

CHILWELL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Activities Week 2027 – Bookings Are Now Open!



Our famous Chilwell School Activities Week is back, and sign-ups are officially LIVE!

One of the highlights of our school calendar, Activities Week takes place during the final week of the academic year, giving every single student the

opportunity to step outside the classroom, try something new and create unforgettable memories.

From exciting residential adventures abroad and across the UK to fantastic activities within our local community, there really is something for everyone! Activities Week is all about building confidence, developing new friendships, discovering hidden talents and enjoying experiences that students will remember long after they leave Chilwell.

This year, we're making it even bigger and better! We've introduced a range of brand-new activities alongside some of our much-loved favourites, so there's plenty to explore.

We encourage all families to take a look at the full range of opportunities and discuss the exciting choices available with their child.

Don't miss out – explore the activities and sign up now! We can't wait for another incredible Activities Week filled with adventure, laughter, new experiences and plenty of SPARK spirit!

Message from Mrs York

What a fantastic start to the new academic year! As we reach the end of our first half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly positive and exciting few weeks at Chilwell School.

It has been wonderful to see our students settle into the new school year with such enthusiasm, positivity and determination. Our new Year 7 students have made an excellent start to their Chilwell journey, while students across all year groups have embraced the opportunities and challenges of the new academic year.

Our new school uniform has been a real highlight! It has been fantastic to see so many students embracing the changes and choosing to wear our new uniform. They look incredibly smart, and there is a real sense of pride around the school. Thank you to our families for your continued support in helping us maintain such high standards.

The introduction of our mobile phone pouches has also been a great success. We are already seeing the positive impact of a more focused, phone-free school environment, with students engaging with one another and making the most of their time together throughout the school day. Thank you to students, staff and families for embracing this important change so positively.

And, of course, we couldn't reflect on this half term without mentioning our new Juci drinks! They have certainly gone down a storm with students and have been a fantastic addition to our school catering offer. It has been lovely to see such enthusiasm for something new!

Beyond these changes, there has been so much to celebrate. From excellent learning in classrooms to the many sporting, creative and enrichment opportunities taking place across school, our students continue to demonstrate our SPARK values of Success, Perseverance, Aspiration, Responsibility and Kindness every day.

I would also like to extend a huge thank you to our dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to make Chilwell such a welcoming, supportive and ambitious school community, and to our parents and carers for your continued encouragement and partnership.

As we head into the half-term break, I hope all our students, families and staff have the opportunity to enjoy some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

Thank you for a brilliant first half term. I look forward to seeing everyone return refreshed and ready for another exciting chapter at Chilwell School!

Mrs Sarah York
Headteacher



What's been happening

A Warm Welcome to Our Future Year 7 Families

It was lovely to welcome so many prospective Year 7 students and their families to Chilwell School for our recent Open Evening.

Visitors explored the school, met staff and students, and discovered the subjects and opportunities available at Chilwell. Activities across our faculties, alongside our school quiz, gave children a taste of what they could be learning when they join us.

A special thank you goes to our student guides and helpers, who shared their experiences and represented Chilwell with pride, demonstrating the kindness and responsibility at the heart of our SPARK values.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and to the staff and students who made the evening so welcoming. We hope your visit helped you picture your child as part of the Chilwell community, and we look forward to welcoming our future Year 7 students.

Looking Ahead at Our Sixth Form Open Evening

It was a pleasure to welcome prospective students and their families to our Sixth Form Open Evening at Lakeview last week.

The evening provided an opportunity to explore the courses available, meet subject staff and discuss the options for life after Year 11.

Visitors were able to ask questions about their next steps and discover how Chilwell Sixth Form can support their interests and ambitions.

Thank you to our staff and students for helping to make the evening so welcoming, and to everyone who joined us. We hope you left feeling informed and excited about the opportunities ahead.

We look forward to welcoming our next generation of sixth form students to Lakeview.

Have Your Say – School Admissions Consultation 2028–2029

Nottinghamshire County Council has launched its annual consultation on school admission arrangements for the 2028–2029 academic year, and parents and carers are invited to have their say.

The consultation covers proposed admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools across Nottinghamshire. This is an opportunity for families to review the proposals and share their views before the arrangements are finalised.

