

# **CHEW VALLEY SCHOOL**

**A Performing Arts College**



**Information for Parents  
Of New Entrants**

**2010-2011**

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July 2010

Dear Parents/Carers

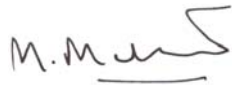
I am delighted to have this opportunity of welcoming you as parents of a new pupil at Chew Valley School and look forward to getting to know you.

The school is rightly proud of its students' achievements and the excellent quality of relationships between pupils, teachers and parents. Our aim is to achieve excellence in every area of school life and to enable your sons and daughters to develop both their known and their, as yet, undiscovered talents to fulfil their potential.

You will have read or heard in the media of the many changes taking place in education. Chew Valley is a forward-thinking school ready to embrace change where that brings greater opportunity and higher standards for our pupils. Our focus is on meeting the interests of our students who we treat as individuals with particular needs and aspirations.

With an able, experienced and caring staff, backed by supportive parents and the wider community we can ensure that all our students are happy and successful at Chew Valley School. I look forward to working in partnership with you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Mallett', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Mark Mallett  
Headteacher

## **THE STAFF**

### **Headteacher**

Mr M Mallett

### **Deputy Headteachers**

Mr C Hildrew

Mr R Pine

### **Assistant Headteachers**

Ms K Straw

Mr M Gaynor

Mr A Arbuckle

### **Heads of Faculty**

Mrs Bird & Mrs Clayton-Jones - English  
Mr R J Boardman - Humanities  
Mr S Conway - Performing Arts  
Ms E Kerr - Modern Languages  
Mr D Britton - Design Technology & Art  
Miss J Hibbert - Physical Education  
Mr D Hounsell - Mathematics  
Mr J Walford - Science  
Mr J Webber - IT

### **Heads of Year**

Mr P Edwards: Year 7  
Mr E McGivern: Year 8  
Mrs J O'Callaghan: Year 9  
Mr C Brown: Year 10  
Ms A Hellier : Year 11  
Mr A Arbuckle: Head of Sixth Form

### **Year 7 Tutor Team**

**Head of Year 7 – Mr P Edwards**  
**Assistant Head of Year 7 – Ms R Parry**

7C	-	Mr Chatfield	7V	-	Ms Vartuli
7H	-	Mr Pretty	7A	-	Mr Cordle
7E	-	Ms Bainbridge	7L	-	Mr S Davis
7W	-	Ms Butcher			

### **Head of Learning Support**

Mr D Kenny

### **Home Liaison Officer**

Mrs H Taylor Tel: 01275 332272 (Option 1)

<b>TEACHER</b>	<b>SUBJECT TAUGHT</b>
Mr A Arbuckle	History, Psychology
Mrs J Ashworth	Special Needs
Ms V Bailey	Personal, Social and Religious Education
Miss E Bainbridge	Drama
Mr R Baxter	Business Studies
Mrs J Bird	English
Mr D Blower	English
Miss S Bloxham	Art
Mr R. Boardman	History
Mr C Brown	Science / Head of Year 10
Mr M Brown	Humanities
Miss C Butcher	PE
Mr J Chatfield	Mathematics
Mrs N Clayton-Jones	English
Mr S Conway	Performing Arts
Mrs L Cook	Technology, Health & Social Care
Miss R Cooke	Dance, PE & Drama
Mr J Cordle	Languages
Mrs H Currie	English
Ms S Daly	PE
Mr S Davis	Science
Miss N Desjardin	Languages
Mr P Edwards	Physical Education / Head of Year 7
Mr D Britton	Design Technology
Mrs K Falconer	Mathematics
Mrs C Foley	PE
Mrs J Folland	Business Studies
Mr M Gaynor	Science
Mrs R Gordon	Music & Drama
Mr N Hammett	Science
Miss C Harland	Technology
Mrs A Hauff	English
Mr S Hawkins	Science
Mrs S Hayes	Mathematics
Miss A. Hellier	English / Head of Year 11
Mrs G Henry	Science
Miss J Hibbert	Physical Education
Mr D Hounsell	Mathematics
Mr C Hildrew	English
Mr G Jones	PE
Ms E Kerr	Languages
Mr J Lewis	Science
Mr A Loynton	Science / Asst Head of Year 11
Miss A Mackenzie	English
Mr M. Mallett	English
Mrs R. Marmion	Science
Mr E McGivern	History / Head of Year 8
Mrs E McGivern	Geography / Asst Head of Yr 10
Ms A Millers	English
Mrs S Milne	Languages
Mr S Monk	Physical Education

