

Charing CE Primary School Weekly Newsletter

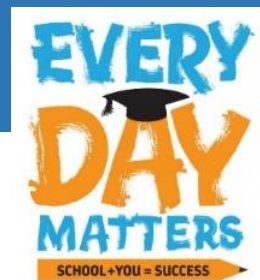
Friday 14th March 2025

Telephone: 01233 712277








Email: office@charing.kent.sch.uk

Website: www.charingschool.org.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CharingPrimary/>



Attendance

| Rabbits | Squirrels | Otters | Woodpeckers | Foxes | Badgers | Owls |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 94% | 98% | 89% | 96% | 94% | 91% | 94% |
| Whole School – 94% | | Year to date – 93% | | | Target – 96% | |

Dear Parents and Carers,

I had the absolute pleasure of spending Wednesday to Friday last week with our pupils at Grosvenor House PGL Centre: Kingswood.

It was 2 and a half days (and nights!) of full on outdoor and indoor activities.

The children were brilliant. The positivity and resilience shown by the children was incredible and it took my breath away seeing our children climbing to the top of walls, jumping from platforms and giving so many new activities a go.

It's always an opportunity for our pupils to experience something new but also spend a couple of nights away from home with their friends. I know it can be a daunting thought for some but so many of our pupils showed that they were willing to give it a go and were incredibly proud of themselves. I would like to thank the children for their bravery, their enthusiasm and their endless energy, although they could've had had a little less of that by 10pm each night! I want to thank Mrs Ball and Miss Cole for their enthusiasm and support on the trip, they enjoyed it as much as the children did.

This week we opened our bike track on the playground for Opal Play. We really need more bikes and scooters though. Although Owls class did have fun trying to squeeze their very long legs into various tiny bikes!

Next week is our 'Go Green Day' on Tuesday. So, try to avoid as much car travel as normal, avoid single use plastics in lunch boxes and if you have any clothing made of recycled or sustainable materials, we'd love to see you wearing it on the day. If not find something green to wear or even wear something that has been passed down from another. The children will be taking part in workshops designed to raise their awareness of environmental issues.

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

This week Miss Humphries and Miss Macmillan have run three afterschool STEM clubs. Children from Years 1- 6 have developed science, technology, engineering, and maths skills to make and test a car. This has been a great opportunity for the children and we hope they have enjoyed it. It has received so much interest that we are hoping to run an additional club for those children who didn't get shortlisted this time. Please keep an eye out for details of this.

Well done also to our KS2 pupils who took part in the cross country at Ashford School on Monday. A great effort was made by all.

Have a good weekend everyone.

Mrs R Golden



NEXT WEEK!

PARENTS EVENING

19th MARCH 2025 – WEDNESDAY

Please book a time slot for your child in case you haven't already.



SWIMMING LESSONS FOR TERM 5

WOODPECKERS & BADGERS

Y3 and Y5

Starting 22nd April till 30th May– every Tuesday

This will go LIVE today at 4pm on MCAS app under TRIPS, for parents to give consent and make payment for lessons.

To make payment easier to everyone, we have kept payment through instalments open to be paid weekly.

However, the first deposit of £5.02 needs to be made before 4th of April please.

Thanking you

This week in Worship

In our Worship this week we have been thinking about Zacchaeus – Listening to Jesus and being sorry from Luke 19:1-7. The story of Zacchaeus is very familiar, so we tried to consider how Zacchaeus was feeling. He was seen as a ‘traitor’ Jew collecting taxes for the Roman occupiers, and very likely for himself too. We felt he would be very unpopular and they wouldn’t want him as a friend. We also felt he wasn’t happy even though he was important and wealthy. We wondered why he climbed the tree to listen to Jesus, this showed us he perhaps recognised he was doing wrong things, hurting others and knew Jesus could help him, possibly forgive him. We sometimes make excuses so we do not listen to Jesus. Even though Jesus was only ‘passing through’, he wanted to come into Zacchaeus’s house, get to know him as a friend. Luke 11v9 & 10, Jesus promises that anyone who prays to God will be answered. Are we sometimes also too busy to value our friends, to look for someone who isn’t valued/befriended... Verses 8-9 led us to consider how we say sorry,

