



# CHALKWELL HALL INFANTS

[WWW.CHALKWELLHALLINFANTS.CO.UK](http://WWW.CHALKWELLHALLINFANTS.CO.UK)

26 SEPTEMBER 2025

## GOING GOLD FOR GOLD GEESSE

Today the school was a wash with gold and yellow all in aid of the wonderful local charity, Gold Geese. Gold Geese provides personalised practical and emotional support to families of children and young people fighting cancer in South East Essex.

Everybody's experience of cancer is different, so they tailor care for each family, including

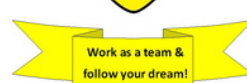
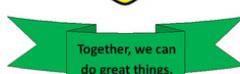
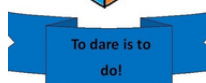
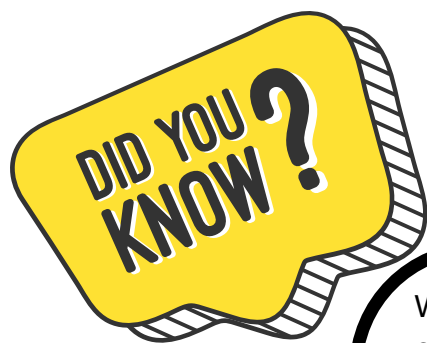
- funding for mental health therapy
- treats, toys and gifts
- respite trips
- food shop vouchers
- practical help with hospital transport bereavement support



They also raise awareness of childhood cancer signs and symptoms and deliver training workshops to childcare practitioners, parents and healthcare professionals.

And they encourage people to donate blood and register as potential bone marrow donors, as these are needed in some cancer treatments.

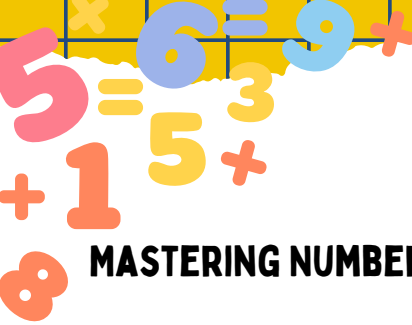
Gold Geese receives no Government funding and relies on donations for its work., so our fundraising will be gratefully received.



We are proud to offer a wide range of opportunities for children to develop their leadership skills and confidence. Each year, pupils are elected to represent their class and join one of our school councils, such as the Charity Council, REACH Council, Eco Council and more. Through these groups, children work alongside staff to share ideas, take responsibility and help improve both our school and the wider community.

At the moment, our Year 2 pupils are presenting their manifestos via video, hoping to be elected to the prestigious role of House Captain. It's inspiring to see them showing such confidence, creativity and commitment to making a difference!





## MASTERING NUMBER: BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS IN MATHS

We're excited to let you know that our school has been accepted to take part in Mastering Number, a new maths programme run by the NCETM (National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics) and funded by the Department for Education. It's designed for children in Reception to Year 2 and will run alongside our usual maths lessons.

The programme uses short daily sessions to help children:

- Build a strong understanding of numbers
- Develop quick recall of number facts
- Grow in confidence using mathematical language

Children will also use a new tool called a rekenrek (a bit like an abacus), which helps them see and explore numbers in different ways.

We can't wait to get started and see how this will support our children's maths learning!



## IS YOUR CHILD STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2026?



Our school tours begin next week, and we'd love to welcome you to Chalkwell!

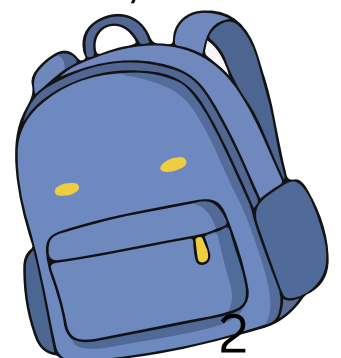
These visits give parents the opportunity to see the school in action during a typical day, offering a real flavour of what we're all about and how we do things here. Group sizes are kept small, so there's plenty of opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

This year, we are also introducing dedicated tours for parents of children with additional needs. These will be led by our SENCo, Katie Stevens, who is best placed to answer questions about how we can support your child's specific needs.

Alongside the school tour, you'll also be invited to attend a short meeting with me, Sarah Clements, Headteacher. During this session I will share more about the school's vision and curriculum, and of course there will be time for your questions.

A great starting point to learn more about our school (or any school you are considering) is the website, so please do take a look at ours [here](#).

