

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 5th 2018

Dear Parents, Year 2 Assembly

Well done Class 2 for your class assembly this morning. You did a super job of reminding everyone just how wonderful our world is. Clear, confident speaking and lovely singing - you rose above the technical challenges presented - thank you!

Class 1 Trip to Saffron Walden Museum

Class 1 enjoyed a super trip to Saffron Walden Museum on Tuesday. The children loved exploring the museum and the highlight was probably making model cars with Charlotte the education officer. They explored history through old toys and their science skills were also used investigating the push and pulls with cars. The class left wanting to stay and explore further, we would encourage everyone to make the most of our local museum. Thank you to Mrs Thackray, Mrs Jones, Mrs Howes and Mrs Sullivan for supporting this learning experience.

Class 3 Trip to Great Notley

On a windy Tuesday, this week Class Three had great fun learning about life in the Stone Age at Great Notley Country Park. We worked in teams to make shelters using ropes and tarpaulins, foraged for natural materials to create our own paint for cave art and learnt the importance of fire lighting for warmth, light and cooking. We even had a try at practising our hunting skills with sticks, hoops and catapults! Our thanks go to Mrs Kovacs and Mrs Williams who supported us with our learning.

School Football

Chrishall 0 Great Chesterford 9

The football season continues and the school team played away against Chrishall. On Thursday afternoon, our boys played an excellent game of football developing their technical skills and a positive team spirit. It was super to see such determination and commitment in addition to a clear improvement of their team work skills. Thanks must go to Mrs White for organising the match and Mrs White, Mrs Cullen, Mrs Martin and Mrs Potton for providing transport and support. Fantastic ambassadors for Great Chesterford - well done!

Boys' District Football

The boys took part in the District Football Tournament on Wednesday morning. There were 10 teams in the tournament and it was a difficult competition. The boys came 2nd in their pool of 6 and started the semi-final against St. Thomas More with great spirit which they went on to win 2-0. It was then through to a nail biting final which resulted in penalties and another great win for Great Chesterford against a very able team from Rodings Primary School. Great Chesterford Boys' Team were delighted to be the tournament winners for the 'medium sized schools'. The final challenge was then an overall final against the winners of the large schools - Katherine Semar. The boys played exceptionally well in their 7th match of the day, and although the final result was loss of 2-0 to the opposition, everyone was very proud of their achievements throughout the tournament. Thank you to Mr Duers for accompanying the team and to Mr Duers, Mr and Mrs Taylor, Mrs Daw, Mrs Cullen, Mrs Butler and Mrs White for providing the transport. Super team work boys!



Girls' District Football

The girls took part in the District Football Tournament on Wednesday afternoon. There were 8 teams in the tournament and the girls finished in 3rd position. Team highlights were: the positive team work, great communication, increased confidence and all four goals! Thank you to Mrs Balchin and Mr Cole for accompanying the team, providing transport and lots of positive support. Mr Cole also stepped in to referee. The tournament sparked a new interest for football for many of the girls involved. Fantastic football girls!

Football Appeal: if anyone is able to offer their services to coach a girls' football team at lunchtime of after school - please contact Mrs White.



Secondary School Admissions for entry 2019

As you may be aware, the new secondary school admission round is now open for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2019. The statutory national closing date for applications is **31st October 2018**.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 98% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2019-20 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies. A link to the booklet is provided below:

http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Documents/Secondary_Admissions_Booklet.pdf

Essex County Council

Letters and reply slips

Please can we remind parents that letters and reply slips should be returned to class teachers and not directly to the school office. Class teachers collect all notes and letters during registration and there are systems in place to take them to the office where appropriate. If you need to change your pick-up arrangements for playdates, etc. wherever possible, please can this information be sent directly to the class teacher as a note in the book bag rather than via the school office - thank you.

Friends' Cake Sales

Our popular fundraiser resumed last week with the Year 1 Friday Cake Sale - thank you to everyone who donated cakes and supported the sale. Today we continue with Class 2.

Long Hair

Please can I remind all parents that the school expectation is for long hair to be tied back for school - thank you.

Midday Assistants

We currently have vacancies for the role of Midday Assistant. This role provides an opportunity to earn whilst contributing to the life of the school enabling more activities to take place for the children during the lunch break. Please contact the school office for further information or pass on to anyone who may be interested in this school role.

Mrs Aveston

The whole school would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Aveston for her hard work and commitment as our school caretaker. Often a thankless job, we are sincerely grateful for everything that Mrs Aveston has done to support our whole school community. We are really pleased that Mrs Aveston will remain a valued member of the team with her work as Breakfast Club Leader and Midday Assistant.

Biggest Coffee Morning 2018 for MacMillan Cancer Support: Friday 28th September

MacMillan Coffee Morning at Great Chesterford TOTAL received today £459.08!!

Of this amount, £154 was gift aided which adds a further 25% from the government of that portion. This is equivalent to a further £38.50. This means a total of £497.58 is heading to MacMillan on behalf of the generous folk of Great Chesterford and our friends and neighbours.

So, can we tip the total over £500? Can we even match the amazing £560 raised last year? It's not too late to donate! Please let Debbie Marshall or Elfreda Tealby-Watson have your donations in the next week if you wish to do so. Call 530175 or pop an envelope through one of our doors.

Meanwhile, we have a list of people to thank. Firstly, thank you all who baked or donated tombola gifts. This includes several local companies who were very generous: The Crown and Thistle, Mud & Water Ceramics, Days Bakery, Angela Reed, Justwise, Talents, and Mike & Nicky at Riccio. Next, thank you to all at Great Chesterford Primary Academy, especially headteacher Mrs Mitchell for agreeing to co-host this event and organising the school hall, and for her time this morning, for all the support from school staff (especially in the kitchen – hope we didn't get in your way too much!), and for the year 5 and 6 helpers on the morning. Also, of course, thank you to everyone who attended – it was wonderful to see familiar faces from previous years, at our new venue and great to welcome so many parents too.

Finally, the obvious last, but not least, thanks to our helpers today: Sally, Vicky and Jane for serving the drinks, manning the stalls, cutting up cakes and clearing up at the end. We lost count of the people who came through the door but there was a long queue for coffee and we ran out of mugs, so clearly it was a busy morning, but enjoyable and successful, and we very much hope to repeat this joint effort next year.

Elfreda Tealby Watson and Debbie Marshall



Mrs Sarah Mitchell Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
8th - 12th October	PSHEE Theme Week
16th October	Parents' Consultation 3:45-6:15pm
17th October	Parents' Consultation 5:30-8:00pm
18th October	Year 4 Trip to Audley End
19th October	Non-pupil day
22nd-26th October	Half term
1st November	Open Morning - Focus 'Reception Class 2019'
2nd November	Year 6 Trip to Bletchley Park
5th - 9th November	Computing and Maths Theme Week
6th November	Year 2 Trip to Gunpowder Mills

Date	Event
14th November	Luna Performance at Saffron Hall for EYFS
19th November	Open morning - focusing on our values
8th December	Spirit of Christmas for Years 5 and 6
11th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon performance
12th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon and evening performances
18th December	Christmas Lunch Christmas parties
19th December	Christmas Church Service 9.30am Last day of term
4th January	Non-pupil day
7th January	Pupils return to school