

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING MARCH 1st 2019

Dear Parents,

Reception Class Assembly

Thank you to Reception Class for leading today's collective worship. We enjoyed sharing your future job aspirations and listening to your sweet song - well done!

Hockey

Ten children from Years 5 and 6 spent Wednesday morning at Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport for a Hockey tournament this week.

Edward Taylor, Year 6 writes: In our pool over the four matches, Great Chesterford won 3 and drew with RAB 0:0. Although we didn't lose any matches, RAB narrowly won because they scored 11 and we scored 7 overall so they go through to the next round with the winners from the other pool.

There was excellent play from the whole team who demonstrated great enthusiasm, determination and positive sportsmanship. Thank you to Mrs Mannix and Mrs White for organising and to Mrs Chambers for accompanying the children at short notice. In order to participate in so many events, we are often dependent on parents for transport so are very grateful to Mr Altaparmakov and Mrs Rowan for their support with this. In addition, Mrs Rowan stayed to support the players which was much appreciated.

Book Week updates / reminders

We are very excited about our celebration of books and reading next week. There are lots of fun activities planned across the school. These include: a visit from author Katie Dale; visiting story tellers and book sharing sessions; a 'Once upon a Wednesday' whole school writing session; book sales (Monday to Thursday) and the Great, Great Chesterford Book Swap on Friday. We are also looking forward to welcoming lots of visitors as they visit classes to share information about a wide range of different occupations.

Don't forget children are invited to dress up on Friday as any book character who has an occupation.

Thank you in advance to all the volunteers who are helping with these 'book related' activities and for your support at the book fair. Proceeds from the Travelling Book Fair are used to order new books for the school.

This year's Book Week challenge is a Readathon and we hope that many of you will support our sponsorship venture.

School Orchestra

Please note that orchestra will still be taking place during Book Week and the Travelling Book Fair will relocate to the library for the sale on Tuesday.

Author Visit: Monday 4th March

Award-winning children's author Katie Dale will be visiting the school, and selling and signing copies of her books. Books may be bought on the day or pre-ordered by emailing Katie at katiedaleauthor@hotmail.com with your child's name, class, and which book/s you would like to buy (payment via BACS). Please see the attached flyer for more information.

School Dinner News

Our kitchen staff have fully embraced next week's theme week and planned a special 'Book' themed menu which is attached. As it is also Shrove Tuesday next week, pancakes will replace the regular dessert on March 5th.

KS1 Sportshall Athletics

There will be no Sportshall Athletics club on Wednesday 6th March because of Book Week. I look forward to working with all club members on 13th March.

Parking

Please can I remind parents about the need to park considerately when dropping off or collecting their children from school. Please ensure that you are not obstructing or parking across our neighbours' driveways. Could I also remind parents / carers not to park opposite either school gate as it causes

obstructions to other traffic and creates additional hazards for pedestrians. Please ensure that journeys are planned so that you have time to park in a safe and courteous manner - thank you.

Red Nose Day – Friday 15th March

On Friday 15th March, we will be celebrating Comic Relief's Red Nose Day in school.

Your child is invited to wear non-school uniform with a red twist! They may want to have their face painted, wear a red nose, dress in red or wear a red wig! To support the charity, we are asking children to donate £1 to help vulnerable people and communities in the UK and internationally. This is, of course, optional and your child does not have to take part. Thank you for your support for this worthwhile charity.

School Uniform

Staff and children take great pride in all that they do both within school and during our attendance at events. As part of our high standards, we do ask that your child's school uniform reflects this. The full details of uniform, as required, is listed on the school website. The expectation is that every child should wear the logo - embroidered jumper or cardigan. All school uniform and school PE kit items are available to order on-line. Families eligible for Pupil Premium funding will be provided with uniform items and a PE kit for their child. If you feel that you may be eligible for Pupil Premium or free school meals, please speak in confidence with the school office or myself.

PE Kit

Unfortunately, the current PE kit for KS2 has been discontinued but we are pleased to have sourced an alternative kit that is very similar both in terms of style and price to our existing one. The new kit will be phased in as existing stock is sold out. Please note that children may continue to wear the current kit and there is no expectation for parents to replace their child's current PE kit if it still fits.

KS2 Children must wear the existing or new PE kit. The new PE kit is a navy and white polo top with matching skort or shorts. Children may also wear navy blue / black top - skins and leg - skins during cold weather. Skins are available to order from the school uniform link but you may prefer to purchase them from other retailers.

Earrings

Please can I remind parents that following the latest Health and Safety guidelines, earrings must not be worn for any sports activities. Taping over pierced earrings is no longer deemed acceptable practice by Essex County Council. Children will be expected to remove their earrings for PE so please consider your timings if you are planning to have your child's ears pierced in the near future.

Cake Sales

Our Friday fundraising cake sale begins today with Class Six. Please remember that we are a nut free school and as such all contributions must be nut free. All proceeds will be used to support our school fundraising.

Mrs Sarah Mitchell
Headteacher

Attachments:

Katie Dale Author Visit
Bookshops Week Readathon Challenge
Book Week Menu
Bunny Hunt Poster

Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2019

5th – 9th August at Saffron Walden County High School
Apply from 1st March at www.vbs-sw.org
Applications close 31st March
Contact: vbs.enquiries@gmail.com

Dates for your diary

| Date | Event |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4th - 8th March | Book Week - When I Grow Up |
| 8th March | Book Week Dressing Up Day Theme: any book character with a particular occupation |
| 12th March | KS2 Eucharist Service at 10:15am |
| 14th March | Class 4 Trip - Viking life and lore |
| 15th March | Comic Relief - Non-uniform Day |
| 19th March | Class 5 Egyptian Day |
| 21st March | Open Afternoon - focus on sports |
| 22nd March | Friends' PJ and Film Night |
| 28th March | Class 6 Trip to The Botanic Gardens, Cambridge |
| 29th March | Class 3 African Drumming Workshop |
| 29th March | Non-uniform day - chocolate donation |
| 30th March | Friends' Easter Bunny Hunt |
| 5th April | Easter Service at All Saints' Church Last day of term |
| 23rd April | Non pupil day |
| 24th April | Pupils return to school |