To book a tour, please contact Shelley either by phone 01702 478533 or by email at [attendance@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk](mailto:attendance@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk)



# LIGHT PARTY

FRI 31 OCT  
4-5:30PM



✨ **THE LIGHT PARTY IS BACK!** ✨

**ST.MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH**

**AN EVENING OF FUN, GAMES, CRAFTS, HOT DOGS AND A CHANCE TO WIN LOTS OF SWEETS!! 🍪 🍩**  
**PLUS, THERE WILL BE A COSTUME COMPETITION FOR THE PERSON WEARING THE BRIGHTEST OUTFIT. 🌟**

**THIS EVENT IS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!**

**£3 PER CHILD ON ARRIVAL- ACCOMPANYING ADULTS GO FREE  
NO PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT US VIA FAMILIES<sup>[AT]</sup>SMW.CHURCH.**



# Platinum Award 2024 - 2026

At Chalkwell, we believe play is just as important as learning in the classroom. That's why we are proud to be part of the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme, which transforms lunchtimes into exciting opportunities for fun, creativity, and friendship.

Our OPAL lunchtime offer is open to all pupils from Reception to Year 6. Lunchtimes are staggered so that the playground never gets too busy, giving children space to explore, create, and play safely.

Although we don't have green space on site, we make full use of our playground areas to ensure children have a wide variety of activities to enjoy. OPAL is all about giving children choice in their play – whether that's building, role play, imaginative games, sports, or simply spending time with friends.

We are thrilled to share that our OPAL programme has achieved the Platinum Award, the highest accolade available. Other schools from across the East of England visit us to see how we make our playground such a vibrant and inclusive space.

To make OPAL lunchtimes even richer, we rely on generous donations from parents. Each week, we will publish a wishlist of items that would help enhance play, and we welcome any contributions; whether it's pre-loved equipment or items from our [Amazon wishlist](#) if you'd like to purchase something brand new.

Through OPAL, lunchtimes have become calmer, happier, and more inclusive. Children are developing important life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and resilience, all while having fun.

Thank you for helping us make our playground a place where every child can thrive!

## WISH LIST

**SMALL WORLD TOYS**  
**BUCKETS AND SPADES**  
**HAND AND FINGER PUPPETS**  
**AIR FLOW BALLS**



*Thank you*



# NEXT WEEK'S LEARNING

This page of our Newsletter summarises some the learning your child will access next week. For more detailed information on our curriculum please visit our [website](#).

## Nursery

**Stories:** The Listening Walk, Polar Bear, Polar Bear

**Number songs/Stories:** 1 little finger, once I caught a fish alive

**Other Areas:** Our learning theme next week will be Music. We will practise using our listening skills through songs and games. Our special stories are all about hearing sounds too. In activity time we will use instruments and might even use junk modelling to make some instruments of our own!

## Reception

**Phonics:** We will be developing our listening skills by copying clapping patterns and continuing to learn about syllables


**Maths:** We will start maths meetings next week where we sing songs and share what we know about numbers and shapes.

**Other Areas:** Next week we are excited to begin our "Big Write" handwriting sessions. The children will be learning how to hold their pencil using the correct grip and will start by practising simple dot patterns. These activities will support their pencil control and pressure, laying strong foundations for future writing.

We will also continue to share PSED stories that focus on being kind, gentle and helpful, encouraging positive relationships and behaviour.

Our pre-phonics sessions will carry on too, helping the children to listen carefully to sounds and patterns and to recognise syllables in words. These important skills will support them later as they begin to use phonics for reading and writing.

Finally, we are looking forward to our very first Physical Friday! These sessions give children the chance to develop spatial awareness, balance and coordination, while also learning new playground games they can enjoy with friends at lunchtime.



# NEXT WEEK'S LEARNING

This page of our Newsletter summarises some the learning your child will access next week. For more detailed information on our curriculum please visit our [website](#).

**Year 1** **Phonics:** o-e (home), u-e (brute)

**Maths:** Counting objects accurately and recording the corresponding digits

**Foundation subjects:** In Science, we will be exploring materials, recording our findings, and labelling everyday objects as wood, glass, plastic and more. In Computing, the children will practise retrieving saved work from a folder and continue to develop their understanding of how to stay safe online. In History, we will begin to discover why the 5th of November is such a significant date, while in Art the children will create a second self-portrait, reflecting on their earlier piece and thinking about how they can improve. In Gymnastics, we will be learning some of the key body shapes, including pike, straddle and dish. In Music, the children will explore untuned percussion instruments, appraise a piece of music and then play along in time with the pulse. In RE, we will be learning about why Christians celebrate Harvest, and in PSHE the children will deepen their understanding of what it means to care for others through this week's text, Carlos the Caring Pirate.

