

The Chancel

CHIRPER

#535



What's in this week's Chirper?

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Follow our socials



@Chancel Primary



@ChancelPrimarySchool
(NEW)



COMING SOON

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

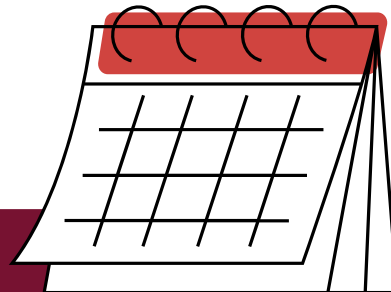
Please can you ensure that all forms have been completed and returned to school as soon as possible.

These include:

- Collection Forms
- Walking Home Permission (Year 5 & 6)
- Photograph Permissions
- Data Collection Forms
- Medical Forms/Care Plans



Dates For Your Diary



ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 - 2027

Autumn – Term 1: Tuesday 01 September 2026 – Friday 23 October 2026

Autumn – Term 2: Monday 02 November 2026 – Friday 18 December 2026

Spring – Term 3: Monday 04 January 2027 – Friday 12 February 2027

Spring – Term 4: Monday 22 February 2027 – Thursday 25 March 2027

Summer – Term 5: Monday 12 April 2027 – Friday 28 May 2027

Summer – Term 6: Monday 07 June 2027 – Wednesday 21 July 2027

Inset Days (school closed to pupils)

Tuesday 1 September 2026

Thursday 22 October 2026

Friday 23 October 2026

Monday 4 January 2027

Wednesday 21 July 2027

SEPTEMBER

Friday 25th - Macmillan Coffee Morning

Wednesday 30th - PTFA AGM

OCTOBER

Wednesday 7th - Nursery and Reception Open Evening

Wednesday 14th - Tempest Individual Photos

Wednesday 21st - Harvest Service

Thursday 22nd - Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Friday 21st - Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Please note that all dates are subject to change.





**WHAT'S
NEW?**

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Chancel Families,

Welcome back to a brand-new school year at Chancel Primary School! I hope you all had a wonderful and restful summer break and had plenty of opportunities to enjoy some special time together. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back this week and see them returning with big smiles, lots of enthusiasm and excitement for the year ahead.



We have another fantastic year ahead of us, with exciting learning, new experiences and plenty of opportunities for our children to learn, grow and shine. Whether your child is taking their first steps in their school journey or beginning their final year at Chancel, we are delighted to have them as part of our school family.

This year, we will continue to put our motto, “where every child belongs and thrives,” at the heart of everything we do. Our values of respect, resilience and responsibility will also continue to guide us as we support our children to become confident, caring and independent young people.

There is lots to look forward to over the coming months, and we can't wait to see the children making new memories, developing their skills and taking on new challenges. As always, we are incredibly grateful for the support of our families and for the important part you play in making Chancel such a special place to be.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to working together throughout the year to make it a happy, successful and inspiring one for every child at Chancel.

With warmest wishes,

Mrs R Palmer
Headteacher



Uniform Reminder

We would like to take this opportunity to remind families about our school uniform expectations. Wearing the correct uniform helps promote a sense of pride, belonging, and equality across the school community. Please ensure that your child returns to school in full uniform, which includes:

Burgundy sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper (available with school logo)

Gold or burgundy polo shirt (available with school logo)

Grey trousers/shorts/culottes

Grey skirt (length appropriate for school i.e. knee length)/ pinafore

Black, grey or burgundy socks or tights

Safe, practical black shoes (not trainers)

PE Kit & School Sports

Yellow/Gold T-Shirt (available with logo)

Plain black shorts/skorts or tracksuit bottoms

Trainers

Burgundy Hoody/zip-up (available with logo)



Please also ensure that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

School bags (Reception-Year 5):

Burgundy bag, with separate water bottle storage

Chancel ruck-sack is currently under consideration

Year 6 pupils ONLY are permitted to bring their own bags to aid transition to high school.

Jewellery is limited to one wristwatch and small stud earrings which must be removed for PE (including swimming).

Make-up, nail varnish, artificial nails and artificial tattoos are not accepted. These should be removed before returning to school after the weekend/ holidays.