how do we prove we mean it? Not just words or gestures, but actions! There is a difference between guilty regret/ remorse ‘I wish I hadn’t...’, and repentance, a commitment to change/live differently, accompanied by a feeling of relief, forgiveness, starting with a clean slate... ‘Sorry’ is hard to say, Jesus showed he valued and accepted Zacchaeus, despite the opinions of others, so Zacchaeus felt safe to say sorry. Do we hold grudges and make it hard for anyone to say sorry to us. We thought about ourselves and whether we show our friends how sorry we are or do we sound that we are not sorry. Is there anything we want to change in our life/say sorry for? Are there friends we want to help feel included in our school family? Saying sorry isn’t just words, but motivated by Jesus’ acceptance and love. 1 John 4v19 ‘We love because he first loved us’, and first forgave us. We felt these were good ways to say sorry.



Finally, we wondered what Jesus meant by Good Fruit: Matthew 12:33 What is a good tree? A tree that grows and weathers storms and seasons, that is flourishing and bears fruit. What do we need to be rooted in, what will nourish us, so that we can grow and bear fruit? We are surrounded by God’s love (As plants turn their leaves to soak up the sunshine, do we look to God?)





Dear Father God

*Thank you for my friends.
Please help me be able to say and
mean that I am Sorry
when I upset and hurt them.
Help me to be able to Forgive
them
when they have hurt me.*

Amen.



COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION WORSHIP

Aoibheann

Zyanyah

Lucas

Ivy-Rose

Samuel L

Ava

Margot

Obie-Dean

Tommy C

Harry T

Hodger

Lilly S

Charlotte

Jack H

Isabelle B

Leah

Lia

Joey H

Ben

Jack K



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Meet Our Mental Health First Aiders



Mrs. Hebbes
(Mon- Fri)



Mrs. Alexander
(Thru- Fri)

Hello we are Mrs Hebbes and Mrs Alexander, your mental health first aiders. Mrs Hebbes is here Monday to Friday and works within Ducklings preschool. Mrs Alexander works Thursday and Friday as a teaching assistant in Badgers.

We are here to support the children, staff and families of Charing School. If you would ever like to speak to us, feel we can offer support to yourself or someone in your family, please come and find us on the playground or let the office know and we can arrange a time.

SEND SURGERY DROP-IN

*Do you have a question about your child's needs
or a concern about a Special Education Need?*

Pop in to talk to Mrs Hammond at the

SEN surgery drop-in.

No appointment needed.



Upcoming Dates

Wednesday

12th March

9:00-10:30

Wednesday 2nd April

2:00-3:00

Speech and Language Coffee Afternoon – we will be joined by Eve, our link speech and language therapist to talk about early language development.

This is open to all parents.

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster about is [10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT INFLUENCERS](#). Please continue to monitor your child's online behaviour and access. If you need help with a specific app we have not highlighted yet, please talk to Mrs Hammond.



ATTENDANCE



If your child is poorly and unable to come to school, please ensure that you inform the office via telephone or leave a message on our answer phone. Can we please request that all attendance related emails are sent to the following:

Ms. Nimrah Rehman
attendance@charing.kent.sch.uk

DROP OFF

Can we please remind parents that school gates shut at **8:55am**. If you arrive late, please drop off your child/ children at the school office.

For safeguarding reasons we do not allow parents/carers to drop off their children to their classes.

MAIN ENTRY

**ALL VISITORS
MUST REPORT
TO THE
SCHOOL OFFICE**



We would politely ask all parents/carers to park sensibly when dropping and while picking children off at school. [Please do not park across or on other people's drives including local businesses.](#)



Please also do not move the yellow bollards that are up in front of the school and park in that space. These are in place deliberately to ensure there is access to the school.

Although School Road and Downs Way have limited parking, there is plenty of parking throughout the village. The slightly longer walk will do children good, if you are unable to park legally near the school.