TEACHER	SUBJECT TAUGHT
Mrs B Morgan	Music
Ms N Morris	Art
Mrs L Newell	PE / Behaviour Support Teacher
Ms W Nicholls	English
Mrs I Nicolas-Jones	Languages
Mrs J O'Callaghan	Mathematics / Head of Yr 9
Mr S O'Connell	Art
Mrs L Palmer	Science
Mr D Parfitt	Head of Chemistry
Ms R Parry	Geography / Asst Head of Year 7
Mr S Pearce	ICT, Business Studies
Mr R Pine	Sociology
Ms L Pope	Personal, Social and Religious Education
Mr J Pretty	Mathematics
Mr M Rees	Mathematics
Mrs J Russell	Technology
Mrs E Shuttleworth	Geography
Mr T Sinclair	English
Mr P Stinchcombe	Music
Ms K Straw	PE & English
Ms J. Thorley	Art
Mr T Thorley	Science
Mrs F Trinder	Humanities & Health & Social Care
Mr M Turner	Technology
Ms C Vartuli	Science
Mr J Walford	Science
Mrs A Wall	English
Mr J Webber	ICT
Miss J Wilcox	Technology
Mr T Wilson	Art
Mrs L Woodgate	History
Ms M Woodward	Languages
Miss Yana	Personal, Social and Religious Education

1.

**The School Day**

8.45 am	-	School begins (warning bell at 8.43)
8.45 am - 9.05 am	-	Registration/Assembly
9.05 am - 9.55 am	-	Lesson One
9.55 am - 10.45 am	-	Lesson Two
10.45 am - 11.05 am-		<b>BREAK</b>
11.05 am - 11.55 am-		Lesson Three (warning bell at 10.57)
11.55 am - 12.45 pm-		Lesson Four
12.45 pm - 1.50 pm	-	<b>LUNCH</b>
1.50 pm - 1.55 pm	-	Afternoon Registration (warning bell at 1.43)
1.55 pm - 2.45 pm	-	Lesson Five
2.45 pm - 3.35 pm	-	Lesson Six
3.35 pm	-	<b>END OF SCHOOL DAY</b>

2. It is of the utmost importance that your child attends regularly and punctually. Punctuality at all times is essential within the school day.
3. Normally your child may be away from school only for reasons of illness.
4. If your child is going to be absent from school please telephone, if possible before 9.00am, and give the reason for their absence. You will need to give the name of your child, their form, the reason for the absence and the likely date of return if known. If Mrs Taylor (Home School Liaison Officer) is not available you may leave a message for her on the answer machine.
5. Any change of address or telephone number should be made known to the Form Tutor at school in writing.
6. Permission for holiday in term-time is only granted in exceptional circumstances. If you have no alternative to taking your holiday during school-time, please ask your son/daughter to collect a holiday form from the School Reception. Where attendance at school has caused a concern, an absence for holidays will not be authorised.

**ARRANGEMENTS TO HELP YOUR CHILD'S TRANSFER TO CHEW VALLEY**

Once we have an idea who will comprise our New Intake, School Admission Forms are sent to Parents requesting items of information that will be helpful to us. During the Summer Term, a number of staff visit the contributory Primary Schools, meeting the pupils and discussing their work with their teachers. The pupils are invited into school to spend a day with their Form Tutor and in the evening of that day, parents are invited into school to meet the Headteacher and Staff, to walk around the school and possibly meet the School Nurse and the Children Missing Education Officer attached to the school.

## **ARRANGEMENTS TO HELP YOUR CHILD'S TRANSFER TO CHEW VALLEY** (cont)

Pupils are placed in all ability Tutor Groups on entry to the school. This is based on all of the information gathered from Primary Schools. These groupings will be re-examined at the end of the first half-term to ensure that they are as balanced as possible and pupils will then remain in these Tutor Groups for the rest of their school career. In most subject areas, pupils are taught in these groups during Year 7.

In October, Staff review the performances of the pupils and this is followed by a meeting at which Parents are invited to meet the Form Tutors to discuss how well their child has settled in. The pupils themselves write a brief report on their views of their first half-term at Chew Valley.

## **PASTORAL CARE**

Chew Valley School, whilst not being an excessively large Secondary School, is much larger than your child's Primary School. We try to make the school seem smaller, and therefore less threatening to the children, by operating in smaller units. Each child is placed in a Tutor Group which includes some of his or her friends, unless there is a good reason for this not to be so. Each Tutor Group is in the care of a Form Tutor who operates under the general guidance of the Head of Year. The Form Tutor and the Head of Year have the responsibility for the day-to-day welfare of the children and for monitoring their progress through the year.

## **PUPILS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

Mr Kenny (Head of Learning Support) also visits the Primary Schools to meet pupils and staff to ensure that there is continuity for those pupils with specific educational requirements. A programme is then produced for those pupils and, in most cases, parents are requested to attend a meeting in the first term at which the programme can be discussed.

## **Homework**

The time spent on homework should be around 30-45 minutes per subject on average. **Encourage your child to do the homework on the day it is set, that way there will be time to see a member of staff if any difficulty arises. A homework timetable is issued to each child in September.**

**On no account should your child get worried if they have tried a homework and not been able to do it. He/she should simply tell the teacher at the start of the lesson that they had a problem and help will be given.**

## **SCHOOL DIARY**

All Year 7 pupils are given a school diary which Form Tutors check regularly. We hope parents will look at it at least once a week. The homework tasks and the timing should be recorded. We hope that the diary helps to encourage the pupils to organise themselves in matters concerning school life and, when used properly, it should be a positive communication between home and school.

