

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 6th 2019

Dear Parents,

Thank you to our enthusiastic Ukulele Club for providing such a lovely musical start to today's collective worship. It was a real treat to share your musical talents - well done!

Class 3 Collective Worship

Thank you Class 3 for leading today's worship on the theme of Advent. We enjoyed hearing about the meaning of Advent; your own favourite Christmas traditions as well as sharing your colourful art work. You also reminded everyone how simple acts of kindness can make a huge difference to families, friends and others less fortunate than ourselves at this very busy time of year - well done!

Year 6 Coaching in PE

Mrs Dunlop, PE teacher at Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport, in her role as Uttlesford Schools' Sports Partnership Coordinator, joined Year 6 for their P.E. lesson this week. The class have been developing their netball skills this term and Mrs Dunlop was particularly helpful with their passing and footwork. She was able to make suggestions about tactics and marking so that they can consider how to refine their skills and improve still further. Thank you to Mrs White for organising these visits.



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 16th 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 7th December** at Saint Mary's Church, Saffron Walden.

Christmas Jumper Fundraising

To support our 'Christmas Jumper Day', and promote recycling, our School Council will be organising a Christmas jumper fund-raiser. They are appealing for any outgrown Christmas jumpers to be donated to school so that they can then be passed on to a new owner for a donation to charity. Please can jumpers be sent to school by Monday 9th December clearly labelled 'For Sale' to avoid any confusion with play costumes. We will be holding the sale on **Monday 9th December** at 3pm.



Christmas Discos:

The Christmas Discos will be held on **Friday December 13th**.

Key Stage 1: 4.30-5.15pm

Key Stage 2: 5.30-6.30pm

All tickets are £3.00 - drinks and biscuits are included.

Christmas Jumpers:

As part of our Christmas activities, all children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school on **Tuesday 17th December** which will also be our Christmas lunch and Christmas parties day! 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 17th December**.

Christmas Service:

Our end of term service will take place on **Thursday 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.

Fundraising for school whilst Christmas shopping

Please remember to use easyfundraising every time you shop online! Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate, so you can raise FREE donations for the school no matter what you're buying. These donations really help us out, so please sign up if you haven't yet. It's easy and FREE! You can get started at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/greatchesterfordprimacad/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=en-n2

Admissions Policy 2021 - Consultation

The governing body are proposing changes to the school's Admissions Policy for 2021. This process includes a six week consultation process which will end on 17th January 2020. Please refer to the school website for full details of the intended changes and for the guidance on how to respond. The information is provided in the 'Admissions' section of the website listed under 'School Information'.

Year One share their creative adverts

In their English lessons, Class One have created some super persuasive adverts about Traction Man. Please see the school website to share some examples of this great work.

Year 5 D and T

Today, Year 5 pupils have enjoyed much success in creating Space Buggies as part of their D and T work.



Visiting teachers in Year 6

Year 6 welcomed two visiting teachers from the Faculty of Education at Homerton College, Cambridge University this week. After spending next week with us, Ms Hodson and Ms Alexander will return to work with us at Great Chesterford until February Half Term.

Key Stage One Playground Appeal

Key Stage One would be most grateful of any unwanted small world toys such as farm animals, toy cars or construction sets that could be used outside by the children at lunchtime. Any such donations would be gratefully received - thank you.

Year 3 Book Appeal

We have been reorganising our book corner so that the children can easily locate books which are now organised into different categories, including author collections. This has already had a positive impact and the children have become enthusiastic about talking about reading and are now selecting books that have been recommended by their peers. We have made a good start to our class collection but would like to add further books. If any families have books in good condition to donate, we would love to hear from you. We are particularly looking for books on the recommended Year 3 book lists - further details will be posted on our Class page of the school website - Mrs Langton and Mrs Raper.

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 25% discount on the school pictures finishes on 6th December 2019. There are also lots of Christmas gift options available.

Friday 13th 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 10th January 2020 and any awards or certificates will be most welcome in the new year.

Primary School Admissions for 2020

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 2020. The statutory national closing date for applications is 15th January 2020. Applications can now be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Breakfast Club Assistant

We currently have a vacancy for Breakfast Club Assistant - please refer to our website for further details or speak to a member of the office team.

Mrs Sarah Mitchell Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
7th December	Spirit of Christmas for Years 5 and 6
8th December	All Saints Church, Great Chesterford, Carol service 6:00pm
9th December	Christmas Jumper Sale - 3.00pm
10th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon performance
11th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon and evening performances
12th December	Flu immunisations
13th December	Friends' KS1 Christmas Disco Friends' KS2 Christmas Disco

Date	Event
17th December	Christmas Jumper Day 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