

# GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

## NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 9th 2018

**Dear Parents,**

### **Class 3 Assembly**

Thank you Class 3 for a super assembly on the theme of 'Lent'. You all spoke really clearly and had lots of valuable advice about the values that we should promote in addition to habits or treats we may hope to reduce. The whole school enjoyed your use of drama to remind us of how to be honest, kind and gentle. Well done Class 3!

### **Mr Brown's Retirement Assembly**

The whole school gathered together to share music, poetry and memories for Mr Brown as he started his retirement. The children's contributions were outstanding and it was a pleasure to welcome so many guests to pay tribute to Mr Brown and all that he has done for Great Chesterford C. of E. Primary Academy over the last 18 years. We know that he will remain a close friend and keep in touch with many families past and present. Thank you for all your contributions, which we used to purchase an iPad as his main gift alongside smaller items. The children also presented him with a finger painted school crest which all the children had created.



### **Question time with our local MP, Kemi Badenoch**



Key Stage Two enjoyed meeting our local MP, Kemi Badenoch, today and taking part in our very own question time! The children were really interested in the role of an MP but we were most impressed by the vast number of questions raised on a wide range of current affairs, including: housing, hospitals, schools and The Royal Family. We were really pleased that our local MP took the time to meet, listen and respond to our pupils' suggestions and view points.

### **Sports Hall Athletics**

Twenty three children from Years 5 and 6 represented the school at the District Finals of the Sports Hall Athletics Competition. Although we narrowly finished in third place, there were plenty of outstanding individual performances in the field events. Particular credit has to go to Elliot Richley - Jones, who achieved first place in all three boys' jumping events. Other first place winners were: Morgan Cole, Felix Altaparmakov, Luke Martin and Lauren Parsons. Everyone behaved impeccably and competed with maximum enthusiasm and effort. Thanks go to Mrs Balchin, Mrs Van Weede and Mrs Altaparmakova for accompanying the children to the event and providing lots of positive support. Congratulations to everyone involved!

### **Positive behaviour**

We are currently updating our School Behaviour Policy and have been working closely with our School Council pupils to do so. An area we have been working on is the celebration and promotion of positive behaviour in school. For positive behaviour your child may receive: verbal praise, stickers and team points. We are now introducing two further rewards, the first of which is that class teachers may send home praise notes with your child for good behaviour. In addition, children with consistently excellent behaviour may be nominated to receive a Headteacher postcard which will be posted home each half term. This half term 19 pupils in the school have received such a nomination. We are also rewarding positive behaviour and effort at lunchtime where individuals or small groups may be nominated for a 'special lunch'. Today the Sports' Leaders were treated following their positive contributions at lunchtime.

### **Cake Sales**

Our Friday fundraising cake sale begins with Class One after the half term break. Please remember that we are a nut free school and as such **all contributions must be nut free**. At each cake sale, there will be a small number of shop bought "free from" treats for children with dairy, wheat or gluten allergies.

### **Congratulations**

We are delighted to share the news of the arrival of a new baby daughter, Sydney Jane, for Mr Snelling (our football coach) and his wife. We wish them many congratulations!

### **Book Week Volunteers**

Please can we make an appeal for any parents or grandparents to help with our Key Stage One story telling afternoon on Wednesday 28th February. If you are able to support this valued event, please contact the school office or Mrs Witney - thank you.

### **Reading Afternoon Volunteer Appeal**

We would be most grateful if anyone can support our Wednesday afternoon reading activity. If you are free to support the school on Wednesday afternoons, please contact the school office. This is a regular commitment which involves you listening to individual readers from different year groups - thank you.

### **Tidiest classroom of the week**

This week's winning class is Year 2 - well done!

Thank you to all staff, children and families for your continued support; I do hope that you all have a lovely half term break.

**Mrs Sarah Mitchell**  
**Headteacher**

### **Attachments:**

Inspiration Station Workshops  
Parenting an Anxious Child - workshops in Saffron Walden  
Cost of school dinners

### **Dates for your diary**

Date	Event
12th-16th February	Half term
26th February-2nd March	Book Week

Date	Event
26th February-1st March	Travelling Book Sale after school each day in the hall
2nd March	Book Week Dressing Up Day
5th March	Year 5 Egyptian Day - History Off the Page
6th March	Year 4 Trip to Water Recycling Plant
15th March	Class 6 Trip to the Botanic Gardens
21st March	Open Afternoon - focus on building developments
<b>29th March</b>	<b>Easter Service at All Saints' Church</b>
<b>16th April</b>	<b>Non pupil day</b>
<b>17th April</b>	<b>Pupils return to school</b>
<b>14th-18th May</b>	<b>Year 6 SATs Week</b>
21st May	Open Morning - sharing success
22nd May	Music Evening 6.30pm
<b>28th May-1st June</b>	<b>Half term</b>
4th -8th June	Science Week
3rd July	Years 5 and 6 Summer Play
4th July	Years 5 and 6 Summer Play
6th July	Transition afternoon tbc
9th July	Transition afternoon tbc
10th July	Reception Class Open Evening 4pm
11th July	Open Evening 6-8pm (All classes)
12th July	Sports Day
13th July	Year 6 Memories Assembly
13th July	Reserve Sports Day
15th-18th July	Year 6 Residential
<b>20th July</b>	<b>Leavers' Church Service Last day of term</b>
20th July	Year 6 Entertainment
<b>23rd July</b>	<b>Non-pupil day</b>