### **Communication via the Diary**

We would like you to read this diary regularly, and sign it weekly in the space provided. You can if you wish make any comments to the Form Tutor who also checks them regularly. You may find a member of staff has made a comment about a particular homework for you to respond to. This is a simple way of providing a regular opportunity for communication between school and home.

### **E-mail**

To improve our communication with Parents/Carers we would like to e-mail those parents willing to receive items this way. Newsletters and general items would be sent electronically. Letters addressed to individual pupils and their parents will generally still be sent through the post. If you would like to receive mail electronically, please go onto the website [www.chewvalleyschool.co.uk](http://www.chewvalleyschool.co.uk). and register by clicking on the 'Update your contact details' option on the 'Parents' menu which appears at the top of the screen and follow the instructions. If you need to contact the Head of Year 7 directly, his email address is: [phil.edwards@chewvalleyschool.co.uk](mailto:phil.edwards@chewvalleyschool.co.uk)

## **REPORTS AND PARENTS' EVENINGS**

### **Academic Monitoring**

In September of Year 7, students may take a series of brief multiple choice tests. These are not part of any government testing programme, but are used to give the school information on students' skills and potential in the following areas: verbal, numerical plus shape and space. The tests in each area last about 30 minutes and the results are used to inform staff of individual student needs and help them plan effective strategies to maximise development.

In addition to these tests, we do take account of performance at Key Stage 2 and use both sets of data to set a target level for each student to achieve by the end of the year. This target will be communicated to parents during the Autumn of 2010

### **SCHOOL REPORTS AND PARENTS' EVENINGS**

Each student will receive settling-in reports in October 2010 and February 2011 - the main purpose of these is to provide you with feedback on how your son/daughter has settled in to the routine of life at secondary school and how they are coping in their individual subjects.

A full subject report will follow in the latter part of the school year with a subsequent parents' evening where you will have opportunity to discuss progress with the form tutor and staff from each subject.

## **HEALTH EDUCATION**

All pupils follow a Health Education programme, different aspects of which are covered in different years in school. This programme includes Sex Education. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from these lessons and the school has the responsibility to ensure that those children are supervised at such times.

Biological aspects of sex education are an integral part of the National Curriculum science programme and since this is a compulsory course, all children must participate. Parents do not have a legal right to withdraw their children from this subject.

Pupils also follow a comprehensive programme of Drugs Education which aims to increase pupils' knowledge and awareness of illegal substances and to develop strategies to enable them to respond appropriately should they find themselves in compromising situations.

We would hope that this will not be an issue for parents but should you have any concerns, please contact either your child's Head of Year or Mr Pine, the Assistant Headteacher, in charge of pastoral Care.

## **THE HOUSE SYSTEM**

All pupils and staff are allocated to one of four Houses. Houses provide opportunities for academic and sporting competition and encourage pupils to think of and work for others as well as themselves. Pupils are awarded House Points for good work, commendable behaviour and generally for helpful and thoughtful work for the school community. The four Houses are named after people and places in the history of the Chew Valley. The four Houses and their colours are:-

<b>Bilbie</b>	-	<b>Green</b>
<b>Hauteville</b>	-	<b>Red</b>
<b>Moreton</b>	-	<b>Blue</b>
<b>Rodney</b>	-	<b>Yellow</b>

Besides the House Points Competition, House Sports Competitions are held in a wide range of games.

## **REWARDS AND SANCTIONS**

Our general principle is that praise and encouragement is more effective at motivating pupils than any sanctions or punishment.

House Points are awarded to pupils as a recognition of good work, progress or service to the school. Pupils are awarded certificates for each batch of 25 house points (a full page in the diary). If a pupil sustains an improvement in effort, concentration or progress, or produces an outstanding piece of work, he or she is awarded a Commendation Certificate. Commendations are signed by the Subject Teacher, Head of Subject or Head of Year, and Parents, before being placed in the pupil's file. If a pupil receives five Commendations in one Term, they are awarded a commemorative pen by the Headteacher.

## **REWARDS AND SANCTIONS (cont)**

When a pupil's work or behaviour is below standard he or she may be placed on daily report by their Head of Year and teachers are asked to comment on their work and behaviour in each lesson.

In more serious cases, pupils may also be detained after school on a Tuesday with at least 24 hours notice being given to parents. After-school detentions are given and are supervised by Senior Members of Staff. All non-trivial breaches of discipline are reported to parents and we aim to work together to ensure high standards of work and behaviour.