Children's hair must be worn in an appropriate style with no colouring, extreme styling or designs: Mohicans, lines/ patterns, or shaven heads are not permitted. Hair accessories should be limited to simple headbands and bobbles, not tiaras, 'ears', etc.

We appreciate your support in helping us maintain high standards and ensuring a smooth start to the new term. If you are experiencing difficulties obtaining uniform items, please don't hesitate to contact us—we are here to help.

We look forward to seeing all pupils looking smart and ready for the year ahead!



Free Uniform

At Chancel, we know how quickly children grow – and how expensive uniform can be to replace. To help support our families, we are pleased to let you know that we will be continuing to offer a range of good-quality, second-hand uniform available in the school lobby.

Parents and carers are very welcome to help themselves to anything they need from the rail. If you are looking for a particular item or size that isn't on display, please speak to the school office, as we have additional uniform stored away and may be able to find just what you need.



We also happily accept donations of clean, good-condition uniform. If your child has outgrown any items, please bring them to the school office so that other families can make use of them.

This is one of the ways we want to support our Chancel community, making sure every child has what they need to feel comfortable and confident in school.

Photograph Consent Forms

Please could parents and carers check their child's school bag, as some photograph consent forms are being returned home for a small amendment.

On the form, where it says "Please delete as appropriate", you need to cross out one of the two options, leaving your chosen response clearly visible.

Once amended, please return the form to school as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.



Clubs - Autumn Term 2026

Day	Club	Times/Dates	Run By
Tuesday	Y5/6 Football Club Free The club will be for Y5/6 only due to reduced staffing members.	3.30 – 4.30pm Starts Tuesday 15th September 2026 Dismissed from St Augustine's Field.	Mr Leese
Wednesday	KS2 Choir Free	3.30 – 4.30pm Starts Wednesday 16th September 2026	Mrs Harris & Mrs Dubberley
Friday	Y5/6 Netball Club Free Invite only – waiting list in operation	3.30 – 4.30pm Starts Friday 11th September 2026	Mrs Watson and Miss Jones



Attendance



Why Attendance Matters

Good attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children achieve their full potential at school. Every day of learning counts – lessons build on each other, and when children miss time, it can be hard to catch up. Coming to school regularly also helps children make strong friendships, develop good routines, and feel part of the school community. Research shows that children who attend school every day do better not only in their learning but also in their confidence and wellbeing. Even a few days missed can add up quickly. For example, missing one day each fortnight equals nearly a whole month of lost learning over the year.

Our School Expectation

We expect all pupils to aim for at least 96% attendance. Of course, sometimes children may be unwell and need to stay at home. If this happens, please contact the school office as soon as possible on the first day of absence to let us know and every day thereafter for the entire duration of the absence.

Penalty Notices

The law requires parents to make sure their children attend school regularly. If a child has too many unauthorised absences (including holidays during term time without permission), parents may receive a penalty notice from the Local Authority.

Working Together

By working in partnership, we can make sure your child gets the very best start in life. Good attendance sets the foundation for success, both now and in the future.

Chancel's Attendance Policy States:

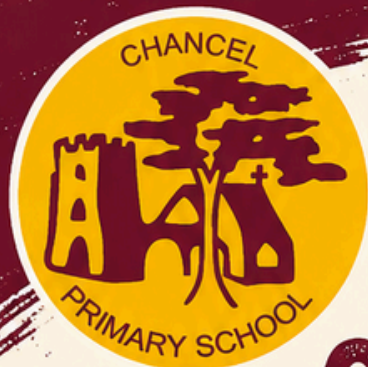


To support and promote good attendance at Chancel:

Parents Will

- Telephone the school office, preferably before 8am, on EACH day of absence.
- Leave a message with: child's name, reason for absence, your name and telephone number.
- Inform the office/class teacher of any planned medical absences in advance.
- Try to make all medical appointments (doctors, dentist and hospital) out of school time. Obviously, this may not always be possible so, in such cases, try to secure an appointment around the legal registration periods i.e. after 9.30am (for morning registration) and after 2.00pm (for afternoon registration).
- Put all requests for leave in writing and submit this to the school office in advance. Leave of absence during term time is not a parental right. The Headteacher will make a decision whether to authorise the absence.
- Encourage your child to take responsibility for being on time for school.
- Encourage your child to come to school even if s/he is feeling slightly unwell.





