

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28th 2018

Dear Parents,

Harvest festival

Thank you for joining us at All Saints' Church for our Harvest Festival Service, it was wonderful to share this school event with so many members of our community. I am sure that you will agree that the children's singing, choral speaking and poetry was a pleasure to share. Thank you to Reverend Alex for leading our first church service of the academic year. Special thanks must be given to those who generously donated items for Jimmy's Night Shelter, Cambridge, where these gifts will be put to very good use. Please could I remind parents that any photographs or films taken at services or performances are for private use only and should not be shared on any social media site without consent.

Biggest Coffee Morning 2018 for MacMillan Cancer Support: Friday 28th September

Thank you to everyone who supported our joint venture for this very worthwhile charity. It was a lovely opportunity for parents past and present to socialise, eat cake and fund-raise. Special thanks must go to Elfreda Tealby Watson and Debbie Marshall for organising this event. I would also like to thank the volunteers and Year 5 and 6 pupils who were amazing helpers at the event. We will provide an update of the total funds raised next week.

There but not there



This week the children have really enjoyed playing host to one of the village Tommies. This impressive sculpture has provided an engaging stimulus for the whole school to complete a range of writing linked to World War I and the brave local men we endeavour to remember. As part of the WWI Centenary Commemoration, the school will be holding an exhibition where this writing will be on display for all visitors. Further details will follow of how the school community will be involved in these remembrance activities.

GREAT Pebbles

This week we have shared the GREAT work carried out in Friendship Groups during our recent Values Week. We used everyone's painted pebbles to spell out GREAT for all to admire.



Ms Kate Stacey

This week we have said farewell to Ms Stacey, our admin assistant. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all that she has given to Great Chesterford C. of E. Primary Academy in our busy office and wish her lots of good luck in her new role.

Football Season 2018-19

GCPA 3 Birchanger 3

The first football match of the season against Birchanger Primary School was a great success. The behaviour and teamwork were excellent. An early goal really boosted the team's spirits and they stayed positive throughout the match. There was great support from parents and siblings on the sidelines; the help with setting up and packing away was much appreciated - thank you! A great atmosphere and a great start to the season. Thank you to Sarah from Birchanger for refereeing the match.

Football Appeal: if anyone is able to offer their services as a referee for home matches or coaching support for the team home or away - please contact Mrs White.

Secondary School Admissions for entry 2019

As you may be aware, the new secondary school admission round is now open for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2019. The statutory national closing date for applications is **31st October 2018**.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 98% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2019-20 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies. A link to the booklet is provided below:

http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Documents/Secondary_Admissions_Booklet.pdf

Essex County Council

Letters and reply slips

Please can we remind parents that letters and reply slips should be returned to class teachers and not directly to the school office. Class teachers collect all notes and letters during registration and there are systems in place to take them to the office where appropriate. If you need to change your pick-up arrangements for playdates, etc. wherever possible, please can this information be sent directly to the class teacher as a note in the book bag rather than via the school office - thank you.

Long Hair

Please can I remind all parents that the school expectation is for long hair to be tied back for school - thank you.

Midday Assistants

We currently have vacancies for the role of Midday Assistant. This role provides an opportunity to earn whilst contributing to the life of the school enabling more activities to take place for the children during the lunch break. Please contact the school office for further information or pass on to anyone who may be interested in this school role.

Mrs Sarah Mitchell
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
2nd October	Year 1 Trip to Saffron Walden Museum
2nd October	Year 3 Trip to Great Notley
8th - 12th October	PSHEE Theme Week
16th October	Parents' Consultation 3:45-6:15pm

Date	Event
17th October	Parents' Consultation 5:30-8:00pm
18th October	Year 4 Trip to Audley End
19th October	Non-pupil day
22nd-26th October	Half term
1st November	Open Morning - Focus 'Reception Class 2019'
2nd November	Year 6 Trip to Bletchley Park
5th - 9th November	Computing and Maths Theme Week
6th November	Year 2 Trip to Gunpowder Mills
14th November	Luna Performance at Saffron Hall for EYFS
19th November	Open morning - focusing on our values
8th December	Spirit of Christmas for Years 5 and 6
11th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon performance
12th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon and evening performances
18th December	Christmas Lunch Christmas parties
19th December	Christmas Church Service 9.30am Last day of term
4th January	Non-pupil day
7th January	Pupils return to school