## **REWARDS**

### **Housepoints**

Housepoints are awarded for four reasons:

<b>H</b>	-	<b>Helpful or considerate behaviour</b>
<b>E</b>	-	<b>Effort</b>
<b>P</b>	-	<b>Progress</b>
<b>A</b>	-	<b>Achievement</b>

The housepoints are recorded in the Homework Diary and count to the House Competition along with housepoints gained from sports competitions. We want to stress to our students that being successful is something to strive hard towards.

### **Commendations**

Commendations represent a higher level of reward in recognition of something special. This could be for:

- **An outstanding piece of work**
- **Sustained effort over a long period of time**
- **A considerable improvement**

Commendations are issued in the form of a green certificate. The member of staff will give these to the Head of Year, who then congratulates the pupil who will then take it home for you to sign. It can then be placed in his/her Record of Achievement file.

### **Postcards**

Celebration postcards are sent home and give staff the opportunity to congratulate pupils in a very personal way. These arrive through the post as a surprise and we hope that they can be displayed at home.

## **Bullying Policy**

We are a very successful and effective school. Our success is based on good teaching, good order, and good relationships both within school and between school and home. However, we accept that we are not immune from bullying and that we need to be pro-active in preventing it and quick and sensitive in our response to it when it does occur. References to School Strategies are to be found in the following:

- (i) School Behaviour Policy
- (ii) Information booklet for new parents
- (iii) Information booklet for new pupils
- (iv) School Rules (listed in each classroom)
- (v) Personal and Social and Health Education Curriculum

### Summary

1. We seek to prevent bullying by:
  - re-inforcing the school aims and ethos in Assemblies, in our teaching strategies and in our general school organisation;
  - focusing on people's differences and developing an understanding, tolerance and respect for these differences;
  - raising awareness of our responsibilities towards others;
  - developing confidence, self-esteem and self respect, as well as respect for others.
2. We respond to bullying quickly and sensitively by:
  - always taking allegations seriously;
  - encouraging pupils to talk and not keep bullying to themselves;
  - using a variety of strategies to address the issue eg talking to people individually, talking to the bully and the victim together, talking to a group, working with parents;
  - using the school's disciplinary sanctions where appropriate; this may include excluding pupils from school.
  - Ensuring that every member of our school community is aware of their responsibilities should they encounter any behaviour that could possibly be a case of bullying.

Bullying is not a problem that only affects young people. Adults bully. We aim to develop the necessary understanding and skills to enable our pupils to (a) refrain from bullying and (b) know how to respond with confidence should they ever find themselves the victims of bullying at any time in their lives

## **LOWER SCHOOL UNIFORM**

It is the wish of the majority of parents and teachers that our pupils should be dressed smartly and in such a way as to be identifiable members of Chew Valley School. The smart appearance of our pupils is a sign that the school is a place of work for pupils and staff. We are conscious of the very high cost of traditional school uniform and the high cost of providing non-uniform clothes. We are anxious, therefore, to have guidelines for school clothing that are sensible, practical and economical.

These factors have been borne in mind when deciding on the school uniform list below and it is, therefore, hoped and expected that all parents will endeavour to ensure we achieve good standards of dress and tidiness, worthy of our school.

All items which carry the school crest should be bought from either The Post Office at Chew Magna or the National Schoolwear Centre, 23 Broad Street, Wells with which Chew Valley School has a direct purchase agreement. A price list and order forms are available from the school.

### **BOYS: Lower School – Years 7 to 9**

Plain dark grey or black trousers (no denims, corduroy or patterns)

White polo shirt with School Crest (plain white shirt with collar can be worn but **only** under school sweatshirt)

Bottle green sweatshirt with School Crest

Plain black flat shoes - no trainers boots or canvas shoes

Decorative belts are not allowed

### **GIRLS: Lower School – Years 7 to 9**

Plain black or dark grey skirt - knee-length to mid-calf (**No** 'mini' or 'maxi' skirts)

**OR**

Plain black or dark grey tailored trousers (**No** culottes, flares, leggings, boarding trousers, cargo pants, denim, corduroy or patterned trousers)

White polo shirt with School Crest (plain white shirt with collar can be worn but **only** under school sweatshirt)

Bottle green sweatshirt with School Crest

Plain grey, bottle green or black tights

Plain black flat shoes - no trainers, boots, canvas shoes or backless shoes

All shoes should adequately cover the foot for safety reasons

Decorative belts are not allowed

## UPPER SCHOOL – Years 10 and 11

Same as Lower School except sweatshirt is black with School Crest instead of green with School Crest.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

#### PE and GAMES KIT

##### GIRLS

Polo shirt with School Crest (House Colour)

Plain black shorts

Red PE sweatshirt with School

Crest **OR** rugby shirt

Long green hockey socks

Training shoes

##### BOYS

Polo shirt with School Crest (House Colour)

Black shorts

Reversible green and white Rugby shirt

Green Rugby socks

Football/Rugby boots

Training shoes

**As of September 2006 bladed boots will no longer be allowed in School. This decision has been based on health and safety advice and will be implemented in all B&NES Secondary Schools.**

### UPPER AND LOWER SCHOOL

Make-up - No make-up is to be worn

Jewellery - No jewellery should be worn other than a watch and no more than **ONE** stud or plain sleeper in each ear. Ear rings should be plain gold or silver and no bigger than a 5p.

