

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING JUNE 21st 2019

Dear Parents, Kwik Cricket

Both the boys' and girls' cricket teams competed in the Cricket Partnership finals on Monday. They played super cricket at this challenging level and were a credit to themselves and the school. The boys finished in a very commendable second position and the girls should be pleased with their performance and fourth position. Well done to all of our cricketers! Special thanks must go to Mrs Balchin, Mrs Cullen, Mrs Starbuck Mrs Taylor and Mrs Mannix for providing support, transport and umpiring help - thank you!

At this point, I must say a huge thank you to all parents who offer help with transport to sports' fixtures. Many schools are unable to compete at such a large number of events because transport is a problem and the whole school community benefits from your continued support in this way.

Year 4 History Off the page

On Tuesday, Year 4 had a taste of daily life in Ancient Greece in 490AD when History Off the Page visited the school. Cast in the roles of slaves, freemen and Persians, the children worked on different stalls in the Agora as sculptors, apothecaries, tile and fresco painters and lamp workers. They even had the chance to visit the Oracle in the temple to hear their futures. During the afternoon, all the children performed in Greek tragedies and enjoyed a banquet to celebrate their victory in the battle of Marathon.

They had a great day and were complimented on their behaviour and participation by the leader from HOTP - he described them as being such a good class that he was tempted to return to teaching! Thank you to all the parents for putting together costumes and particularly to those who helped on the day: Mrs Farooq-Haynes, Mrs Law, Mrs Sloan and Mrs Whitby. Great work Year 4!



District Athletics

On a cold June day, almost 40 Key Stage 2 pupils competed in the District Athletics event at Carver Barracks. It was an amazing event where all of our pupils proved to be excellent sporting ambassadors and must be congratulated for their super individual achievements which resulted in Great Chesterford finishing in second place overall! Everyone has fed back to me about the children's positive attitudes and behaviour. Parental support was also excellent, thank you to all those that helped: Mrs Balchin, Mrs Kovacs, Mrs Sheils and Mr Weir. Thank you to Mrs White for organising and leading this event. Well done everyone - what a fantastic team effort!

Visiting Author

Years Two to Six were treated to a very entertaining and informative visit from the author Jack Trelawny on Wednesday morning. He talked to the children about his inspirations, writing techniques and love of reading; we are sure that some of our budding authors will have picked up some very useful tips.

Book Sponsorship

Thank you to all the friends and families who have already supported the school library project by sponsoring a book plate. If this is something you would like to do, there is still time. Details of the project can be obtained from the school office or from Mrs Witney.

Photograph time

On Monday 1st July, the photographer will be in school to take the following photographs:

- each class
- orchestra
- Year 5 sport
- Year 6 sport

Please can we request that children come to school on Tuesday in tidy school uniform, wearing a **white** polo shirt / blouse and girls may of course wear summer dresses - not forgetting smart school shoes. For these group images, please can girls refrain from wearing large / flamboyant hair accessories as they could obscure other children in group photographs.

John and John

On Thursday we welcomed 'The Two Johns' into school to work with children, staff and parents. John and John are both ex-policemen, who now specialise in educating children and families in how to keep themselves safe in the modern world. We have received lots of positive feedback from parents who attended the evening presentation. We will repeat this essential safeguarding item in two years.

Big Dig

We really enjoyed taking part in the Big Dig today, run by the History Society. Classes 3, 4, and 5 worked in teams to dig in the trenches opened in the school field, they sieved their 'finds' and washed objects carefully in order to try to identify them. Reception class worked with the help of their Year 6 buddies, which was great fun. Thank you To Mrs Greenwood and the History Society Team who supported this lovely extra-curricular opportunity.

If you would like to be involved in the Big Dig this weekend, you can go along to the school playing field between 9am and 3pm on both days. On Sunday at 3pm the archaeologist will be talking about the finds that have been made. Everyone is most welcome!

Holy Communion

Our thoughts and prayers are with Emma Hopton, Ben Jeewan and Edward Taylor who are all currently preparing for their forthcoming confirmation and also to Amie Beard who will be having her first communion on Saturday.

Music

We are very fortunate to be part of a busy musical community. This afternoon, we continued to develop our pupil's musical interests with the help of the Saffron Centre for Young Musicians (SCYM) and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. During this visit, Years Two, Three, Four and Five enjoyed a performance by some of the Guildhall's Recorder students. This was a great opportunity for the children to extend their knowledge of the recorder. After the concert, some Year 4 and 5 pupils enjoyed a workshop with the Guildhall musicians. In July, Year 5 will be treated to a further workshop with SCYM and Guildhall where they will find out more about the oboe and the bassoon.

The school orchestra will be holding its own, informal concert on Tuesday June 25th - it will be wonderful to see children showcasing solos, ensembles and compositions as well as whole group pieces.

Open Afternoon and End of Year Reports

As explained in the September Headteacher's letter, we have changed the format of the summer term reporting process. Following feedback from recent summer term open evenings, we will be holding an open afternoon on 19th July 2:15-3:15pm. At the open afternoon, parents will be invited into school to look at their child's work and collect their report. Many parents were keen to look at the work together with their child so we have changed the timing to facilitate this. If you are unable to attend, reports can be collected at the end of the school day or they will be sent home on Monday 22nd July.

Message from The Friends

The Friends will be holding their AGM this Wednesday the 26th of June at 7.30pm in the school. All parents are very welcome to attend.

Mrs Sarah Mitchell
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

| Date | Event |
|------------------|---|
| 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 |