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about INFLUENCERS

In today's digital age, social media influencers play an increasingly significant role in shaping the opinions, interests and behaviours of our children. While many of these individuals can have a positive effect, influencer culture can also present certain risks – such as encouraging consumerism, affecting self-esteem and blurring trustworthiness. To help ensure a safe online environment for young people, it's vital to maintain open communication, set sensible boundaries, promote a healthy self-image and teach digital media literacy. Our guide delves deeper into all of these.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

HEIGHTENED CONSUMERISM

A major way that influencers make money is through brand partnerships and sponsored content. As a result, children who follow them may be exposed to a steady stream of advertising: this can lead to materialistic attitudes, unrealistic expectations and an increased desire to have the latest products. Many influencers have built huge brand empires around their large, impressionable following.

THE SOFT SELL

Some influencers aren't always transparent about the motivations behind their posts, blurring the lines between genuine recommendations and paid-for promotions – and young people sometimes find it difficult to distinguish authentic content from advertising. Many major social platforms have taken steps to make sponsored content and ads easier to identify, but it remains an area of concern.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Inspired by their favourite influencers, children may start sharing more of their own lives online – which could reveal personal information or details about their daily routine. This openness can put them at risk of cyberbullying or even predatory behaviour. This is exacerbated by live streaming, which gives young people no time to consider the potential consequences of saying too much.

UNDERMINING SELF-ESTEEM

Many influencers share images and videos of themselves and their activities, which are often painstakingly curated and edited to present an idealised version of their life. Children who follow these influencers may develop distorted expectations about body image and the concept of beauty, which can potentially lead to negative self-esteem and even mental health issues.

Advice for Parents & Carers

KEEP TALKING

Chat to your child about the content they consume on social media and the influencers that they like. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear online, and listen to any concerns they might have. Maintaining this line of open, honest communication can help your child to make informed decisions about which individuals they follow and what content they engage with.

SET SOME BOUNDARIES

Agree age-appropriate boundaries for your child's social media use, including time limits and privacy settings (the two major operating systems on mobile devices, Android and iOS, have these controls baked in). Try to keep an eye on your child's online activity and discuss it regularly with them – including reminding them of the potential risks that can arise from following influencers.

SUPPORT A HEALTHY SELF-IMAGE

Reinforce your child's awareness that real life isn't usually as picture perfect as it may appear on social media – and how some content (particularly that of influencers) is often curated, staged or edited to look more glamorous. If possible, highlight examples of other influencers who share authentic, relatable material which acknowledges their imperfections and struggles as well.

PROMOTE MEDIA LITERACY

Talk to your child about the concepts of sponsored content, advertising and potential influencer bias. Teach them to critically evaluate the information they're presented with online and to consider the possible reasons behind content creation. This can help young people develop the skills to make healthier decisions about the influencers they choose to follow and the content they consume.

Meet Our Expert

A former director of digital learning and currently a deputy headmaster and DSL, Brendan O'Keefe's experience and expertise gives him a clear insight into how modern digital systems impact the experience of children, staff and parents – and which strategies help to ensure that the online world remains a useful educational tool rather than a minefield of risks.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

REMINDER

MEDICATION SAFETY

We understand that at times children are unwell and need to stay at home to recover, however please remember that we can administer *prescribed medication (IF REQUIRED)*, so if your child is feeling better but needs medicine, this can be brought to the office and managed as necessary. The office would be able to assist in



HEALTHY LUNCHES



We promote healthy eating at Charing CE Primary School and would appreciate parents adhering to the healthy eating guidelines as below:

Sweets: Please do not pack sweets or chocolate bars.

Drinks: children under 5 receive free milk with their snacks and water is available for everyone whenever they want to drink. Please do not send in fizzy drinks with your child's packed lunch.

Nut Free: Please be reminded that we are a nut-free school. We have children in school who have potential life-threatening nut- allergies which can be triggered by direct or indirect contact with nuts in the environment. To keep our children safe, we request that parents please find a nut-free alternative. This also includes NUTELLA or any CHOCOLATE spread.
Thank you for your co-operation.