**NO RINGS, NO NOSE, EYEBROW OR TONGUE PIERCING.**

### NON-COMPLIANCE

The Headteacher will enforce the Governors' policy on uniform and appearance. Where appropriate, a pupil may be sent to the Exclusion Room to work. A Fixed Term Exclusion might be appropriate where breaches of the uniform and appearance policy is persistent and defiant.

### HAIR STYLES

Extremes of style, and streaked or unnatural hair colours, are not acceptable. Check with Head of Year before you consider such a style. We exclude pupils with inappropriate styles.

### Years 12/13

Students need to recognise school as a place of work and one that has a place in the wider community, therefore, a dress code is expected as in most places of professional work. The current dress code expects students to be clean, smart and tidy.

## **ALL YEARS**

- Coats will not be worn in classrooms.
- Visible T-shirts under polo shirts are not allowed.
- In colder weather, black or green sweatshirts should be worn, NOT coats or other tops over polo shirts.
- Fashion tops and 'hoodies' are not allowed at school

## **ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT**

We ask that each child brings the following with them to school each day and to each lesson - pen, pencil, rubber, rough notebook, colouring pens/pencils and their school diary.

## **LOCKERS**

Coin operated lockers are available for daily rental in the Lower School corridor. They take £1 coins which are returned at the end of the session.

Although every reasonable care is taken, the school cannot be responsible for personal property and possessions brought into school. It would, therefore, be helpful if the following was noted:-

- (a) Pupils should keep their property in a strong bag/holdall/backpack.
- (b) **All items should be clearly marked with the child's name**
- (c) I-pods, cameras and other valuable possessions should not be brought into school.
- (d) Mobile phones are a particular nuisance and are not necessary in school. We have a telephone available for students should they need to contact home. Please support us by making sure that your son or daughter does not bring a mobile phone to school.

## **HEALTH AND WELFARE**

The School Nurse is in school most days and will deal with minor accidents or sickness which occur in school time. If a child has to take any form of medicine during the school day, it should not be carried about school but given to Reception for safekeeping. When we need to send a sick child home we try to contact one or both parents so that transport can be arranged.

We are in close and constant contact with the local CMEO (Children Missing Education Officer), Mrs F Dean, who visits the school **once** a week but who can also be contacted at Riverside, Temple Street, Keynsham BS31 1DN, telephone number 01225 394241.

## **HOME SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER – Mrs Hilary Taylor**

At Chew Valley School we have a Home School Liaison Officer to support the links between home and school. Mrs Taylor is available in school to discuss any problems that may make school challenging for a pupil from time to time. If you have any concerns about the way your child is settling into Chew Valley School, please contact Mrs Taylor. She can also arrange for your child's Form Tutor, Head of Year, or our

Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator to contact you. Mrs Taylor also has an overview of our daily attendance records and will contact you in the first instance if we have any concerns about your child's attendance or punctuality.

If your child is going to be absent for the day, please telephone the school and leave a message for Mrs Taylor:

- it is very helpful if you could telephone before 8.30am and leave a message on the answer machine. Please give your child's name and form and the reason for their absence. Please also indicate their likely date of return, if this is known
- if your child is absent from school and we have had no message from you, then we will try and contact you by telephone during the morning to check the reason for your child's absence, and to confirm that it is authorised by you. **This close contact between home and school is very important. Student's self-confidence and success at school is very closely linked to attendance. Mrs Taylor will work closely with you to help your child achieve their full potential.**

### **INSTRUMENTAL TUITION AND MUSICAL ACTIVITIES**

Musical tuition is available to all pupils entering Chew Valley School. At present the school offers small group and individual lessons in:

Strings: violin, viola, cello, double bass, electric guitar, acoustic guitar  
Woodwind: flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, recorder, clarinet  
Brass: trumpet, cornet, trombone, French horn, euphonium, tuba  
Keyboard: piano, keyboard  
Percussion: orchestral (timpani, snare, tuned), drum kit, xylophone  
Voice

Weekly tuition is given by peripatetic specialist music staff and lessons take place in school time, on a rotating timetable. When a teacher cancels a lesson, it will be re-scheduled to another week. There are a small number of school instruments available however most pupils will be required to provide their own instrument by either buying or hiring from a music shop. To book a place within the programme, parents/carers must complete an instrument Music Tuition Booking Form. Booking forms and further details are available from the school reception or by contacting Suzanne Gaved – [suzanne.gaved@chewvalleyschool.co.uk](mailto:suzanne.gaved@chewvalleyschool.co.uk)

The booking form, together with the payment, is returned to the Finance Office.

