

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 15th 2017

Dear Parents,

New term, new year...

The whole school has been focusing on new starts and new beginnings this week. All the children have made a fantastic start to the new academic year and I am so proud of just how well the children have coped with the changes in place because of our building works. I must give a special mention to our new Reception Class children who have settled into our daily routines at Great Chesterford with the help of their buddies; they have already made super contributions to our school assemblies.



Please may we take this opportunity to remind Reception Class parents of next week's parent meeting which will take place on Wednesday at 7.30pm in the school hall.

Harvest Festival

We hope that many of our parents and friends are able to join us for our Harvest Festival on Friday 22nd September at All Saints' Church. Once again, we will be supporting Jimmy's Night Shelter with our Harvest offerings - thank you for your continued support. Birthdays celebrations will not take place on Friday 22nd September because of our church service. Children with birthdays from 16th to 29th September inclusive will all be celebrated on the Friday the 29th September in our whole school assembly.

Growth Mindset Week and Open Morning

We are all looking forward to our Growth Mindset Week that we are busy organising. Please join us on the morning of 26th September to see the children during their regular class activities and to find out more about Growth Mindset and its positive impact on all of our pupils.

Extra - Curricular Clubs

Many thanks to all the staff and volunteers who have enabled us to offer a diverse range of clubs. They provide an invaluable contribution to our school community and I sincerely appreciate the time, effort and enthusiasm that you all generously provide in sharing your many talents and skills. We will look to repeat popular clubs in future terms particularly Spanish Club. We will of course be working with our school council to review new clubs and old.

Football Season - referee appeal

Our school football season is about to start and we would like to appeal for any help to referee matches. The dates we require a referee are as follows: 28th September, 12th October, 22nd February and 15th March - thank you!

Volunteers

Volunteers add great value to the life of Great Chesterford C of E Primary Academy and we welcome support for so many things: reading, class visits, craft activities, clubs and the list goes on. If you would like to act as a volunteer for our school, either regularly or on one-off occasions, please refer to the procedures and guidelines for volunteers on the school website: www.greatchesterfordprimary.co.uk.

Budget

We are sure you have seen the local and national press reporting about schools facing huge financial pressures. 98% of schools are facing an 8% cut in funding in real terms by 2020 and the National Audit Office reports that this amounts to £339 loss for every primary school child. We are really fortunate in that we have not had to make redundancies in any staff groupings and continue to provide SEN support throughout the school. We are passionate about delivering a broad and balanced curriculum and value the inclusion of extra-curricular activities and trips. Many schools are now requesting financial assistance from parents for art materials and other class based resources which we are not currently proposing. Previously, the school has been able to supplement the financial cost of trips, swimming etc. but running such events at a loss is not an option for the school. Costs of events are influenced by rising transport costs and the school always reflects upon the value of any event before arranging it.

Families eligible for Pupil Premium funding can be supported with the cost of school visits and will be provided with uniform items and a PE kit for their child. If you feel that you may be eligible for Pupil Premium or free school meals, please speak in confidence with the school office or myself.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We will be holding this Macmillan fundraising event on Friday 29th September in the school hall. Please join us at 10:00am for coffee and cake - everyone is most welcome.

Update from the Friends

The Friends committee supports the work of our school and raises money to fund exciting new projects such as the playground improvements. Everyone is welcome to join and we are always looking for new parents to join and bring new ideas for fundraising and social events.

We would like to welcome all new parents to the school at the start of a new school year. This is a busy term for the children, teachers and the Friends' with Christmas fast approaching. We are planning a series of film nights after school for the children throughout the year, as well as a Christmas Disco, there will be an opportunity to create personalised Christmas Cards and many more fun events including a social event for parents in February 2018. Please keep a look out for further details to be announced shortly.

During last term the children were involved with a Community Calendar project with the Women's Institute. They provided a series of quotes about what is great about living and going to school in Great Chesterford as part of the School's Community-Theme week. These calendars go on sale in November and advance orders are being taken now. Please contact the WI at frankandjennypalmer@hotmail.com to place an order. Calendars are £5 each and will include photographs of the village through the seasons. The Friends have contributed some photographs too.

If you would like to get involved with the Friends Committee or need any other information, please contact any member of the Friends Committee: Our main contact details are:

Alison Diggins, Chair - alisondiggins@gmail.com

Gabrielle Rowan, Secretary - growanUK@yahoo.com

Maria Collins, Events - mcollins08@hotmail.co.uk

Alison Shepherd, Events - alisonshepherd26@hotmail.com."

Mrs Sarah Mitchell Headteacher

iChurch

Please join us this Sunday, 17th September, for our monthly all age service at All Saints' Church, Great Chesterford for a 9.30am start. Breakfast is available from 9.15am. There will be iSingPop, more music and a range of activities.

Celebration for John Risbey

Please join the church community to thank John Risbey and celebrate his 50 years of being ordained! This will take place at All Saints' Church, Great Chesterford on Saturday 30th September at 4:30pm.

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
20th September	Meet the teacher / reading meeting for Reception Class
22nd September	Harvest Festival Service at All Saints' Church, 9.30am
26th September	Open morning - focus on Growth Mindset
25th-29th September	Growth Mindset Theme Week
29th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning - 10:00 - 11:00am
9th October	E-safety workshops for Years 5 and 6
9th October	E-safety evening workshops for Years 5 and 6 parents
10th October	Year 6 Trip to Bletchley Park
13th October	Year 4 Trip to Audley End
16th October	Open Afternoon - focus on building developments
18th October	Year 5 Trip to West Stow
20th October	Non-pupil day
23rd-27th October	Half term
1st November	Year 2 Trip to Gunpowder Mills
1st November	Parents' Consultation 5:30-8:00pm
2nd November	Parents' Consultation 3:45-6:15pm
13th-17th November	PSHE Week
23rd November	Open morning - focusing on our values
9th December	Spirit of Christmas for Years 5 and 6
12th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon performance
13th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon and evening performances
19th December	Christmas parties
20th December	Christmas Church Service Last day of term
3rd January	Non-pupil day
4th January	Pupils return to school

The full list of dates for the whole academic year can be found on the calendar on our school website.

SAFFRON WALDEN PSG FC

GIRLS FOOTBALL

IN SAFFRON WALDEN

FOR AGE 5 to 16 YEARS



Calling all girls in Reception to Year 6

Are you interested in having fun, making new friends, improving fitness and developing football skills in a safe and inclusive Club?

We are a GIRLS ONLY football club for girls in Saffron Walden and the surrounding villages and welcome new players to join us for a

GIRLS FOOTBALL TASTER SESSION (FREE!)

SATURDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2017, 9AM TO 10AM AT
HERBERT'S FARM, DEBDEN ROAD, SAFFRON WALDEN CB11 3JS

E: newplayercontact@psgfc.co.uk

T: 07775 944664 W: psgfc.co.uk



CHARTER STANDARD
COMMUNITY CLUB