The consultation is open from 5 October to 22 November 2026.

Parents and carers can view the proposed arrangements and submit their feedback using the links below:

- View the proposals: [Nottinghamshire School Admissions Consultation](#)
- Have your say: [Complete the online consultation form](#)
- Email your comments: admissionsconsultations@nottsccl.gov.uk

Closing date: Sunday 22 November 2026

We encourage families who are interested in school admissions across Nottinghamshire to take a few moments to review the proposals and share their feedback. Your views are an important part of the consultation process.



Have Your Say !

What's been happening

Introducing our new Peer Mentor Programme

We are delighted to introduce our new Peer Mentor Programme in partnership with the Mental Health Support Team (MHST), reflecting our ongoing commitment to prioritising and supporting the mental health and wellbeing of our students. Over the last half term sixteen Year 10 students have completed two full days of training, developing the skills and confidence needed to mentor some of our younger pupils.

They will now be partnered with 16 of our Year 8 students and the whole group came together on Tuesday afternoon for a fun icebreaker session. This involved taking part in activities to get to know one another before each nominating the students they would most like to work with.

Mentoring sessions will begin after half term, and we are incredibly proud of the maturity, enthusiasm and commitment shown by all our new peer mentors. This initiative forms part of our wider focus on mental health across the school, alongside the streamlining of support services, the introduction of a dedicated Mental Health & Wellbeing Lead role and a central email address to help pupils and families access the right support more easily. This being: studentmhandw@chilwellschool.co.uk



Staying Safe on the Journey to School

Our Year 7 students took part in a road safety session delivered by Via on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council, reinforcing safe choices as they become more independent travellers.

Key reminders included crossing safely, staying alert and avoiding distractions from phones and headphones. With darker mornings and evenings approaching, please discuss safe routes with your child and encourage bright or reflective clothing. Thank you to the Via team for supporting our students.



Inspiring Our Students with The Pythian Club

We had an early start at Chilwell School today as we welcomed The Pythian Club, who delivered an inspiring session to 200 of our students, focusing on positive character development and the importance of believing in yourself and never giving up.

Students were encouraged to recognise their potential, develop resilience and understand that perseverance and a positive mindset can help them overcome challenges and achieve their goals.

We are delighted to be working with The Pythian Club and look forward to welcoming them back next term as we continue to support our students in building confidence, developing positive character and striving for success.

The message was clear: BELIEVE IN YOURSELF. NEVER EVER GIVE UP!



Safe, Supported & Ready to Learn



"Our safeguarding team is committed to ensuring every student feels safe, supported, listened to and able to thrive both in and out of school."

—Mr. Jay

Staying Safe This October Half Term

As we approach the October half-term break, we want all our students to enjoy a well-deserved rest, spend time with family and friends, and most importantly, stay safe.

With darker evenings, Halloween celebrations and more time spent online, there are a few important things we would like families to be mindful of over the holiday.

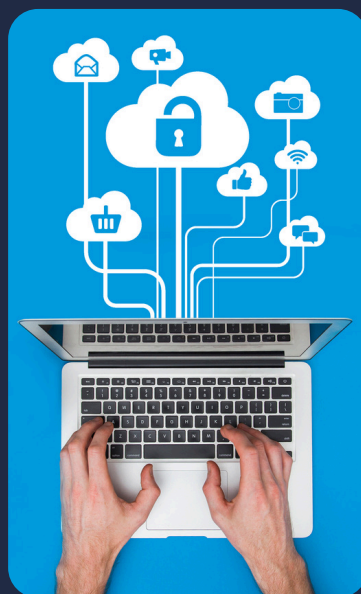
Online Safety – Think Before You Click!

With students likely to spend more time on their phones, gaming consoles and social media during the break, online safety remains a key priority. We encourage parents and carers to have regular conversations with their children about:

- Social media and group chats: Be mindful of what is shared online, including photographs, personal information and messages.
- Online gaming: Know who your child is communicating with and remind them that not everyone online is who they claim to be.
- Cyberbullying: Encourage children to speak to a trusted adult if they receive unkind, threatening or inappropriate messages.

- Screen time and wellbeing: Encourage a healthy balance between online activities, physical activity, sleep and time with family and friends.