Fees: 10 x Individual 30 minute lesson: £160  
10 x Group 30 minute lesson: £90

There are many extra curricular performing arts activities for you to participate in: String Ensemble, Jazz Band, Brass Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble, Keyboard Club, Chamber Choir, Musical and Dramatic Productions, Cabaret Concerts. Soul Band, Swing Band, Chamber Orchestra, Beginner Guitar Group + various rock bands. All pupils within the programme are expected to participate in at least one ensemble.

### **SCHOOL NEWSLETTER & CALENDAR**

A School calendar is produced each term. It gives the main dates for the term and details of examinations and term dates for the year. The calendar is distributed before the end of each term with details of the next term.

The School Society (Parent Teacher Association) also produce a newsletter every term and this gives details of the Society's activities and more general School news.

### **OUT-OF-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

As so many children live some distance away from school, many out-of-school activities have to take place during the lunch hour. However, on several days activities occur after school and pupils are invited to participate.

Pupils have an opportunity to participate in foreign exchanges and visits as part of their Modern Foreign Language's curriculum.

There are regular Drama, Music and Dance productions. Many other opportunities exist in Technology, Environmental Science, IT, for pupils to be involved outside of the classroom.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is well established at School with pupils achieving bronze, silver and gold awards. Teams from Years 10, 12 and 13 are entered each year for the Annual Ten Tors Expedition on Dartmoor. Each year the school also runs a ski trip to an Alpine ski resort.

Students in Years 10 -13 have also taken advantage of Outward Bound Scholarships.

Sporting activities are also well catered for in that our Sports Hall and Squash Courts provide facilities for a whole variety of indoor activities which exist alongside the more usual outdoor sports.

Whilst we believe it is important to give all pupils a sound grounding in as many sports as possible, there is also the opportunity to develop particular sporting skills to a high level and each year a number of pupils have been selected for County Teams.

The sports facilities are available for community use. These facilities are available in the evenings, at weekends and bookable during school holidays. Details of courses and contacts can be found in the above mentioned booklet.

### **SCHOOL MEALS**

A cooked meal is provided in school for anyone who would like one and we ask the children to bring the payment for the meal **daily**. We operate a cafeteria-system where a wide choice of items is provided. Provision is also made for those children who wish to bring a packed lunch. The cost of a full school meal is £2.30.

### **Free School Meals (FSMs)**

You may be entitled to free school meals if you are getting Income Support, Income Based Job Seekers' Allowance, the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit or support under the Immigration and Asylum Act. You may also be entitled if you are getting Child Tax Credit only (and are not entitled to Working Tax Credit) and the award is based on a gross annual income of less than £16,190.

To claim FSMs please get an application form from the Finance Office at school or from B&NES (even if you do not live in B&NES) – the school route is easier and quicker! Once you are “in the system” B&NES will send you a review form to be completed every 6 months. Should this not be completed within a month you will be deemed to no longer qualify.

- If your child is receiving free school meals in Year 6 this information should be passed onto CVS by your primary school.
- If your child gets free school meals he or she can also have free music tuition for one instrument – contact the Performing Arts Department for more information.
- If you have any questions please contact the Finance Office or your child’s Head of Year.

Should you wish to check if you may be eligible for one of the benefits that would qualify you for FSMs please contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau or other advice agency.

### **TRANSPORT**

Most Lower School pupils living more than three miles from school are entitled to free transport on school buses. Allocation of places and planning of routes is done by the School Admissions and Transport Section, Riverside, Temple Street, Keynsham.

At the end of August those pupils entering Year 7 who are entitled to free transport will be sent a ticket and details of boarding point. This ticket should be carried by the pupils at all times and can be checked by the coach drivers and staff on bus duty at any time.

Children who live outside the normal area served by the school may be given permission to travel on the school buses, providing there is a space. Application forms are available from school or the Local Authority. Children living in the South Bristol area have their own transport arrangements. Please see information printed on the back of the booklet. Any queries about transport arrangements should be made in the first instance to Mrs Taylor who has responsibility for matters concerning school transport.

**ANY PUPIL WHO MISSES HIS OR HER BUS AT THE END OF SCHOOL SHOULD REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE MEMBER OF STAFF ON DUTY SO THAT APPROPRIATE ACTION MAY BE TAKEN.**

## **SCHOOL CHARITABLE TRUST**

For many years the school as organised a Charitable Trust. All parents are invited to contribute to the Trust for the benefit of the school and its pupils. A number of School Staff, Parents and Governors form the Trustees and, of course, all matters relating to contribution to the Trust are confidential.

Money accrued from the Trust is spent on enriching the School's resources to benefit as many pupils as possible. Details of the Trust and the methods of contribution are explained during your child's first year at Chew Valley.