LET'S CREATE AMAZING



OUTDOOR PLAY



OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR CHILDREN

From September 2026, we are developing exciting outdoor play spaces across the school using loose parts and natural materials to encourage curiosity, creativity, teamwork and adventure in all weathers!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR DONATIONS OF:

- ✓ Flexi buckets
- ✓ Tarpaulins
- ✓ Plastic pipes (like drainpipes or plumbing pipes)
- ✓ Decking planks
- ✓ Lengths of guttering
- ✓ Traffic cones
- ✓ Small garden tools like trowels and forks
- ✓ Wooden electrical reels
- ✓ Old waterproof coats
- ✓ Wellies
- ✓ Or other similar items

ALL DONATIONS WILL
HELP US CREATE MORE
**FUN, IMAGINATIVE
AND ACTIVE PLAY**
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
EVERYONE!



IF YOU CAN HELP,
PLEASE CONTACT
THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON
01889 228710



THANK YOU FOR
SUPPORTING OUR
SCHOOL COMMUNITY!





AWARDS



Stars



Warriors



Reception

Willow & Valeria

Gabriel-Noah

Year 1

Amelia & Jesse

Whole Class

Year 2

Gracie & Arabella

Leo H

Year 3

Vlad & Frankie

Theo

Year 4

Ezra & Ruben

Hallie

Year 5

Phoebe & Billy

Preston

Year 6

Bertie & Charlie

Isla

Arrive On Time At Ten To Nine
Make Every Minute Count



1st

N/A

2nd

N/A

3rd

N/A

4th

N/A

5th

N/A

6th

N/A

7th

N/A

190

School days in each academic year

184

Days of education

181

Days of education

171

Days of education

152

Days of education

0 days absence

6 days absence

9 days absence

19 days absence

38 days absence

100%

attendance

97%

attendance

95%

attendance

90%

attendance

80%

attendance

Shugborough

N/A

Trent

N/A

Augustine

N/A

Wolseley

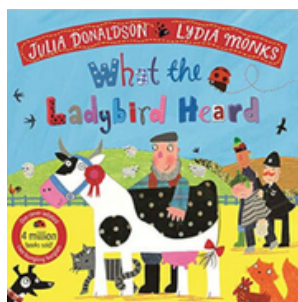
N/A





Recommended Reads - EYFS & KS1

Nursery



What the Ladybird Heard by Julia Donaldson & Lydia Monks

What the Ladybird Heard is a huge favourite amongst preschoolers, parents and teachers. With everything from farm animals and minibeasts to sneaky crooks and fantastic lilting rhymes, this brightly illustrated story from national treasure Julia Donaldson is a clear winner for storytimes in the Early Years. Young children love joining in the repeated refrains of animal sounds and seeing the plot unfold as the cunning little ladybird saves the day by helping her farmyard friends outsmart two burglars looking to steal the prize cow.

Reception

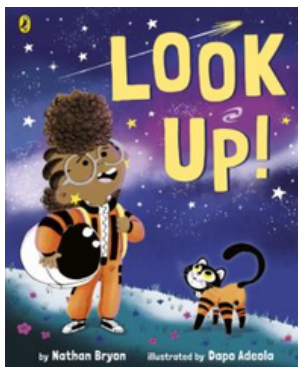


Supertato by Sue Hendra & Paul Linnet

Written by husband and wife team Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet, the books are enjoyed by readers who like a high dose of action and hilarious characters who mean business.

This is a tremendously popular story that has now been developed into a series of books and a TV show. It tells the funny tale of Supertato, the unlikely superhero who is on a mission to protect the other vegetables from the Evil Pea. A laugh-out-loud story that children want to hear again and again.

Year 1



Look Up! by Nathan Bryon & Dapo Adeola

Look Up! is an entertaining and vibrant story book about a space-loving girl called Rocket. Rocket is excited about the chance to view an upcoming meteor shower, and she wants everyone she meets to be ready to look up and see it. Frustratingly, her much older brother would rather look down at his phone. With a little sibling compromise and a never-giving-in approach from Rocket, the pair have a wonderful time together and Rocket helps everyone to see how amazing the sky can be when you just look up.

