

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 13th 2019

Dear Parents,

New term, new year...

The whole school has been focusing on new starts and new beginnings this week. All the children have made a fantastic start to the new academic year and I am so proud of just how well the children have settled into their new classes. I must give a special mention to our new Reception Class children who have settled into our daily routines at Great Chesterford with the help of their buddies; they have already made super contributions to our school assemblies.

Library Opening

Thank you to everyone who has so generously supported our new library. Thanks to The Friends, the Readathon contributions and generous sponsorship from companies and local charities, our new library is now open for business! It was lovely to see so many members of our local community, and the joy of books was a pleasure to behold as visitors of all ages enjoyed selecting books for the book plates they had kindly supported. For anyone who has not yet selected a book for their book plate, Mrs Witney will be in the library at the end of the school day on Tuesday 17th and 24th September for you to do so. A special thank you must be given to Mrs Witney for tirelessly championing and coordinating this project for the benefit of our whole school community.



Volunteer Invitation

All of our volunteers are warmly invited to join us for a 'Thank you Coffee Morning' for all the help and support provided to our school during the 2018-2019 academic year.

Please join us for an assembly at 9.15am on Friday the 20th September followed by refreshments as a token of our appreciation. So if you have: transported, read, knitted, run, chaperoned, conducted, tuned, baked, listened, served, painted, dug, decorated, planted, washed up or provided us with help in any way, please do join us. Please RSVP to: admin@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk

Year 6 2019

A huge thank you to everyone who supported Year 6's Enterprise Sale at the end of last term. The final profit was £143.15 which has been sent to Cancer Research, the children's chosen charity.

Break time snacks

Please can I remind all parents that snacks at break time should be fruit or vegetable. Popular items are: raisins, bananas and carrot. Some children bring these in chopped or whole and either is fine. Key Stage One are provided with a snack each day but some children prefer to bring in their own. **Please can I remind parents that we are a nut free school and items such as seeds, pine nuts, sesame and houmous should not be brought into school for break or in packed lunch boxes.**

E-Safety – keeping your child safe online

As a school, we recognise the need to educate and support children so that they are able to use the internet in a safe and informed manner. Resources are listed on our school website under the 'Parents tab' to support parents in this fast – moving area where your child needs constant monitoring and support if they are to use online resources safely and appropriately. At recent staff training on safeguarding and E-safety, the following site was recommended for parents: net-aware.org.uk

As part of our on-going E-safety, please can we ask parents and children in Key Stage 2 to read the guidance and sign the permissions on pages 4 and 5 of their planner.

Social Media

Please can we advise parents that permission should always be granted before sharing photographs or information about other children on any social media platforms. This also includes class Facebook pages - thank you.

Harvest Festival

We hope that many of our parents and friends will be able to join us for our Harvest Festival on Friday 27th September at All Saints' Church. Birthday celebrations will not take place on Friday 27th September because of our church service. Children with birthdays from 21st September to 4th October inclusive will all be celebrated on Friday 4th October in our whole school worship.

Biggest Coffee Morning 2018 for MacMillan Cancer Support: Friday 27th September

Once again we are pleased to hold this joint event to raise money for a cause we know is valued by so many of us. This community charity event will be held at our local school, Great Chesterford Primary Academy. The coffee morning will be held in the school hall straight after the school Harvest Festival Service for everyone to enjoy a cuppa, a chat and a lovely cake! It will also be an opportunity to come and visit our fantastic village school. We will have a range of table games as well as a tombola. The Coffee Morning will be held in the School Hall – all visitors should come to the school reception to enter – the event will finish at midday. Please do join us.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP please contact Elfreda Tealby-Watson 530175. Mainly we need offers of cakes, and tombola gifts (big or small or even promises) but if you would like to help set up and serve then please say.

Thank you very much and let's hope we can raise even more cash this year, a tall order as your generosity took our total to £520 including gift aid in 2018! Cake donations can be dropped off at school from 8:45am on Friday 27th September.

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.

Year 6 Collective Worship

Please note that the date for the Year 6 assembly is Friday 15th November not 16th as stated on the class newsletter.

Church notices

Teddy Bears' Picnic and parachute jump: 2:30pm - 4:00pm, on Saturday 14th September 2019.

Don't be late as jumping ends when all the cuddly friends have had a turn! There are sponsorship forms at the back of All Saints Church, Great Chesterford or bears can pay to jump.

iChurch Service: Sunday 15th September

Please come along to the next iChurch service at All Saints Church, Great Chesterford on Sunday, 15th September at 9.30am. There will be breakfast available from 9.15am followed by a lively range of music, including iSingPop songs, and fun activities.

Mrs Sarah Mitchell
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
18th September	Meet the teacher meeting for Year 2
20th September	Volunteers Thank You Assembly - 9:15am
16th - 20th September	PSHEE Theme Week
23rd September	Meet the teacher / reading meeting for Reception Class, 7pm
24th September	Open morning - Welcome to our school
27th September	Harvest Festival Service at All Saints' Church, 9.30am Macmillan Coffee Morning
3rd October	Year 3 Trip to Weald Park
8th October	KS2 Eucharist Service - 10:15am
15th October	Parents' Consultation 3:45-6:15pm
16th October	Parents' Consultation 5:30-8:00pm
17th October	Year 4 Trip to Audley End
28th October - 1st November	Half term
5th November	Year 2 Trip to Gunpowder Mills
7th November	Open Morning - focus 'Reception Class 2019'
8th November	Year 6 Trip to Bletchley Park
11th-15th November	STEM Theme Week
12th November	Individual school photographs
25th November	Open morning - focus 'our values'
7th December	Spirit of Christmas for Years 5 and 6
10th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon performance
11th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon and evening performances
17th December	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