

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 7th 2018

Dear Parents,

Antarctica

Class 4 based themselves in the school office on Tuesday morning this week to make an important call to Antarctica! The pupils spoke to 3 people: 2 marine biologists and a doctor at Rothera Research Station. The pupils had prepared some excellent questions and enjoyed learning about life in Antarctica. The forty minute call engaged the children and opened their eyes to exciting global careers and jobs.



New Staff

We would like to formally welcome Mrs Lindsey Fox and Mrs Anjel Carter to the Great Chesterford team. Mrs Fox is working to support pupils in Year 4 and Mrs Carter is working with children in both Years 1 and 2 as well as joining the MDA team.

Behaviour After School

Please may I remind parents that once children have been released to their parents at the end of the school day, teachers are no longer on 'duty' in the playground. We do expect children to be kind and respectful to others during the school day and rough play after school does not support this ethos. We have had some behavioural incidents in the playground after school this week. Please can we ask that you supervise your child closely to prevent any negative behaviour - thank you for your support.

Christmas Corner:

Christmas Postbox

The Christmas postbox is in operation. If pupils wish to send their Christmas cards to friends in school, they can use the post box up to Monday 17th December. Each envelope needs the child's full name and class number to ensure our Year 6 postal team are able to deliver it to the correct pupil.



Spirit of Christmas:

Years 5 and 6 are performing at the Spirit of Christmas on Saturday 8th December at Saint Mary's Church, Saffron Walden.

All Saints' Carol Service:

Years 5 and 6 Choir have been invited to perform at All Saints' Church on Sunday 16th December.

Christmas Plays:

Tickets have been sent out - please check book bags!

Please note that there are no spare tickets / places left for the evening performance.

Christmas Discos:

The Christmas Discos will be held on Friday December 14th.

Key Stage 1: 4.30-5.15pm

Key Stage 2: 5.30-6.30pm

All tickets are £3.50 (payment will be taken on the door) drinks and biscuits are included.

Christmas Jumpers:

All children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school on Tuesday 18th December. Please do not feel any special purchase should be made - any festive colour such as red and green would be welcome.

Christmas Parties:

Christmas parties will be taking place on the afternoon of Tuesday 18th December.

Christmas Service:

Our end of term service will take place on Wednesday 19th December at All Saints Church, Great Chesterford at 9.30am and everyone is most welcome to join us. This service will be led by Years 5 and 6.

Cauliflower Cards

Our thanks go to Annabel Fernall and her team for organising the Cauliflower Cards fundraiser this term. We hope that you are pleased with your children's lovely cards. This fundraiser has raised £278.50 for the Friends thank you to everyone who organised, designed and bought - I have certainly enjoyed receiving them!

School Photographs

Following Pret-a-Portrait's recent visit to take school photographs, we just wanted to remind you that the earlybird deadline for you to receive a 10% discount on the school pictures finishes on 11th December 2018.

Friday 14th December

This will be the last Friday assembly of the year when we celebrate birthdays up to and including the 31st December. Children with birthdays from 1st January will be celebrated on Friday 11th January 2019 and any awards or certificates will be most welcome in the new year.

Slapped Cheek Disease

There has been a suspected case of Slapped Cheek in Key Stage One. Early symptoms can include a sore throat, headache and high temperature followed by a bright red rash most often on the cheeks. Slapped Cheek is caused by a virus which is contagious before the rash develops. Please contact your GP if you have any concerns for your child's health.

Reception admissions 2019

The Primary School (Reception) admission round is now open, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2019.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 15th January 2019.

From 12th November 2018, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. The website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions also has a copy of the Primary Education in Essex 2019-20 booklet and the Schools Admissions Policies Directories contain details of all admission policies.

Clubs:

Please note the end dates for lunchtime and after school clubs for the remainder of this term. Spring Term Club Timetable will be posted on the website on Monday 10th December with enrolment details.

Lunchtime Clubs

Club	Last session of the term
Football Club	Monday 10th December
French Club	Tuesday 18th December
Space Club	Monday 17th December
Top Trumps Club	Thursday 13th December - final session

After School Clubs

Club	Last session of the term
Football Club	Wednesday 12th December
Inspiration Station	Monday 10th December
Orchestra	Tuesday 18th December
Tag Rugby Club	Thursday 13th December

Mrs Sarah Mitchell
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
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
14th December	Friends' School Disco
16th December	Years 5 and 6 Choir performance at All Saints' Church Carol Service
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