

# GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

## NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Dear Parents,

### Maths and Computing Week

This week, the children have enjoyed participating in many various activities which have focused on developing maths and computing skills. We have been extremely fortunate to have welcomed a number of visitors to school to enhance this theme week. Highlights included: Reception Class and Year 1 enjoying working with Mrs Symonds and students from SWCHS on a physical computing session; Year 2 making their own movie trailers; Mrs Hopton visiting Class 6 to explain how she uses maths and computing as a statistician; Mr Luke spoke to the children in Years 4 and 6 about how a computer works and they experimented with programming a Raspberry Pi; Mr Driguez



explained to Years 1 and 6 the role of maths and computing in his job researching parasitic worms; Key Stage 1 measured a giant; and sixth form students from Hills Road worked with nearly all year groups on a range of STEM activities. Thank you to those visitors who have given their time to facilitate these activities and to the other volunteers who have come forward – we look forward to welcoming you in the future. Special thanks must go to Mrs Butler and Mrs White for coordinating our Maths and Computing theme week.



### Year 6 Trip to Bletchley Park

Cracking cyphers and codes was just one of the great things about the Year 6 visit to Bletchley Park last Friday. It's not often that you get the opportunity to play with a piece of equipment that is worth a quarter of a million pounds but each of the children had a turn at using a real enigma machine. The class also had a really interesting and interactive tour of the grounds which provided insight into the historical importance of the vital work undertaken there and its role in bringing World War 2 to an end. Thanks must go to Mrs Starbuck for organising such an insightful trip and to Mrs Balchin and Mr Gregory for accompanying the children.



### Year 2 Trip to the Gunpowder Mills

To support their history topic, Year 2 enjoyed a trip to the Gunpowder Mills on Tuesday. They took part in various activities including making a lantern, writing a message similar to the message written to foil the gunpowder plot, playing with some of the toys played with in 1605 and learning about the food eaten at this time. The children also enjoyed watching a lively play about the life of Guy Fawkes. Behaviour on the trip was exemplary – well done Year 2! Thank you to Mrs Butler for organising and to Mrs Gascoyne, Miss Thomson and Mr Gardiner for supporting on the trip.

### Reception Class Visitor

Roy, a Fire and Police Education Officer, visited Reception Class on Tuesday morning to support their topic work. He talked about how Firefighters and Police Officers help us. The children listened very well and asked some excellent questions. They also had great fun dressing up in a Firefighter's uniform! Roy also reminded everyone of the importance of having a working smoke alarm. If you would like more information about smoke alarms, please contact their home safety advice team on 0300 303 0088.

### Year 4 Dodgeball

On Wednesday afternoon, I had the pleasure of accompanying Year 4 to a dodgeball tournament at Joyce Frankland Academy. The children were split into four teams and played a number of games against other local schools. I was very impressed with the children's teamwork and sportsmanship; they were all fantastic ambassadors for the school. The results were calculated for each pool - two teams from Great Chesterford came 4<sup>th</sup> and the other two teams came 1<sup>st</sup>. Well done Year 4! Thank you to Mrs Mannix for accompanying the children and offering some coaching tips, and to Ezra for his photographic skills.



### Chesterfords' Festival of Remembrance

Tomorrow, the school will be participating in the village's Festival of Remembrance to commemorate 100 years since the end of World War 1. The children's 'poppy' artwork will be displayed in an exhibition in the school hall from 2:30pm and the school choir will be participating in the church concert at 5:00pm. The Friends' will be fundraising by selling poppy-themed sweet treats, and also offering poppy-themed beautifications.

### School Photographs

Individual and family group photographs will be taking place on 15th November – please don't forget your smiley faces and smart school uniform on Thursday morning!

### Children in Need – Friday 16th November

We will once again be supporting Children in Need on Friday 16th November. To raise funds for this very worthwhile charity, children may come to school dressed in their pyjamas in return for a minimum donation of £1. This money will help fund projects to support disadvantaged children and young people across the UK. Dressing up is, of course, completely optional and your child does not have to take part.

**Mrs Amy Sargeant**  
Deputy Headteacher

### Dates for your diary

Date	Event
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Luna Performance at Saffron Hall for EYFS
15 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photographs
16 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu immunisations
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Morning – focus on our values
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Friends' film night

<b>8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Spirit of Christmas for Years 5 and 6
<b>11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 – afternoon performance
<b>12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 – afternoon and evening performances
<b>14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas discos
<b>18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Lunch Christmas parties
<b>19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Church Service 9:30am Last day of term
<b>4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Non-pupil day
<b>7<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Pupils return to school