

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 17th 2017

Dear Parents,

PSHEE Week

The children have enjoyed and participated in a wide range of activities to support their knowledge, skills and awareness of this important area of the curriculum. Our overarching focus has been on British Values. **Thank you to the many volunteers and special visitors who have given their time to facilitate these activities. Special thanks must go to Mrs Davies for coordinating our PSHEE theme week.**



Highlights of our PSHEE Week:

On Monday, the School Council held a pudding vote, the winning dessert was Pancakes, and Mr Potton visited Years 5 and 6. Mr Potton gave a really interesting presentation about Parliament. He explained the differences between the two houses, the roles and responsibilities of the MPs and how they voted. The children were given a chance to vote on some contentious issues and this resulted in some lively debate!

On Tuesday, Mr Gregory spoke to the whole of Key Stage 2. He explained the working of the Parish Council and how it contributes to our local democracy. The children had a lot of imaginative suggestions for improving the village and he encouraged them to keep in touch with the Parish Council!

On Wednesday, our new Year 5 Playleaders were introduced in assembly. After assembly, our new School Council completed their training and are now raring to go with various whole school projects - we will keep you updated about their work. In the afternoon, Key Stage One were visited by the inspirational author Hollie Hughes and all three classes took great delight in listening to several of her published works. Hollie also enjoyed her visit to Great Chesterford and has promised to return.

On Thursday, Mrs Tealby-Watson talked to Years 5 and 6 about her role as a District Councillor. She explained what her job involved e.g. campaigning for speed limits on the road to Great Chesterford. She then got the children to look at some different problems (e.g. whether a better cycle path could be put in place) and decide what order of importance they would rank them. She then explained which jobs were dealt with by Essex County Council and which jobs were dealt with by the District Council. In the afternoon we all worked in our Friendship Groups and enjoyed taking part in various games led by our Playleaders. We have also produced a giant Union Jack depicting examples of how we demonstrate British Values in our daily lives at school.

On Friday, the school was ablaze with colour as everyone supported Children in Need dressed in red, white and blue. We are delighted to share that we have raised £230.71 for this charity - great team effort everyone! Even Lego Club supported Pudsey! Colour continued to be the theme in our exciting skipping event led by Dan where the children had fun working cooperatively whilst improving their fitness and learning new skipping games. We are all looking forward to watching the show at the end of the day! Mr Thomas, a Police Officer, visited Key Stage One; the children learnt how the police keep us safe in Britain and try to make sure that everyone follows the rule of law set by our Prime Minister. Jail did not sound like a fun place to stay!



Cross Country

Our cross country competitors took part in the Uttlesford Cross Country Competition on Wednesday. Once again, the pupils were superb in terms of their physical achievements and positive mindset. All the competing children should be congratulated on their participation but we do have individuals deserving particular recognition: Ezra Cole 3rd place, Laurence Cox 3rd place, Raphael Buchallet 6th place, Edward Taylor 3rd place and Billy Van Weede 3rd place. In addition to these individuals, the Year 4 boys' team, Laurence Cox, Raphael Buchallet, Paul Coe, Charlie Astbury, Theo Potton and George Collins, has also qualified for the next stage which will be held at Hadleigh Park in April. Thank you to Mrs Balchin, Mrs Buchallet, Mrs Van Weede, Mrs Potton and Mrs Mackswith Coe for providing transport, support and lots of encouragement at the race. A special mention must be given to our running coach, Mrs Dunlop, who continues to provide so many pupils with exemplary coaching in order to develop their running skills.

Ketchup King / Queen

Thank you to those parents who have already volunteered to support our Midday Assistants and children on a Friday. If you are able to help on a Friday during the school year, there is a sign-up sheet in the school office - thank you for your support.

Open Morning - Thursday 23rd November

Our forthcoming Open Morning will take place on November 23rd with a particular focus on our school values and general information about Great Chesterford C. of E. Primary Academy in order to support prospective parents. The format will be to have guided tours taking place during the morning at 9.30am or 11.00am. Please contact the school office if you wish to book a place on one of these tours - thank you!

Lost Property

We have lots of lost property, particularly Tupperware, please check if you have any missing belongings. At the end of term any uncollected lost property will be taken to charity stores or disposed of - thank you.

Friends of Great Chesterford Primary Academy

Please support our school by attending the forthcoming 'Bling, Bubbles and Beauty' event which will take place on Thursday November 30th. Your support is needed as all proceeds benefit every child in our school. Recent funds have contributed to school visits, events such as iSingPop and we are now enthusiastically fundraising in order to re-furbish the Infant Playground.

Map-o-graphs

The school has a selection of Map-o-graphs that we would be happy to donate to a good home - please contact the school if you could make use of them.

Mrs Sarah Mitchell Headteacher

Please support Great Chesterford Recreation Ground

Thank you so much to everyone who has voted for our new Zipwire for the Play Area on the Rec. If you have not yet voted – or you live with, or know someone who has not voted – this weekend is our last chance to secure £1,000. At the moment we don't have enough votes to win the cash, but if we make a concerted effort in the last few days I am sure that we can get there.

Click on the link here to register and vote: <https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/voting/project/view/17-3814>. **VOTING CLOSSES ON TUESDAY 21st NOVEMBER, SO PLEASE VOTE NOW!**

Mr Simon Witney

Attachments:

Oliver's Lodge Christmas Holiday Activities

iChurch - 19th November

Cambridge United Multi-Sports Xmas Competition

Cambridge United December Soccer School

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
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.