Remember: STOP, BLOCK, REPORT and TELL a trusted adult.



Darker Evenings – Staying Safe Outdoors

Halloween can be an exciting time for young people, but it is important that everyone celebrates responsibly.

We encourage students to be respectful of neighbours and the local community, particularly older or vulnerable residents who may not wish to participate in Halloween activities.

If going out with friends, young people should stay together, avoid entering unfamiliar properties and ensure they have a safe way of getting home.

Fireworks and Bonfire Safety

With Bonfire Night approaching shortly after half term, we would also like to remind families of the importance of firework safety.

Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults, and young people should never play with fireworks or attempt to light them. Attending an organised public display is a safer way to enjoy the celebrations.



Safe, Supported & Ready to Learn

Looking After Your Mental Health and Wellbeing

While half term is an exciting opportunity to relax, we recognise that school holidays can sometimes feel challenging or isolating for young people.

We encourage students to stay connected with friends and family, get outdoors, enjoy activities they love and take time away from screens.

Most importantly, if something is worrying you, please speak to someone you trust. No young person should feel they have to manage their worries alone.



Need Support During Half Term?

- Although school is closed for the holiday, support remains available.
- Childline: 0800 1111 – free, confidential support for young people.
 - NSPCC: 0808 800 5000 – advice and support for adults concerned about a child.
 - CEOP Safety Centre: www.ceop.police.uk – report concerns about online sexual abuse or exploitation.
 - Shout: Text SHOUT to 85258 – free, confidential mental health support, 24 hours a day.
 - Emergency: If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.

A final reminder from Chilwell School: Whether you're enjoying time with friends, exploring the local community or spending time online, make safe choices, look out for one another and remember our SPARK values, particularly Responsibility and Kindness.

Have a wonderful, safe and enjoyable half term!



Attendance Matters – A Great Start to the Year!

As we reach the end of our first half term, we would like to thank our families for their continued support in ensuring students attend school regularly and arrive on time.

Every school day matters! Good attendance is essential for academic success, building friendships, developing confidence and making the most of the fantastic opportunities available at Chilwell School.

As we head into the half-term break, it's a great opportunity to reflect on the importance of establishing positive routines. We encourage all families to help students return refreshed, organised and ready to learn.

Remember, 90% attendance means missing one day of school every fortnight – the equivalent of four weeks of learning across the school year!

Let's continue working together to make every day count and ensure all our students have the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Enjoy your half-term break – we look forward to welcoming everyone back!

Attendance Matters

95%	=	40 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	80 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	120 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	160 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

Vision and Values

Keeping the SPARK Alive!

SPARK



Chilwell School

As we reach the end of this half term, we encourage students to reflect on how they have demonstrated our SPARK values through their learning, friendships and contributions to school life.

- Success – Recognising progress and celebrating achievements, big and small.
- Perseverance – Keeping going when learning feels challenging and asking for help when needed.
- Aspiration – Setting goals, exploring opportunities and working towards the future.
- Responsibility – Arriving prepared, making safe choices and taking ownership of our actions.
- Kindness – Including others, offering support and treating everyone with respect.

The holidays offer plenty of opportunities to put these values into practice too – learning a new skill, helping at home or checking in on a friend.

A Sweet Reward for a SPARKling Half Term!

In recognition of an excellent half term, 20 students from each year group received a sweet Halloween treat! This was a lovely opportunity to celebrate students who have demonstrated our SPARK values through their effort, perseverance, kindness and positive contributions to school life.

Well done to everyone recognised – your commitment and attitude are something to be proud of. Keep that SPARK shining next half term!



Arbor Communications

Please continue to check Arbor regularly for important school updates and communications.



Taking Pride in Our Work: PROUD

Our new PROUD expectations encourage students to take care with their work and develop consistent habits in every lesson.

Presentation of the highest quality.
Revise, reflect and correct. ✨
Only black and green ink are used by pupils.
Underline dates and titles with a ruler at the start of every new lesson.
Diagrams are produced in pencil.

These simple routines help students keep their work clear, organised and useful for revision. Families can support by ensuring their child brings black and green pens, a pencil and a ruler to school each day.

