

Charing CE Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 15th January 2021

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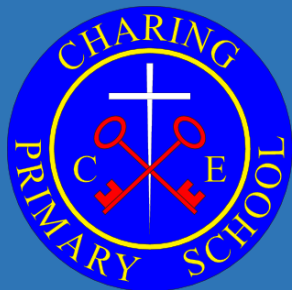
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**Lockdown
Edition**



Incredibly we are already at the end of our second week of lockdown and the latest stint of remote learning. I know that Mrs Nunn has tried to be in contact with all of you at least once during the last two weeks and please do get in contact with us if there is anything we can do to help, even if it is just a listening ear or familiar voice. It is particularly important during these difficult times that we all look after one another.

The online learning seems to be going well as everyone starts to get to grips with how it works. A big thank you to the teachers for taking on this challenge and being so enthusiastic about the opportunities it offers. All the teachers wanted me to express their gratitude to the parents for their support with the online learning! Although it is not compulsory for children to take part in online learning it is very beneficial to them if they do. It not only helps with their learning but gives them an opportunity to talk to peers and class teachers. This social interaction is so important at this difficult time. If you need any help with a technical matter to enable you to access the learning, please contact Mrs Hammond.

A new timetable has been sent out for next week, with more online lessons scheduled and we hope this will be the timetable for the rest of the term. In arranging the timetable I tried my hardest to ensure that there were no clashes for siblings but unfortunately, in some cases it was unavoidable. I have spoken to the relevant parents about this. Although the online lessons are fantastic it is also important for the children's development that they are not in front of a screen for too long each day.

I would like to put on record my grateful thanks to the local community for the kind donation of some tablets to the school to help children access their home learning. I was really touched by this. These acts of kindness make me very proud to be part of this wonderful village.

The school has again been open for a small number of children this week and I would like to thank those members of staff who have come in to support them. Please do let me know if you are a key worker and do need your child to come into school at any point.

As you know a big cause of the Covid 19 pandemic is the fact that many people can "catch" the disease and spread it without even being aware of the fact. This is because they remain well and have no symptoms. You may therefore like to consider getting tested even if you do not have any Covid-19 symptoms. You can easily get a test booked in one of the many centres across Kent with your results sent to you within the hour. You can book a test by going to <https://www.kent.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/health/protect-kent-and-medway/test-and-trace/symptom-free-testing>. I have done this myself and received my results within half an hour.

Have a great weekend and please do continue to stay safe by following the Government's guidance.

Mr Bird



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Prayer

Dear God, When I am feeling overwhelmed by the bad news, help me remember the good news that you have given and to find the positive parts of my day.

Amen

Good News!

Our TVs and newspaper are full of news, but it is so easy to get caught up in all the bad news. For Christians, the Bible is full of Good News, particularly in the 4 gospels at the start of the New Testament.

I wonder what good news you could share with your family or class this week.

What good news can we be thankful for this week?



Please contact school if your child needs new reading books. We will need to limit the numbers coming to school so making an appointment is essential.

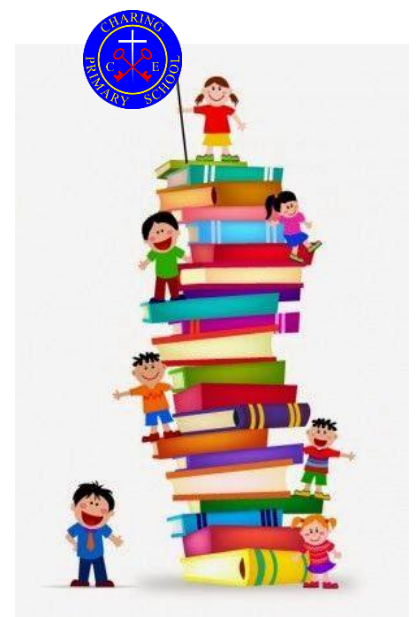
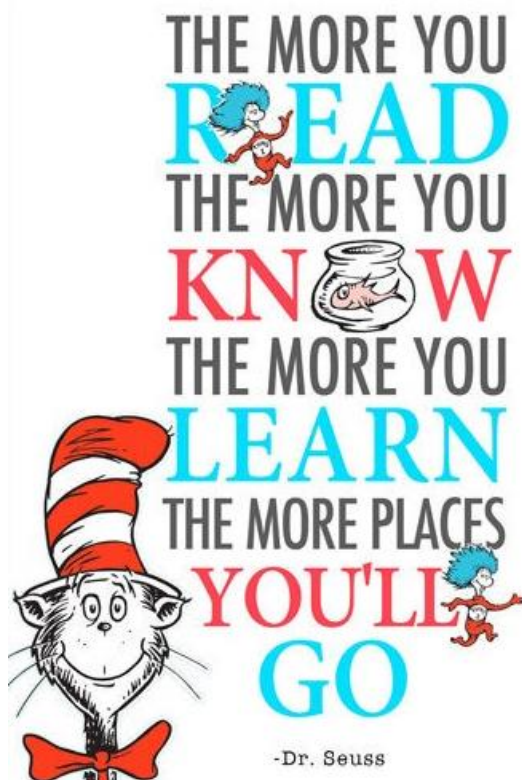
During this lockdown, please could we ask all families to have a good look at home and return any school reading books which are no longer needed.

Although we are trying to limit any sharing of resources, books, etc, there are lots of online reading materials you can access.

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk>

There is a great section 'Oxford Owl for home' with RWI books as well as other reading books for children from 3-11. There is also a wealth of stories to listen to read by well known people on;

<https://www.storylineonline.net/>



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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



Instructions for Accessing Microsoft Teams on a Games Console



Xbox One / Series X / Series S

1. Plug a keyboard into the Xbox USB slot.
2. Go to **My Games and Apps**.
3. Find and select **Microsoft Edge**.
4. Search for *Microsoft Teams*.
5. Follow the first link and sign in with your school email address and password.

PlayStation 4

1. Identify the PlayStation **Internet Browser** icon (WWW with dots around it). If you cannot find the Internet Browser:
 - i. Press the PlayStation logo on the controller.
 - ii. Go to the **Library** and find options for games and applications.
 - iii. Go to applications and you will find the Internet Browser.
2. Search for *Microsoft Teams*.
3. Follow the first link and sign in with your school email address and password.

Note: The PlayStation 5 does not currently have a supported web browser.



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