**Year 2** **Phonics/GPS:** gn (gnat), kn (knock), y (cry), suffix -ing to make a continuous verb

**Maths:** Adding a single digit to a 2 digit number without grouping the ones e.g  $22+7$ ; adding multiples of tens e.g  $30+20$

**Foundation subjects:** This week, our Science and Design and Technology lessons will overlap as we explore what is needed to maintain a healthy, balanced diet. This learning will build towards creating our own delicious couscous salads in the coming weeks! In History, we will begin investigating sources of information to deepen our understanding of the past, focusing on Nelson Mandela, a significant figure whose actions brought about profound societal change. Within our musical toolkit, we will be exploring pitch, discovering how sounds can move higher or lower. During our invasion games at the park, we will continue developing teamwork skills by practising accurate passing. In Computing, our online safety work will focus on navigating online relationships and learning how to manage potential risks. Finally, in RE, we will be exploring special objects and symbols, considering how they are valued and respected within places of worship, particularly in the context of a church.

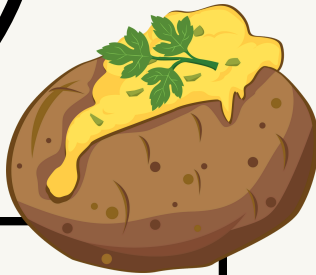
# AUTUMN WEEK 1

WE WILL ALWAYS PROVIDE SUITABLE ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN WITH ALLERGIES

THIS MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

## WACKY WEDGE MONDAY

OVEN BAKED PORK SAUSAGE (S)  
OR OVEN BAKED MEAT FREE SAUSAGE (G) (VG)  
WITH  
OVEN BAKED POTATO WEDGES (VG),  
AND A CHOICE OF  
PEAS (VG), BROCCOLI (VG)  
OR BAKED BEANS (VG)



## TWIRLY PASTA TUESDAY

HOMEMADE BEEF BOLOGNAISE (CY)  
OR  
HOMEMADE MEAT FREE BOLOGNAISE (BOTH WITH HIDDEN VEG) (G) (SOYB)(VG)(CY)  
WITH  
TRICOLOUR PASTA TWIRLS (G)(VG)  
GARLIC BREAD (G) (VG)  
CARROTS (VG)  
AND PEAS (VG)



### AVAILABLE DAILY WE HAVE:

JACKET POTATO WITH A SELECTION OF FILLINGS (INCLUDING ITEMS FROM THE DAILY MENU SUCH AS BOLOGNAISE) TUNA (F), VEGAN CHEESE (CCN) (V) (VG), HUMMUS (SS)(VG), CHEESE (MK), BAKED BEANS (VG), HOMEMADE COLESLAW (E) (V)

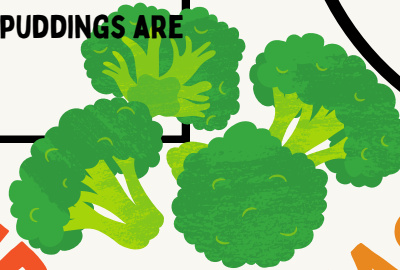
### A COLD SALAD BAR

SWEETCORN, TOMATO, CUCUMBER, CARROT (VG), LETTUCE, MIXED PEPPERS

WATER AND MILK / A FRUIT BOWL (ALTERNATIVE PUDDINGS ARE AVAILABLE OCCASSIONALLY)

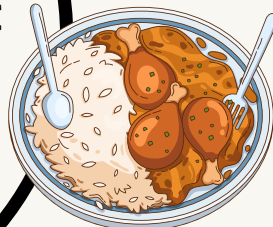
## REACH FOR A ROAST WEDNESDAY

OVEN ROAST TURKEY  
OR  
OVEN ROAST QUORN (V) (MK) (E)  
WITH  
OVEN ROASTED POTATOES (VG) (G),  
BROCCOLI (VG),  
CARROTS (VG), YORKSHIRE PUDDING (MK) (V) (G) (E)  
AND GRAVY (VG)



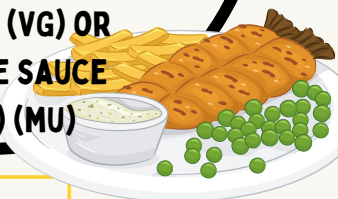
## FIREY FEAST FRIDAY

OVEN BAKED BREADED CHICKEN GOUJON (G) OR BREADED MEAT FREE GOUJON (G)  
WITH  
HOMEMADE KATSU CURRY SAUCE (CCN) (SOYB)(CY)(VG)  
AND STEAMED RICE AND MIXED VEGETABLE MEDLEY: GREEN BEANS/SWEETCORN/CARROT/PEAS (VG)



## FINTASTIC THURSDAY

BATTERED FISH FILLET (G) (F)  
OR  
VEGE FINGERS (G) (VG)  
WITH CHIPS (VG),  
PEAS AND SWEETCORN (VG)  
AND  
KETCHUP (VG) OR TARTARE SAUCE (V) (E) (MU)



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALLERGENS PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

# Stars of the week

**NURSERY**

**Gracie Stagg**



**NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Carter Kee**

**WALES**

**Violet Butler**

**SCOTLAND**

**Finley Pamenter**

**SPAIN**

**Jacob Hems**

**MEXICO**

**Luna Currie**

**SOUTH AFRICA**

**Aris Bigand**

**FINLAND**

**Lillie Palmer**

**VIETNAM**

**Theo Iyegbe**

**BAHAMAS**

**Isaac Luxton**

*Right on time*

*punctual*



|                 |                  |                     |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Penny Hendry    | Freddie Dolan    | Kenya-Rose Mahdilou |
| Lennon Stimpson | Joel Taylor      | Maya Kilbey         |
| Bobbie Goddard  | George Thrussell | Victoria Handziuk   |



Be kind, be good,  
shine brightly!

