FIND THEIR WAY INTO THE WORLD.
NOT TO MOULD THEM ACCORDING
TO OUR OWN IMAGE.”

— RUDOLF STEINER



Welcome Dear Parents

Welcome to our second 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 the November edition of our CHK Newsletter, we would like to thank our families for their continued support and enthusiasm. It has been heartening to see how warmly our first edition was received, and how engaged our community has been with the life and rhythm of the kindergarten.

So far, this half term has been filled with light, warmth, and connection. One of the highlights was our parents' evening, where families gathered to assemble their children's lanterns, learn the songs for the Martinmas Festival, and hear more about our approach to early childhood education. It was a joy to see parents working and sharing together, reflecting the same sense of community and cooperation that we nurture among the children each day.

As the days grow shorter, we hope this edition offers a gentle window into the children's experiences — from their creative work and time outdoors, to the festivals and stories that shape our term. We are deeply grateful for the care and interest our families bring, and for the shared commitment to creating a place of warmth, joy, and belonging for every child at CHK.



News From *Spindlewood*

We have continued to enjoy a gentle rhythm offering warmth, familiarity, and space for discovery. The children have settled beautifully into their days, growing in confidence as they explore, play, and share in simple, joyful experiences. We have seen lovely moments of connection and curiosity as they grow together within the calm and caring atmosphere.



In Spindlewood, the children have continued to grow in confidence and curiosity as the season has turned towards colder days. They have been busy exploring new sensory experiences — mixing and pouring, building and balancing, and discovering the joy of working with natural materials. Our days have been filled with outdoor adventures as the children explore the garden together, discovering leaves, puddles, and treasures from nature. Through these shared moments, they are building confidence, coordination, and a joyful connection with the changing world around them.

As the light fades earlier each day, our room has felt warm and calm, filled with the gentle glow of seasonal colours and simple treasures from nature. The children are showing increasing independence in play and care routines, supported through rich opportunities for physical development (PD), language (CL), and personal, social, and emotional growth (PSED).

The children have greatly been enjoying bread baking — True moments of warmth and togetherness as they watched, smelt, and felt the dough come to life in their hands.

info@charthamhk.co.uk



News From *Oak*

We have had a joyful time in Oak, where the children have embraced the colder days with energy and imagination. They have explored the garden, gathered autumn treasures, and shared in play and friendship as curiosity continues to flourish.



We have had a calm and creative November, spending much of our time outdoors enjoying the last of the autumn leaves and the crisp, fresh air. The children have continued to care for the garden, sweeping paths, gathering leaves, and preparing the soil for the colder months ahead. These shared moments of purposeful work have supported physical development (PD) through movement and coordination, as well as understanding the world (UW) as the children notice the quiet changes in nature around them.

Indoors, the children have enjoyed exploring texture and colour through seasonal crafts and simple handwork. They have pressed leaves, mixed natural tones, and created patterns inspired by what they see outdoors, they have also greatly enjoyed making bread for Martinmas. These creative experiences have supported expressive arts and design (EAD) and fine motor development (PD), while fostering patience, imagination, and care.

As the light fades earlier each day, the children have shown growing independence in their play and routines, finding comfort in familiar rhythms and pride in helping one another. Together they are learning that even in the quieter, darker days, warmth and joy can always be found in shared work and friendship.

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



News From *Maytree*

This November, the children in Maytree have shown growing confidence and imagination in their play. They have been busy creating, building, and exploring both indoors and out, finding joy in working together and caring for one another as the season turns towards winter.



In Maytree, November has brought a growing sense of purpose and quiet capability. The children have been engaging in longer, more focused projects — building, crafting, and caring for their environment with increasing skill and thoughtfulness. Their play has become richly imaginative and cooperative, as they share ideas, work through challenges, and take pride in creating together. A November highlight has been grinding wheat to make into flour, a most dedicated and rewarding process.

Outdoors, they have noticed the changes in the garden — the crisp air, the fallen leaves, and the shifting light — and have worked together to tidy, sort, and collect nature's treasures. These experiences have strengthened understanding the world (UW) and physical development (PD) through movement, observation, and purposeful work. Indoors, quieter moments of handwork and creative making have nurtured patience, focus, and fine motor skills, while shared stories and conversation have continued to support communication and language (CL) and growing social confidence.

As we move toward the colder months, the children are showing increasing independence, care, and joy in their work and play — carrying warmth and creativity into each new day at CHK.

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



Festival News *Martinmas*

Celebrating our Martinmas Festival, gathering together with parents and children to share warmth, light, and kindness as the darker days draw in. The children carried their lanterns with care, singing songs that spoke of generosity and love. It was a beautiful evening that reminded us all how even the smallest light can shine brightly when shared in community.



We have had a peaceful and heartwarming time preparing for and celebrating our Martinmas Festival — a moment in the year that invites us to carry warmth, light, and kindness into the darker days ahead. In the weeks leading up to the festival, the children worked patiently on their leaf rubbings, exploring autumn colours and textures as they rubbed, layered, and blended shades of gold, red, and brown. This quiet, ongoing work filled our room with calm focus and a sense of anticipation as each sheet of paper became a reflection of the season's beauty.