Year 2



The Couch Potato by Jory John & Pete Oswald

With everything he needs within arm's reach of the sofa, this potato has it all – multiple TV screens, hundreds of video games and even a button that activates a snack-fetching gadget. He can't see any reason at all to leave the couch... until the electricity cuts out. The potato steps foot outside and embarks upon a new-found appreciation of fresh air, exercise and the sounds and sights of the great outdoors. After some deep introspection, the potato sets himself a resolution to achieve a better balance between screentime and time enjoying the outdoor world





Recommended Reads - KS2

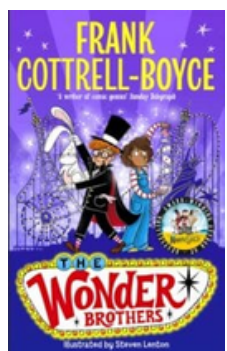
Year 3



The Wild Robot by Peter Brown

The story follows a curious robot called Roz, who finds herself stranded in the wild on an island. Roz must learn to survive and earn the trust of the island's animals. This is a beautiful tale of acceptance, friendship and what it means to care about others. With short chapters and lovely illustrations, The Wild Robot is a delightful read for Year 3 and beyond.

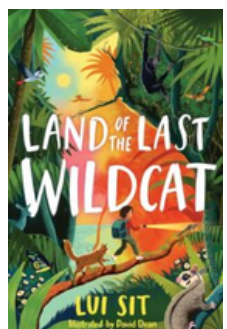
Year 4



The Wonder Brothers by Frank Cottrell Boyce & Steven Lenton

It's show time! Meet Blackpool's very own Nathan and Middy, together they are The Wonder Brothers! Of course, they couldn't perform their acts without a support team comprising the steadfast Brodie and his giant white rabbit, Queenie (the real star of the show!). Together, the children have spent summer holidays in Blackpool, perfecting the art of magic, but when a legendary magician comes to visit and makes Blackpool's prominent landmark vanish, they go on a mission to get it back. The Blackpool Tower has disappeared, and when Middy is interviewed by the press, she promises that they will return it.

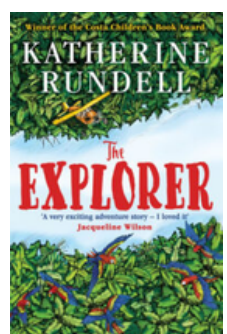
Year 5



Land of the Last Wildcat by Lui Sit & David Dean

Puffin Lau, the 10 year old protagonist of the story, has lost both of her parents and lives with her best friend Lance and his grandad Moe. Thankfully, Lance shares Puffin's love of adventure, but when her mother fails to keep her promise to deliver a talk to her class on the Kuri, long, lost wildcat of Linger Island, Puffin takes it upon herself to act as museum guide, a role she feels well qualified for. Before she has time to complete her talk, her Mum's boss Professor Smoult takes over and Puffin, smarting with anger, decides to investigate for herself just what her Mum felt was so important that she couldn't be there for her daughter.

Year 6



The Explorer by Katherine Rundell

The Explorer is set in the Amazon and follows the story of Fred, whose plane accidentally crashes into the rainforest canopy. The Explorer is an exciting and gripping adventure that sees four children learning to survive as they journey through unfamiliar and challenging circumstances. This book transports you to a richly drawn land, and you will find yourself right there with the children as they follow a map to a lost city, eating tarantulas and swimming with river dolphins.





Safeguarding



Our most important role at Chancel is keeping the children safe and protecting them from potential harm. Safeguarding the children is everyone's responsibility and is best achieved through working in partnership as a school community.

The safeguarding staff at Chancel are:

- *Mrs Palmer - Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)*
- *Mrs Watson and Mr Newton- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs)*
- *Mr Atkinson- Safeguarding Governor*
-

If you are worried about a child's well-being or believe they may be at risk of harm, you should report this concern to school, either by personal visit, email or telephone. You can also contact:

- *Staffordshire Families Integrated Front Door (SFIFD) - 0300 111 8007*
- *Staffordshire Police - 101 or 999*

If you are contacted by staff about a safeguarding concern, please do not be offended. We are sure you would rather we take every precaution to ensure the children's safety. We are also here to support you, should you have any concerns or difficulties.