## ATTENDANCE

This week - 96.88 %

EYFS - 97.87%

Year 1 - 96.11%

Year 2 - 97.56%

Whole School Year To Date - 96.51%



**REACH Award**

*Achieve*

**Sebastian Holmwood**



# WHAT'S GOING ON? *New additions will be in red*

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Mon 29 Sep        | Flu immunisation sprays   |
| Mon 29 Sep        | Travelling Book Fair arrives  |
| <b>Tue 30 Oct</b> | <b>Reception Harvest assembly with Elise from St Michael's church</b> |
| Thu 2 Oct         | 9.30 and 10.45 Reception 2026 Intake tour                             |
| Fri 3 Oct         | 10.30 PTA AGM   |
| Tue 7 Oct         | 9.30 and 10.45 Reception 2026 Intake tour                             |
| Weds 8 Oct        | Individual Photos   |
| Mon 13 Oct        | 9.30 and 10.45 Reception 2026 Intake tour                             |
| Wed 15 Oct        | Reception Autumn walk - Chalkwell Park                                |
| Thu 16 Oct        | Year 1 and Year 2 Harvest Festival at St.Michael's Church             |
| Fri 17 Oct        | 9.30 Reception 2026 Intake tour - SEND with SENCo                     |
| Wed 22 Oct        | 9.30 and 10.45 Reception 2026 Intake tour                             |
| <b>Fri 24 Oct</b> | <b>Last day at school - Oct half term</b>                             |
| <b>Mon 3 Nov</b>  | <b>Back to school</b>   |
| Fri 21 Nov        | Boys football tournament (girls tournament date tbc)                  |
| <b>Fri 19 Dec</b> | <b>Last day at school - Christmas holidays</b>                        |
| <b>Mon 5 Jan</b>  | <b>Back to school</b>   |
| <b>Thu 12 Feb</b> | <b>Last day at school - Feb half term</b>                             |
| <b>Fri 13 Feb</b> | <b>Non-pupil day (school closed to all pupils)</b>                    |
| <b>Mon 23 Feb</b> | <b>Back to school</b>   |
| <b>Fri 27 Mar</b> | <b>Last day at school - Easter holidays</b>                           |
| <b>Mon 13 Apr</b> | <b>Back to school</b>   |
| <b>Mon 4 May</b>  | <b>Bank holiday (school closed)</b>                                   |
| <b>Thu 21 May</b> | <b>Last day at school - May half term</b>                             |
| <b>Fri 22 May</b> | <b>Non-pupil day (school closed to all pupils)</b>                    |
| <b>Mon 1 Jun</b>  | <b>Back to school</b>   |
| <b>Fri 17 Jul</b> | <b>Last day at school - Summer holidays</b>                           |
| <b>Mon 20 Jul</b> | <b>Non-pupil day (school closed to all pupils)</b>                    |

## BIRTHDAY TREATS

To keep everyone safe and healthy, we kindly ask that children do not bring in sweets or chocolates to share with classmates on their birthdays. This is because of allergies and intolerances, and also because we are committed to promoting healthy choices as a school.



# CONTACT US

*If you have a question, query or concern, please get in touch with someone from the list below. Please do not email class teachers directly, they should be contacted via the communication book or by calling the school office. Teachers may be available to chat to at the end of the school day.*



**Sarah Clements, Headteacher:**

sarah.clements@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

**Joanne Milbank, Deputy Headteacher:**

joanne.milbank@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

**Katie Stevens, Inclusion Leader:**

katie.stevens@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

**Danielle Maynard, Year 1 Leader:**

danielle.maynard@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

**Grace Dalgarno, Early Years Foundation Stage Leader:**

grace.dalgarno@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

**Helen Wilkinson, Year 2 Leader:**

helen.wilkinson@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

**Kerrie Lawton, Office Manager:**

education@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

**David Horne, ICT Technician:**

david.horne@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

**Shelley Cooper, Attendance and Admissions Officer:**

attendance@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

**Vivien Graham, Family Liaison Officer:**

vivienne.graham@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

**For Nursery enquiries:**

nursery@chalkwellhallinfants.co.uk