One evening, parents joined us to assemble these carefully made leaf rubbings into lanterns for their children. It was a joyful and creative gathering, filled with gentle conversation and shared purpose as we worked together to bring light to life.

When the night of the festival arrived, we gathered in the garden with families and friends from the LightRoot Hub and Heartwood community. As darkness fell, the children carried their lanterns through the garden, their songs floating softly in the cool night air. The warm glow of the lanterns reminded us all that even the smallest light, carried with love, can brighten the world around us.



CHARTHAM HOLISTIC KINDERGARTEN

Festival News *Michaelmas*

With huge thanks to parent Stephie Howard for the beautiful photos



CHARTHAM HOLISTIC KINDERGARTEN

Festival Ahead *Advent*

We are looking forward to celebrating our Advent Festival on 18th December – a time to pause, reflect, and welcome the light that grows quietly within as the year draws to a close. The children will be preparing with stories, songs, and gentle crafts, creating a peaceful space of wonder and anticipation as we approach Christmas with warmth and gratitude.



As winter deepens and the natural world grows still, our Advent Festival invites us to pause and turn inward, reflecting on the light that continues to shine within us even as the days grow darker. It is a time to nurture peace, hope, and gratitude – qualities that bring calm and warmth to our community as we move gently toward Christmas. In the weeks leading up to the festival, the children will be preparing in quiet and meaningful ways – hearing stories that awaken wonder, singing songs that speak of light and love, and creating simple crafts inspired by nature and the season's beauty. These moments of reflection and creativity help the children to experience Advent as a journey of anticipation and care, where every small act becomes part of something brighter.

We will gather together for our Advent Festival on Thursday 18th December to mark the close of term and celebrate this special time of year. Please note that the date has changed from the 19th, as most children finish for the holidays on the 18th. (Official last day of term is still 19th though). Our celebration will offer a peaceful space for parents, carers, and children to come together – a time to share song, light, and quiet gratitude for all that has grown through the year.



General News

Gentle Transitions

We have been supporting the children through gentle transitions as they visit their new rooms for January. Small groups have joined older children and staff, exploring new spaces and routines with curiosity and confidence, ready for the next step in their CHK journey.



As we approach the January term, some of our children are preparing to move into their next room at CHK. These transitions take place as children reach the stage where they are ready for new experiences, challenges, and responsibilities. For those due to move, we have been preparing gently – giving time, reassurance, and opportunities to explore what comes next.

Children from Spindlewood have been visiting Oak in small groups with their key person, spending the morning in play and daily activities. Oak children have also been joining Maytree, taking part in creative work, shared meals, and stories with the older group. Because all the children and staff already know one another through our shared garden time, these visits feel calm and familiar, giving each child confidence as they take this next step.

For children who are not yet due to move, these weeks still bring a sense of belonging and connection. Watching, helping, and welcoming others supports empathy and understanding – a gentle reminder that we all grow together at our own pace.

Through this calm, consistent approach, each child moves forward with confidence, trust, and joy – secure in the knowledge that they are surrounded by familiar faces and caring hearts within our CHK family.



General News

A New Face

A heartfelt welcome to Justine Hauteville, who has joined CHK as a full-time Level 3 Early Years Practitioner.

We are so pleased to have her care and expertise supporting our children and community each day..



Justine brings a wealth of experience in early childhood care, having worked for many years as a nanny and au pair supporting children from newborn to school age. Bilingual in French and English, she combines her calm, capable manner with a warm and caring approach to daily life with children.

Before joining CHK, Justine gained her Level 3 qualification in Early Years Education at Canterbury College and has continued to build her experience in both private homes and nursery settings. Her work has always reflected reliability, sensitivity, and a deep understanding of children's needs — qualities that align beautifully with our values of gentle care, rhythm, and respect for each child's individuality.

Alongside her professional skills, Justine loves baking, reading, and spending time outdoors — joys she brings naturally into her work with the children. We are so pleased to have her as part of our team and know she will be a wonderful addition to our CHK community.

Want to meet the rest of the team? You can see details of all 12 CHK staff members at www.charthamhk.co.uk/staff



General News *Last few things*

Carpark Reminder

The basketball court is open for overflow parking. If you plan to stay on site – for example, in the co-working space or to chat – please use the main car park, as the basketball court gate is locked at 9:30am and 3:30pm. Please also note that Hope View bays are now marked, so we kindly ask families not to use their spaces.

Labeling Items

Please ensure that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled. Remember to label lunches and bottles, and place them in the lunch basket when you arrive in the morning. Please do not leave lunches or bottles in your child's bag or on their peg.

Sickness Reminder

A gentle reminder that if your child has been unwell with sickness or diarrhoea, they must remain at home for 48 hours after the last episode of illness. This helps us to keep our kindergarten community healthy and prevent the spread of infection. Thank you for your care and understanding.

info@charthamhk.co.uk

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



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 LEARNING IS GENTLE, THE
HEART OPENS BEFORE THE MIND.

- UNKNOWN