## **THE SCHOOL SOCIETY**

The School Society is an organisation consisting of parents, teachers and friends of the school. The Committee, comprising teaching staff, parents and village representatives, meets regularly and organises meetings and activities which are both enjoyable and informative. In past years, these have included a Bingo Evening, a Dance, a Quiz Evening and a Christmas shopping evening. We enjoy strong support from parents and we hope you will be able to join in our wide range of activities.

The village representatives are as follows:-

## **AREA REPRESENTATIVES**

### **CHEW VALLEY SCHOOL SOCIETY VILLAGE REPS 2009-10**

**CHAIR:** Hannah Curry and Carol House    **SECRETARY:** Anne Collier  
**VICE CHAIR:** Mary Douglas-Jones        **TREASURER:** Bernie Braidley

**Bishop Sutton:** Sarah Abernethy Hope, Whatley House, Ham Lane, Bishop Sutton 01275 332363  
Bernie Braidley, Highland House, The Batch, Bishop Sutton 01275 331644  
Anne Collier, Springdale, Sutton Park, Bishop Sutton 01275 331227  
Jane Fowler, 7 Lovell Drive, Bishop Sutton 01275 331092  
Yvonne Lye, Quince Cottage, Wick Road, Bishop Sutton 01275 331529  
Viv Morris, 18 Parkfield Gardens, Bishop Sutton 01275 331182  
Sarah Price, 5 Orchard Close, Bishop Sutton 01275 332728  
Caroline Savage, Fairhaven, The Street, Bishop Sutton 01275332623  
Lisa Wilkes, Apple Tree Farm, Ham Lane, Bishop Sutton 01275 331446

**Bishopsworth:** Nathalie Lucas, 20 Mow Barton, Bishopsworth 01179 836436

**Chew Magna:** Ursula Lindenberg, Rose Cottage, Silver Street, Chew Magna 01275 331031  
Suzy Matthews, Applehay, Moorledge Lane, Chew Magna 01275 333765  
Elaine Nelson-Smith, Stable Cottage, Chew Court Farm, Chew Magna 01275 331243  
Emma Shaw, Hillgrove Cottage, Chew Hill, Chew Magna 01275 332219  
Anna Watts, Gooselade Cottage, Hollowbrook Lane, Chew Magna 01275 333849

**Chew Stoke:** Rachel Williams, The Hollies, Stoke Hill, Chew Stoke 01275 333415

**Clutton:** Steven Dagger, Lower Northend Farm, Clutton 01761 453210

**Compton Martin:** Sue Davies, Kerry Trees, Undertown, Compton Martin 01761 221898  
Natalka Jurkiw, Withy Cottage, The Street, Compton Martin 01761 220046

**Felton:** Jackie Cross, Windrush, 33 Currells Lane, Felton 01275 474696

**Harptrees** Julia Grace, 1 Ashwood, East Harptree 01761 221938  
Lizzie Hick, Church Hill Cottage, Church Lane, East Harptree 01761 221574  
Lin Milverton, The Post Office, High Street, East Harptree 01761 221457  
Cheryle Twiggs, Highfield Cottage, Highfield Lane, East Harptree 01761 221774

**Norton Malreward:** Georgie Lane, Hillside, Norton Malreward 01275 834020

**Pensford:** Claire Powlesland, Riverside, Pensford Hill, Pensford 01761 490121

**Stanton Drew:** Mary Douglas-Jones, Orange Tree Cottage, Stanton Wick 01761 490473  
Ros Robinson, Fern Cottage, Stanton Drew 01275 332996

**Temple Cloud:** Anne Merrick, Long Close, Main Road, Temple Cloud 01761 453937  
Naomi Kent, Cameley Hall, Main Road, Temple Cloud 01761 452480

**Ubley:** Janet Welch, Old Orchard, The Street, Ubley 01761 462449

**Whitchurch:** Jeanette Schofield, 23 Doulton Way, Whitchurch 01275 541318

**Winford:** Hannah Curry, 6 Parsonage Close, Winford 01275 474166  
Carol House, Combewell Cottage, 34 Felton Lane, Winford 01275 472245

**CHEW VALLEY SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY (MAR10)**

**LA Representatives**

Mr B Pate  
Mrs L Matthews  
Mrs S Abrahams  
Mr J Hack

**Parent Governors**

Mr J Nelson-Smith  
Mr R Lowe  
Mr M Williams  
Mr M Torrible  
Mrs M Harper  
Mrs R Williams  
Mrs C Boardman

**Community Governors**

Mrs G Stobart            VICE-CHAIR  
Mrs D Chard  
Mr J Daintith  
Mr A Miller  
Mr D Palmer

**Sponsor Governor**

Mr B Wibberley        CHAIR

**Staff Governors**

Mr M Mallett  
Mr M Rees  
Ms J Hibbert  
Vacancy

Any member of the Governing Body can be contacted via the Clerk to the Governors:

Mrs Julie Seeley, Chew Valley School

Tel: 01275 334211 Fax: 01275 333625  
Email: [chewvalley\\_sec@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:chewvalley_sec@bathnes.gov.uk)

## **CURRICULUM AND GROUPING POLICY IN LOWER SCHOOL**

All students will follow a 10-day timetable made up of Week A and Week B. These two weeks will not be identical, but they will alternate throughout the term. The curriculum in each year is described below with the number of periods per 10 day cycle shown in brackets.