NSPCC Learning

Parental Mental Health Resources

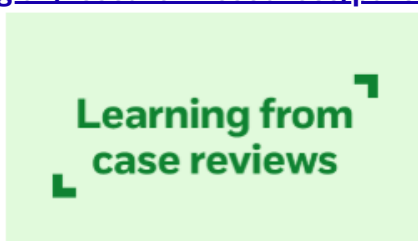
Find out more about the NSPCC services and resources on parental mental health to help support you and your families.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/parental-mental-health-resources>



Parental mental health problems

Advice on how the mental health of parents and carers can impact on a child's wellbeing. Find out what works to support families where one or more parents or carers have a mental health problem.



Improving practice around parental mental health

Learning from case reviews around working with families where parents or carers have mental health problems.



Podcast: Supporting Black mothers facing perinatal mental health challenges

Listen to Sandra Igwe, founder of The Motherhood Group, discuss the importance of providing inclusive support for maternal mental health during pregnancy and the first year following childbirth.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Returning to school after the summer holidays can be both exciting and daunting for children of all ages. Different routines, classes, schools, and academic pressures can cause anxiety or uncertainty. Parents play a vital role in easing this transition. This guide will help you support your child emotionally, mentally, and practically as they return to school.

1 RE-ESTABLISH ROUTINES

Gradually shift back to school-time routines a week or two before term starts. Regular bedtimes, wake-up times, and mealtimes can help children feel more secure and reduce the shock of change when school begins. Having a routine creates predictability and stability, helping to reduce anxiety while improving sleep and concentration.

2 TALK ABOUT FEELINGS

Encourage open conversations with children about their feelings. Ask them how they feel about returning to school, such as what they're looking forward to and anything they might be feeling unsure or worried about. Validating their emotions can help reduce anxiety and show them it's okay to talk about their emotional wellbeing.

3 SUPPORT WITH SLEEP

Children need adequate sleep for concentration, brain function, memory, and emotional regulation. Establish a wind-down routine without screens at least an hour before bed, and encourage relaxing activities like reading or listening to calming music.

4 LOOK OUT FOR SIGNS

Some children hide their anxiety. Watch for changes in their behaviour, such as withdrawal, stomach aches, and irritability. If worries persist, speak with their teacher or the pastoral team early to ensure your child receives support.

5 REFRESH SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Help children reconnect with school friends by arranging playdates or video chats in the week before school starts. Familiar faces and social interactions help the transition and provide emotional comfort on that first day back.

6 CREATE A CALM MORNING

Mornings set the tone for the day. Plan ahead with a consistent morning routine that allows time for breakfast, getting dressed, and talking calmly about the day. Avoid last-minute rushing to reduce stress for everyone.

7 FOCUS ON POSITIVES

Talk about the fun and interesting parts of school – seeing friends, favourite subjects, or exciting activities. One simple but powerful change parents can make is swapping “How’s your day been?” for “What’s been good about your day?” This invites more of a positive, open response. Focusing on positives can help shift children’s anxious thoughts and reframe school as a safe and engaging place.

8 VISIT OR VISUALISE SCHOOL

If possible, encourage visits to the school grounds before the first day, especially if it’s a new school. Walking the route or even looking at photos of classrooms and teachers can make the environment feel familiar. The school website is always a great go-to place for this. This is particularly helpful for younger children or those with additional needs.

9 PLAN AHEAD TOGETHER

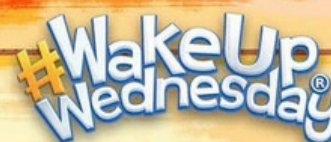
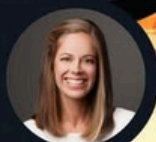
Involve children in preparing for school – buying supplies, packing their bag, or choosing lunch options. This gives them a sense of control and builds excitement. Use checklists or calendars to prepare together, helping reduce last-minute stress.

10 STAY POSITIVE AND PRESENT

Children pick up on your outlook. Stay calm, positive, and present, especially during drop-offs. Avoid lingering goodbyes, and let them know you’ll be there at pick-up. A consistent, reassuring presence builds their confidence and resilience.

