

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING JUNE 14th 2019

Dear Parents, Class Assembly

Thank you Class Five for leading today's worship on our theme of communities. You provided everyone with a really clear message about the importance of love, inclusion and celebrating differences. Your delivery was clear and engaging; your own opinions were sympathetic to others and your storytelling and drama ensured that all members of our school could access your worship - well done Class 5!

Irish Visitors

This week we have been visited by our friends from the Presentation Monastery in Killarney, Ireland. We have been working with this school in Ireland for several years now. Two members of staff and ten boys were hosted by the school and families of Year 5 pupils. Our Irish guests thoroughly enjoyed their time both at school and with the families. They were particularly impressed by the warm welcome and positive team spirit. Special thanks must go to the families who hosted two boys each; generously giving up their time; providing meals and helping with transport. We really appreciate the commitment given by these families! Thank you to Mr and Mrs Altaparmakov, Mr and Mrs Burton, Mr and Mrs Peters, Mr and Mrs Potton and Mrs Worrall. Many thanks must also go to Mrs Sargeant for organising this event with our 'international' friends.



Community Past and Present Theme Week

What a busy, (and rather wet) Community Week we have had this week! A highlight was working in Friendship Groups to make modern souvenirs inspired by historical artefacts from Great Chesterford, dating from when it was a busy stop off point for travellers breaking their train journey from London to Newmarket. We also enjoyed the iChurch service led by Reverend Alex, where we all made friendship bracelets and said goodbye to our Irish visitors. Thank you to Mrs Saunders and all the church team for supporting this service.

A particularly popular activity was when Alice (Year 6) and Tommy (Year 5) led our assembly on Wednesday morning to share with the children more details about the Goodwill Homes Charity in India. All the children were really engaged as our two ambassadors shared photographs, video clips and information about how this charity (which the school has supported this year) benefits children in India. Our children were also really interested about the general life in India. Well done Alice and Tommy!

Community groups, including: the Gardening Society, the Historical Society and Essex Community Police have all helped to provide a variety of activities from planting sunflowers to following a historic village trail. Many thanks for the parental support and to all the visitors who have made time to work with our school. A special 'thank you' to Mrs Jayne Greenwood, and all at the Great Chesterford History Society, for working so hard behind the scenes to prepare the wonderful resources and for inspiring us to find out so much about our village and how it has changed over the years. We have all learned so much about what a great community we have! Thank you to Mrs Langton for coordinating this busy and educational theme week.

Class One visit to Hatfield Forest

On Thursday, Class One travelled to Hatfield Forest to learn about habitats and find out about the different mini-beasts that live in the forest environment. It was a very wet day which made it easy to find lots of slugs and worms; the children had to look a little harder to find an assortment of beetles, centipedes and millipedes! The afternoon was spent building dens - it was a delight to see such terrific teamwork from the adults and children. Tina, the education officer, commented on the hard work and resilience of the whole class with a special mention to George, Riley and Isabella who were excellent at gathering logs and sticks for the shelters and carefully manoeuvring them into place. Thanks must go to the parents who volunteered to support this trip, Miss Frisenda, Mrs Maskell, Mrs McLaren and Mrs Thackray - it was a super day of learning and children now have some new skills and knowledge which I look forward to building on during sessions in our own nature space. Mrs White



Message from the School Council: 'Walking Bus'

Thank you to everyone who joined us this morning for our Walking Bus! Thank you to Davies, Mrs White and Mrs Starbuck for supporting School Council with this venture.

Parent Governor

Following our appeal for a new parent governor, we are delighted to share that Mrs Laura Saunders will be joining our Governing Body as a parent governor from September 2019.

On-line Safeguarding Parent Roadshow

Please make sure that you have signed up on SCOPay for a place at the On-line Safeguarding Parent Roadshow which will take place on Thursday 20th June. Further details can be found on the letter sent out on Wednesday 12th June. If at all possible, please try and attend this informative and important presentation.

Health Update

Please be aware that we have a case of shingles in Year 6. There are also a few children currently suffering from sickness.

Sporting Events

Following this week's heavy rain, lots of sporting events have been postponed to next week. I would like to thank, in advance, parents who support the school with transport to these events; without this help, we would not be able to participate in such a wide range of sports.

Breakfast Club

Please note that Breakfast Club will take place In Class 6 on Tuesday 22nd June because the Hall will be out of use for the Year 4 Greek Day - thank you.

Mrs Sarah Mitchell
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

| Date | Event |
|------------------|---|
| 18th June | A Life in Ancient Greece Day for Year 4 |
| 20th June | Online Safety Day |
| 20th June | Online Safety Parent Workshop 7.00pm |
| 25th June | KS2 Eucharist Service 10:15am |
| 27th June | Reception Class Trip to Boydells Farm |
| 28th June | Year 5 Trip to Kentwell Hall |
| 1st July | School Photographs |
| 2nd July | Sports Day |
| 4th July | Reserve Sports Day |
| 5th July | Transition afternoon |
| 8th July | Transition afternoon |
| 10th July | Years 5 and 6 Summer Play |
| 11th July | Years 5 and 6 Summer Play |
| 14th-17th July | Year 6 Residential |
| 16th July | Prayer Space for Years 1 and 2 |
| 19th July | Year 6 Memories Assembly 1.30pm |
| 19th July | Open Afternoon and report collection for all year groups 2.15-3.15pm |
| 23rd July | KS2 Eucharist Service 10:15am |
| 24th July | Leavers' Service at All Saints' Church 9.30am |
| 24th July | Year 6 Entertainment 1:45pm |
| 24th July | Last day of term |
| 25th July | Non-pupil day |