**Year 7:** English (7), Maths (8), Science (8), ICT (2), \*PSRE (3), PE (5), Technology (4), Art (4), \*Performing Arts (4), \*Humanities (9), French or Spanish (8).

- Students will start to learn either French or Spanish depending on the form they are in.
- All groups are mixed ability groups, but the Maths Department will arrange students into sets. The Languages Department will identify and fast track a group of very able students in each foreign language at the end of the Spring term.

**Year 8:** English (7), Maths (7), Science (8), ICT (2), \*PSRE (3), PE (5), Technology (4), Art (4), \*Performing Arts (4), \*Humanities (8), French or Spanish (8).

- The most able linguists will study a second foreign language (German) in Year 8 in addition to either French or Spanish.
- Maths will be in sets, Science will be in broad ability bands and other classes remain as mixed ability groups.

**Year 9:** English (7), Maths (8), Science (8), ICT (2), \*PSRE (3), PE (5), Technology (4), Art (3), \*Performing Arts (4), \*Humanities (8), Foreign Languages (8)

- In this year setting remains in Maths, while groups in Languages and Science will be banded into groups according to ability. All other subjects remain as mixed ability classes.

\*Humanities covers History, Geography and Citizenship.

\*Performing Arts covers Music and Drama

We carefully monitor progress in each subject and several times a year we will report the Teacher Assessments of your child's progress to you as National Curriculum Levels. You will also receive information on the Levels that they should be achieving for comparison.

Important though academic achievement is, it is not the sole criterion of success and we hope to see your child develop socially, by acquiring personal skills and becoming more aware of the society and community in which they live and the role they have to play. The **Personal, Social and Religious Education Programme (PSRE)** makes an invaluable contribution to this development. Extra curricular activities also play an important part and there are many opportunities to get involved in a variety of activities such as playing sport for the School, Music, Dance and Drama, and many more. The key to *enjoyment* is *involvement*, so encourage your son or daughter to participate as much as possible.

At Chew Valley we have the following Aims for all our students:

- ***To develop the intellectual potential of each child to the full.***
- ***To provide a range of opportunities for the widest development of skills and talents.***
- ***To encourage the personal development of individual pupils in terms of physical health, emotional maturity, aesthetic awareness, moral and spiritual development.***
- ***To give pupils a sense of responsibility to others, to the community, to society and to their wider environment.***
- ***To develop a mutually beneficial partnership between our school and the community.***

## **LOCAL AUTHORITY BUS TRANSPORT**

Students who live in the Area of Prime Responsibility but more than three miles from the school are usually entitled to Local Authority transport to school. These services are contracted by Bath and NE Somerset Council and North Somerset Council.

Enquiries about the provision of bus passes, times of pick-up and location of bus stops need to be directed to the relevant council. If you are entitled to free transport you should expect to receive a letter and pass directly from the Local Authority in August.

Bath and NE Somerset Council – School Transport **01225 394312**.

North Somerset Council – School Transport **01934 888 888**.

## **BRISTOL – CHEW VALLEY SCHOOL BUS SERVICE**

'A' Bus Ltd run a service from Whitchuch via Bishopsworth to the school. The service is a private business, independent of school or local authority control.

Should you have any queries about the 'A' Bus Service, please contact the Company on 0117 9710251.

Mrs Taylor in our Home-School Liaison Office keeps an up to date timetable and information on fares. Tel: 01275 332272 (Option 1)

### Contact us:

Telephone: 01275 332272

Fax: 01275 333625

Email: [chewvalley\\_sec@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:chewvalley_sec@bathnes.gov.uk)

Website: [www.chewvalleyschool.co.uk](http://www.chewvalleyschool.co.uk)

## **BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET**

### **TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2010/2011**

#### **TERM 1**

**Begins for students:** Thursday 2 September 2010

**Ends:** Friday 22 October 2010

#### **TERM 2**

**Begins:** Monday 1 November 2010

**Ends:** Friday 17 December 2010

#### **TERM 3**

**Begins:** Tuesday 4 January 2011

**Ends:** Friday 18 February 2011

#### **TERM 4**

**Begins:** Monday 28 February 2011

**Ends:** Friday 8 April 2011

#### **TERM 5**

**Begins:** Tuesday 26 April 2011

**Ends:** Friday 27 May 2011

#### **TERM 6**

**Begins:** Monday 6 June 2011

**Ends:** Friday 22 July 2011

NB: It is in your son/daughter's best interests for you not to take holidays during school term times, particularly if your child is following an examination course.

### **STAFF IN-SERVICE DAYS 2010/2011**

The school will be closed on:-

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2011