SCHOOL DINNERS –

Dinner Money cost £2.43

Please be reminded school meals are to be paid for in advance. Our caterers will not allow a debt to build and as of next term, any unpaid accounts will result in your child not receiving a meal and you will need to provide a packed lunch.

WRAPAROUND CARE: Both Breakfast and Afterschool club bookings are placed under this tab and payments need to be made when you book your session for your child. *This is done to avoid any payments not made.*

PARENT CONSENT: Please select the options given to update your child's consent.

If payments have been made otherwise and in advance before booking the sessions, please call or email the office to book your child's space. ***Please be reminded to clear out any outstanding balances under individual accounts of your children.***

Compassion

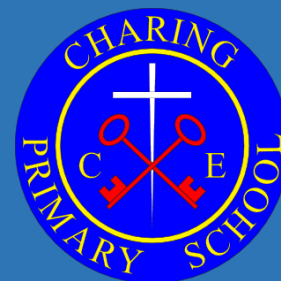
Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

Dates for your Diary



| Date | Event |
|---------------|--|
| TERM 4 | |
| 18th Mar | Go Green for Environment Day |
| 19th Mar | Parents Evening for all 3:30pm - 7:30pm  |
| 21st Mar | Wear Red on Red Nose Day- donations on the gate |
| 24th Mar | Owls Class event: 2:30pm – 3:00pm |
| 25th Mar | Rabbits Class event -2:30pm - 3:00pm |
| 26th Mar | Badgers class event -2:30pm – 3:00pm |
| 27th Mar | Otters Class event -2:30pm - 3:00pm |
| 31st Mar | Ducklings Class event -2:30pm – 3:00pm |
| 1st Apr | Foxes Class event: 2:30pm – 3:00pm |
| 2nd Apr | Squirrels Class event: 2:30pm – 3:00pm |
| 3rd Apr | Woodpeckers 2:30pm- 3:00pm |
| 8th May | Sports Day Rabbits – 9:15am Ducklings – 1:30pm |
| 20th May | Sports Day for Badgers and Owls- 9:15am |
| 22nd May | Sports Day For Woodpeckers and Foxes- 9:15am Squirrels and Otters: 1:30pm |

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Lulabells

baby and toddler group

Easter Party

Limited tickets

Join Us For Fun Activities

- Arts & Crafts
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Games, Music
- And Much More!

Plus a visit from the Easter Bunny

£2 per child (Easter egg and box included)

£1 per adult

Older children welcome

FREE Tea, Coffee, Juice and snacks for all!

 Charing Methodist Church, Station Road, Charing TN27 0JA



Thursday 17th April
9.30 - 11.30

Holi Celebration

Join us for a festival of colour.



Saturday 15th March
1-3.30pm

You must book your place:
www.equatorfestival.com

@ Victoria Park,
Jemmett Road,
Ashford TN23 4QD

Food Stalls
Music
Arts & crafts



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



Upcoming Events | Equator Festival
www.equatorfestival.com



Social Supermarket

Every day, we shape a better tomorrow

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for people who want to use their time to have a positive impact in their community and help address food poverty and food waste.

Come and join our friendly team!



 SE Kitchen
22 Bank Street, Ashford

All volunteers welcome

No matter if you're retired, seeking work experience, or have some free time to contribute to our community, **WE NEED YOU!**

We Need Help With

- Customer Service and supporting the community
- Taking in food deliveries
- Stock replenishment
- Till operation
- Drivers to collect food donations

For more information :

07362393794

(Helen Tomlinson Volunteer Coordinator)

www.sekgroup.org.uk
h.tomlinson@sekgroup.org.uk

Or speak to our members of staff in the shop today!

Mothers Day Event @ Harpers Café

Come & join us at **HARPERS CAFE FOR MOTHER'S DAY!**



MAR 15 | CARD MAKING & CRAFTS

MAR 23 | BISCUIT DECORATING & HANDPRINT FLOWERS

MAR 30 | BRING YOUR MUM TO HARPERS & TELL US WHY SHE IS SPECIAL AND PICK UP A FREE CUPCAKE.



Scan QR code to reserve your spot now!

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