

CHINA NEWSLETTER

All the latest news from China House at Gordons School

Hello Everyone

For those of you who have been following my baby bird saga, you will be pleased to know that last Sunday was a big day for the nuthatch family. We noticed that on Saturday there was a lot of wing fluttering and tapping from inside the box so we knew that the chicks were due to fledge any day. They had been poking their heads out of the box too, checking out the lie of the land which was really quite adorable. Sunday morning came and we concluded that they had already left as there was no sign at all of the parents and the box was deadly silent. Suddenly, whilst enjoying a coffee after a lovely walk in the sunshine, a bleary eyed little chick poked his head out of the box, frantically calling for his parents. We feared that his Sunday morning lie in may have cost him his life as all the others had obviously got up early and headed off leaving him fast asleep. Luckily, mum came to the rescue and tempted him out with a beak full of food which he gladly took before, with great trepidation, taking his first flight. Despite the fact that last weekend we were feeling quite a lot of hatred towards the nuthatches who had killed our beautiful blue tit family, watching them fledge was really quite an emotional moment, and I wasn't the only one in the house who had a little tear in their eye!

Do you have any wildlife stories that you'd like to share with us? I have heard this week about a Granddad who has been patiently hand feeding the squirrels in his garden! They are cheeky little chaps aren't they? It's a constant battle between the squirrels and Mr Pavis in our garden as he works out how to stop them destroying our bird feeders! Even Stumpy, our tail-less squirrel has been banned. Poor little chap!



We have Twitter!

Be sure to follow us on Twitter to get school news and stories in realtime!



We have Instagram

Follow us on instagram to keep up to date with all our in-house photos!



Inspired by your comments, watch this weeks Assembly to thank your teachers!

Quiz of the Week Results!

Don't forget to login to Kahoot.IT every Tuesday between 4pm and 9pm for the Big Family Quiz! Well done to everyone who took part this week. There are some familiar names and great scores in the top 3 places on the leader board! Login details are posted on Teams every week at 4pm.



Is Your Cat Bad At Maths???

A **HUGE** thank you to the Y11 China girls who have very kindly offered to help any of the KS3 students who are struggling with their school work. Please see the details below of the girls involved and the subjects they can help with. The girls can be contacted through their school email account if you need their academic support and you can then arrange to speak to them on Zoom, Teams or FaceTime.

Amelie Wyatt: Maths, Science (all) and French

Annabel Bygrave: Spanish

Abigail Hunter-Blanco: Art, Computer Science/IT, Drama and Maths

Jess Franklin: Geography, English and anything creative

Leoni Jack: English Literature and Drama



**Happy Birthday to Freya who was 12 this week!
&
Nerys, Kaitlyn, Lily-Ann and Sophie J
who all celebrate their birthdays in half-term.**

Stuck for Half-Term Ideas?

I'm sure that like myself, many of you are wishing you were off on your planned half-term holiday next week. I have been told that trips as far and wide as Cornwall to the Caribbean have been cancelled with suntan lotion and suitcases put away for the time being. However, with this glorious weather looking like it is going to last a while, I hope you are all able to have some relaxing time together with a break from school work and normal routine.

Here are a few ideas to keep the family occupied;

Virtual Escape Rooms; check out the variety of escape rooms for all the family to enjoy however far apart you are. For a fee of around £20 per game, enter the game and be led around by an avatar as you try to escape. Even Harry Potter has joined in with this new craze.



Gordon's School Dinner Recipes; choose from family favourites such as Chicken Katsu Curry or Sticky Toffee pudding. Please click [here](#) to see the details.

Design a Doughnut Kit; Great gift idea or a fun treat for the family. Kits come with doughnuts, icing and tasty toppings.

Alternatively buy your own ingredients from the super-market. Click [here](#) for yummy doughnut details.

Enjoy Camping? Why not take to the great outdoors for the night? Follow the example of some of our girls and pitch a tent in the garden and watch the stars whilst eating toasted marshmallows.



Can You Help?

Ex-China girl Jess Kruger is making "well-being" packages for NHS workers who are suffering with dry, bleeding hands from constant washing and sore faces from wearing PPE. If you are able to, please donate to Jess's JustGiving page [here!](#) [here!](#)



Have you heard the talented Prince family piping on Thursday evening at 8pm?



Thank you, we love hearing you play!

I would like to have the last word.....and thank all of you for everything over these last few months. It undoubtedly has been a hard slog, with many challenges along the way, but we will get through all of this and come out the other side stronger with new talents and a different perspective on our priorities. The girls have been amazing, a credit to you all, and I know there have been difficult times for some, disappointments for others but they have done you, me and the school proud.

HAPPY HALF TERM

(as always, photos please!)