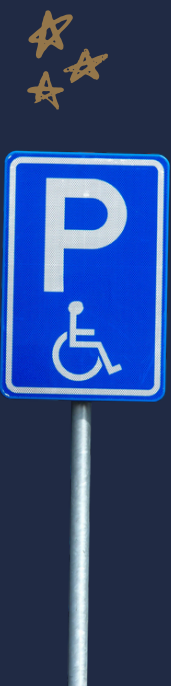
Every lesson, every page – work to be PROUD of!

Living Our SPARK Values:

Respect

Our disabled parking bays are there to support members of our community who need them. When these spaces are used by those without a Blue Badge, it can create significant difficulties for individuals who rely on wheelchairs, walkers or other mobility aids.

One of our SPARK values is Respect. By parking considerably and leaving disabled bays available for those who need them, we show respect for others and help ensure our school remains accessible for everyone.



Community News

Our Community News pages highlight opportunities, events and activities taking place beyond the school gates. From local sports clubs and holiday programmes to charity events, volunteering opportunities and family support services, these pages are designed to help keep our school community connected and informed.

TOGETHER, WE CAN CELEBRATE AND SUPPORT THE VIBRANT COMMUNITY AROUND CHILWELL SCHOOL.

Out and About This Half Term 🍂

Looking for something to do during the October holidays? There are plenty of opportunities to get outdoors, try something creative and enjoy some seasonal fun with family and friends.

🌿 Free Wildlife Walk – Attenborough Nature Reserve

Saturday 24 October | 10am–1pm

Join Beeston Wildlife Group for a guided walk around our beautiful local nature reserve. Everyone is welcome and membership is not required. Meet in the car park outside the Nature Centre. Free to attend. [Find out more](#)

🔥 Halloween Family Bushcraft – Attenborough Nature Reserve

Wednesday 28 October | 10am–12 noon

Enjoy a woodland adventure with nature crafts, bushcraft skills and campfire cooking. A lovely opportunity to spend time together outdoors this autumn. Tickets £6–£12; booking required. [Details and booking](#)

🛷 Half-Term Ice Skating – National Ice Centre

16 October–1 November

Get active with public skating and seasonal themed sessions in Nottingham. Intensive skating lessons and a holiday club for children aged 7–13 are also available. Prices vary and advance booking is recommended.

🎬 Halloween Outdoor Cinema – Wollaton Park

Friday 23–Sunday 25 October

Wrap up warm, bring a blanket or camping chair and enjoy a Halloween film under the stars. Please check individual screenings for ticket prices and age ratings.

🎨 Get Creative – Lakeside Arts, University Park

Selected dates throughout half term

For families with younger children, Lakeside Arts is offering creative activities including Riddles in Clay on 24 October (ages 7+), Iridescent Beetles on 29 October (ages 8–10) and Tim Burton-inspired workshops on 31 October (ages 8–10). [Explore the half-term programme](#)



Zip lining, climbing, archery, woodland activities and more!

Inclusion Through Adventure Day for Families

For disabled children and young people aged 7+ and their families.

Sunday, 25 October 2026
9:30AM – 4:00PM
Portland College, Nottingham
£5 booking fee per person

Portland Charity




NOTTINGHAM CASUALS RFC

Minis & Junior Rugby - Age 4 - 12

 MIDWEEK TRAINING U9+ 6 PM
SUNDAY TRAINING & MATCHES

Girls Rugby - School years 4 - 13

 MIDWEEK TRAINING 6 PM
SUNDAY TRAINING & MATCHES

Colts Rugby - School years 7 - 13
Everyone is welcome!

 MIDWEEK TRAINING 6 PM
WEEKEND MATCHES

 CONTACT JAE 07926 234213



VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO FIND OUT MORE

 CANALSIDE BEESTON | NG9 1NG





👻 Kids' Ghost Hunter Tours – National Justice Museum

Selected dates, 22–30 October

Help the museum's ghost hunter track down some mischievous ghosts, with crafts and spooky games along the way! Recommended for ages 5–11. Tickets £8.95 per child and £7.95 per adult. Children must be accompanied by a paying adult.

🍿 Halloween Cinema – Arc Cinema, Beeston

31 October–1 November

Finish the holidays with a trip to see Monster House on the big screen at Beeston's Arc Cinema. Visit the website for screening times, ticket prices and age guidance.