

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 27th 2019

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 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, and Uttlesford Food Bank 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 2019 for MacMillan Cancer Support: Friday 27th 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 adult volunteers and Year 6 pupils who were amazing helpers at the event. We will provide an update of the total funds raised next week. The event (particularlry cake) was enjoyed by visitors of all ages!!



Nature Area

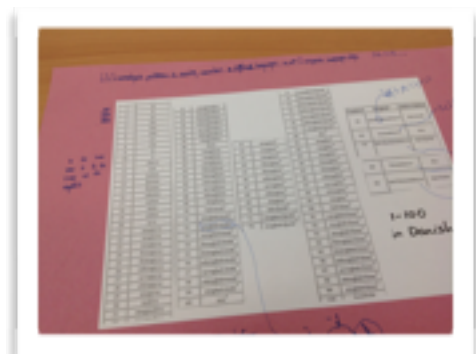
We would like to thank Mark Warner Services for installing raised seating over the summer and also the Chesterford Scouts for helping to develop the compost area and creating an additional tyre rockery in our school nature area.

Further resources to be added to the Nature Space, include: outdoor scales, binoculars, windy weather clipboards and a storytelling chair! Children in all year groups will benefit from this outside area but its use will vary throughout the school. Some classes, including Reception, will be accessing the area at a specific time of the week whilst for some year groups it will be more appropriate for a more intensive or clustered approach to compliment the full curriculum requirements. Mrs Langton is currently leading a Nature Detective Club and we will be looking to include more extra-curricular opportunities in this area.

Each half term, I will use this newsletter to share activities / lessons that the area has been used for.

European Languages Day, Thursday 26th September

We were so impressed on Thursday with both the children's enthusiasm and skill in speaking a wide variety of European languages. Here are a few snippets of what took place: practising speaking and counting in lots of languages; listening to Welsh on Espresso; guessing languages from a variety of clips; 'show and tell' from our very talented pupils! A maths investigation was also completed looking at numbers in different languages and how the words were made up in Spanish, Danish, French and others. Our tasty European Theme Lunch was also enjoyed by many!



Aldi's Kit for Schools Appeal

We are collecting Team GB stickers with Aldi's Kit for Schools. Please help us to collect 300 stickers to complete our poster and we will receive an exclusive sports kit plus a chance to win £20,000! Aldi are handing out Team GB stickers to customers who spend £30 in any Aldi store. Children can pass any stickers to their class teacher or there is a collection box in the school office. Thank you for your support.

Breakfast Club

Please note that Breakfast Club is open from 7:45am, staff arrive before this time to set and prepare. Can we also remind parents that children should be accompanied into the hall by an adult to ensure a secure hand over - thank you.

Secondary School Admissions for entry 2020

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 2020. The statutory national closing date for applications is 31st October 2019.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Letters and messages

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. Any verbal messages can also be passed on to the teacher on duty and they will pass these on to your child's class teacher - 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.

Message from the school kitchen

Favourites Day will be taking place on Thursday 3rd October

Choose from:

- Pizza (V)
- Local Butcher's Sausage
- Fish Fingers
- Turkey Burger

Served with chips, baked beans, sweetcorn or your choice from the salad bar

Followed by peaches and cream or shortbread

Friday 4th October will be Tagliatelle with tomato and basil sauce, followed by poached pears and ice cream.

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.

Friends - flyer attached for Christmas Social

Mrs Sarah Mitchell
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
3rd October	Year 3 Trip to Weald Park
8th October	KS2 Eucharist Service - 10:15am
15th October	Parents' Consultation 3:45-6:15pm
16th October	Parents' Consultation 5:30-8:00pm
17th October	Year 4 Trip to Audley End
28th October - 1st November	Half term

Date	Event
5th November	Year 2 Trip to Gunpowder Mills
7th November	Open Morning - focus 'Reception Class 2019'
8th November	Year 6 Trip to Bletchley Park
11th-15th November	STEM Theme Week
12th November	Individual school photographs
15th November	Friends' Film Night
25th November	Open morning - focus 'our values'
7th December	Spirit of Christmas for Years 5 and 6
10th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon performance
11th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon and evening performances
13th December	Friends' KS1 Christmas Disco Friends' KS2 Christmas Disco
17th December	Christmas lunch Christmas parties
19th December	Christmas Church Service at All Saints' Church, 9.30am Last day of term
6th January	Non-pupil day
7th January	Pupils return to school