

Charing CE Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 8th January 2021

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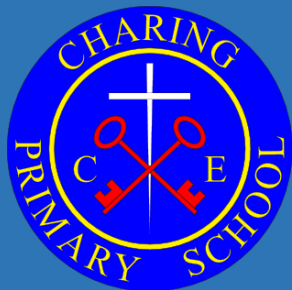
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Lockdown
Edition



A Happy New Year to you all! Despite it being a very different Christmas I hope you still managed to enjoy the festivities and didn't eat too much! This term has started very differently to how we were expecting it but with the current infection rate so high it is understandable why the government decided to close schools. I hope the rates of infection will soon start to drop quickly so that school life can return to normal in time for term 4. School life is so important for the children's development both educationally and socially.

Our Family Liaison Officer, Mrs Nunn, is planning to speak to all families at least once a week during the closure to "check in" and generally find out how everyone is. Please do let her know if you are finding things tough and we will try to support you in any way that we can.

Despite the school being closed, we have been open for a small number of key worker children and I would like to thank the staff who have come in to support the children. They are Miss B, Ms Axon, Mrs Young, Mrs Hodson, Mrs Dyson, Mrs Halliday, Mrs Nunn and Mr Thompson.

This week we started our online learning through Microsoft Teams and despite a few teething problems, it seems to have worked well and we look forward to it being used every day next week. In addition to the educational benefits of the work for the children it is good in itself for them to have some structure to their day and to interact with their teacher and peers. I would like to thank Mrs Hammond for carrying out a lot of work in such a short period of time to get all this up and running.

If you have any issues accessing the 'teams' lessons or are having any technology or broadband problems, please contact the school and we will try to help as much as we can. Work will be set everyday next week on the school website for those children who are not joining the 'teams' lessons. Please email completed work to the class teacher.

Unfortunately, due to the haste of preparing the online learning platform, we were not aware that some of the computer generated passwords sent out were inappropriate and can be seen as offensive; we apologise for any offence they may have caused. As a consequence, we have changed the passwords in question and parents have been notified. A complaint has been submitted to the company providing the online learning platform set up support. At Charing Church of England, we do not tolerate any acts of racism or discrimination and promote equality regularly as part of our curriculum and everyday life.

If you are a key worker and your child needs to be in school at any point during the next five weeks, please contact me and I will arrange a space for them.

I wish everyone a safe weekend and please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any help with anything.

Take care,

Mr Bird



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun



This week, Christians have marked Epiphany, the coming of the wise men. The Wise Men chose gifts for Jesus that suited him and which told the world what sort of person he was going to be – a new sort of King (gold), a new sort of Priest (frankincense) and someone who would have a new sort of death (myrrh).

I wonder if you could think about what gifts you would bring Jesus today? Would they be practical gifts for a new baby? sentimental gifts for him to keep? gifts he could not hold, such as time, love and friendship? gifts to symbolise what you think his life might lead to in the future?

Can you draw your ideas and share them with your families? Please feel free to share with Mrs Hammond too!



A few reminders about Teams expectations

Children are asked not to start calls within Teams, but to wait for the teacher to start the call, then click on the join button.

Children are also reminded that the chat function is for either asking and answering questions to the teacher during a lesson or for support out of lessons. Please do not use Teams as a social chat platform.

Behaviour online should reflect the behaviour expected in the classroom



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun

Prayer

What can I give Him,

Poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd

I would bring a lamb,

If I were a wise man

I would do my part,

Yet what I can I give Him,

Give my heart.

Amen



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<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals>

Keep going. you've got this