Meet Our Expert

This guide was created by Jo Morton-Brown, an Emotional Health Practitioner with nearly 15 years’ experience supporting children and young people’s mental health. She produces uplifting YouTube content for pupils and trains adults to better support young people’s wellbeing, with a mission to help every child feel valued and understand their emotions.



The
National
College®



SEND & inclusion

Any questions or concerns regarding Special Educational Needs or Disabilities?
Please speak to our SENDCo, Miss Miller, or drop-in to see Mrs Palmer on Friday mornings
between 9.15-9.45am.



Marshmallow
— DANCE —
SEND - INCLUSIVE SPACE

WE HAVE CLASSES
= starting =
2ND SEPTEMBER!

📍 **AT THE FAMILY HUB**
ST16 3NQ

 **4:30 – 5:15**
MOVE, PLAY & PERFORM

 **5:15 – 6:00**
EXPLORE, CREATE & GROW



INCLUSIVE DANCE CLASSES FOR ALL
CREATE • MOVE • EXPRESS • BELONG

LET'S DANCE, CREATE & GROW TOGETHER!



Menu

Week 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Option	Spaghetti bolognaise with peas, sweetcorn and garlic bread	Hot Dog with wedges and mini corn	Roast chicken served with roast potatoes, fresh seasonal vegetabes and gravy	Chicken curry with rice, naan and sweetcorn	Fish Fingers and chips served with baked beans or peas
Vegetarian Option	Mac and cheese pasta served with peas, sweetcorn garlic bread	Vegetarian hot dog with wedges and mini corn	Quorn roast served with roast potatoes, fresh seasonal vegetabes and gravy	Vegetarian curry with rice, naan and sweetcorn	Cheese and bean wrap served with chips and beans or peas
Pudding	Toffee Shortbread	Chocolate shortbread and mint custard	Fruit cheesecake	Apple sponge	Crispy cookie

Available Daily

Jacket Potato with fillings: tuna, cheese or baked beans. Sandwich or bap with fillings: ham, tuna or cheese
Fresh bread, salad, fruit, milk & yoghurt



Positive Global Citizen

What is a positive global citizen?

A positive global citizen is someone who actively contributes to making the world a better, more equitable, and sustainable place, recognising their role within the global community. This means being aware of global issues, respecting cultural differences, and taking responsible actions that benefit people and the planet.

Key qualities of a positive global citizen:

- **Awareness:** Understands global issues like poverty, climate change, human rights, and inequality.
- **Empathy and Respect:** Appreciates diverse cultures, beliefs, and perspectives.
- **Responsibility:** Recognises how personal choices (e.g., consumption, travel, communication) impact others globally.
- **Action-Oriented:** Engages in activities that support positive change—volunteering, ethical consumerism, advocacy, or education.
- **Collaboration:** Works with others, across borders and cultures, to solve shared problems.
- **Sustainability-Minded:** Supports practices and policies that protect the environment and promote long-term well-being for all.

Examples of positive global citizenship:

- Donating to or volunteering with organisations addressing global issues.
- Reducing carbon footprint and supporting sustainable brands.
- Speaking out against injustice or discrimination.
- Learning about and celebrating cultures different from your own.

Year 7

Throughout the past year, we have celebrated inspiring people from around the world who have made a positive difference through their kindness, courage, determination and compassion. They have shown us that one person really can make a difference.

Our former Year 6 pupils have now begun their exciting journeys in Year 7. As they settle into their new schools and meet new people, we hope they remember that they too can be positive global citizens. Making a difference can be as simple as showing kindness, caring for others, protecting our environment and standing up for what is right.

We are incredibly proud of the thoughtful, resilient and caring young people they became during their time with us. We wish them every happiness and success for the future and hope they continue to be curious, courageous and compassionate as they make their way in the world.



Meet The Teaching Team



Mrs Allerton



Miss Jones



Mrs Wakelam



Mr Leese



Miss Miller



Mr Wincup



Mrs Watson



Mr Newton



Mrs Gamble



CONTACT US



Developing the citizens of tomorrow through the best education of today

Telephone: 01889 228710

Email: office@chancel.staffs.sch.uk

Wolseley Road, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 2EW

