

Charing CE Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 8th October 2021








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Rabbits	Squirrels	Otters	Foxes	Owls
				
89	91	92	91	88
Whole School –		Year to date –		Target –
90%		92%		96%

This is the first newsletter I have written to you in a few weeks and I am so pleased with the way the children have settled back to school life. They have adapted so quickly to their new year groups and the higher expectations of the teachers which are necessary as the children become older. I must give a special mention to the Reception children who have settled in really well to life at school and were an absolute credit to everyone at the Harvest Festival on Wednesday.

Speaking of the Harvest Festival it was lovely to have the whole school back together in the church for this special service of Christian worship. All the classes enjoyed participating and a big thank you to the Rev Sandra who led our whole school worship for the first time. We are all very excited to be working with Sandra and I look forward to working with her to make all aspects of our learning at school a focal point of the wider community. A big thank you as well to Mrs Horsford, Mrs Bird and Mrs Halliday for preparing us all for the service and making the necessary arrangements for the service. The service made us reflect on how much we receive from God's world and how we should help those in need. The amount people donated was very generous - well done everyone. We have received great news that Mrs Dyson, the teaching assistant in Foxes, is expecting her 3rd child in February. I am sure you will all join with me as I offer the school's congratulations. We wish her and her family all the very best. Parents with children in Foxes please bear in mind that there are certain infections that can be more serious to someone who is expecting a baby and please take this into consideration if your own child is "under the weather" and you are considering whether or not to send him or her into school. Thank you.

One of the highlights of this term so far has been seeing all the clubs up and running again. Thank you to everyone for the efforts you have made to enable the children to have access to additional activities. We now have Breakfast Club every day and eleven after school clubs in operation. That really is something we're very proud of. There are spaces still at most of these clubs and if you would like further details, please contact the school office. We intend to apply for extra funding to try to be able to offer even more clubs in the future!

The weather is starting to turn and become fully autumnal. Autumn is however such a beautiful season and I hope that you all have time to reflect on it. The wonderful new colours of the leaves and the dew reflecting in the spiders' webs are just some of the sights that can give us such joyful moments if we just take the time. We have been given such a wonderful world which we must cherish. Nevertheless, the temperature is of course dropping and the children now need their coats on most days. Have a great weekend.

Take care,

Mr Bird
Head of School

Foxes class started their DT project this week 'Biscuit Bake Off'. This week we tasted and evaluated the taste, smell, texture and appearance of six different types of biscuits. We then followed a recipe to make a basic biscuit. The children were fantastic cracking eggs, weighing flour and sugar and creaming the butter and sugar..... and they actually tasted good too!



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun

Finally, after what feels like forever, we had our first whole school worship back at St Peter and St Paul Church in Charing. The children were all very well behaved walking to and from the church and were a real credit to our school.

Each class performed a poem, song or reading. They were **AMAZING!**

Thank you to those that donated goods for the Family Food Bank. As usual, you have shown how truly generous we are as a school community.

HARVEST FESTIVAL



Family Food Bank



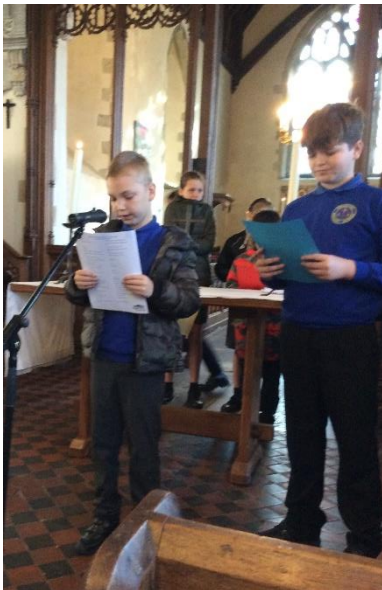
Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun



HARVEST FESTIVAL



Family Food Bank



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun

CELEBRATION COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Olivia

Poppie S

Vinnie

Ruth

Freddie-Joe

Sherrilee

George F

Obie-Dean

Lenny-John

Sienna

Iris



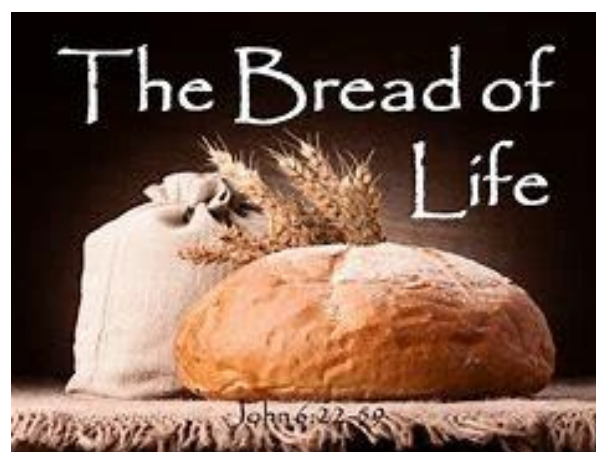
Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for all the blessings you
have given us.

Help us to share what we have with
those who need it – food, time or love.

Amen

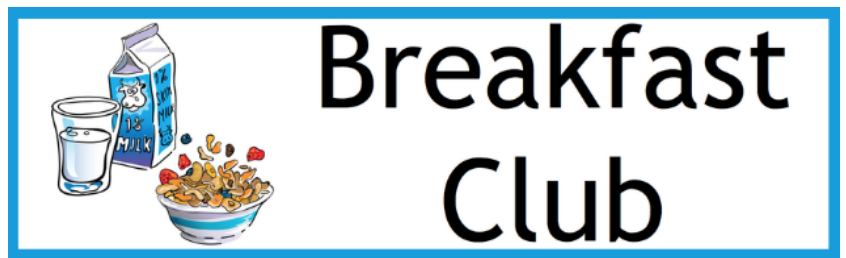


We have celebrated Harvest Festival this week. It was fantastic to have the children back in church, together to celebrate the festival and to see the combined donations for the Food Bank. Thank you to all who donated. We have also been thinking about Jesus, the Bread of Life this week, and particularly the story of the loaves and fishes.

As part of our ongoing work to keep children safe online, we are continuing to share information about how to keep your children safe on social media apps and online. Please continue to monitor your child's online behaviour and access. This week's poster about **Playstation 5** is at the end of the newsletter. If you need help with a specific app we have not highlighted yet, please talk to Mrs Hammond.

**Internet Safety
FOR Families**





If you would like your child to join, places are available at £3 per session. Please contact office@charing.kent.sch.uk for more information.



Our Life Skills need your help! Please can we have donations of vegetable seeds. Donations to the school office.



We have been advised by South East Water that there will be disruption to Smarden Road, Pluckley from 13th October 2021.

**Be Bright
Be Seen**

The autumn days are closing in and the days are becoming shorter and darker. Please avoid dark colours for school coats and bags. See how easy it is to miss the child in second image!

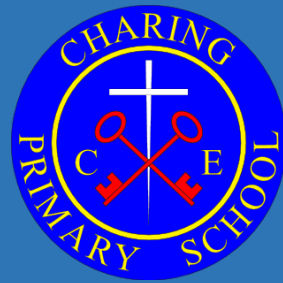


You may have noticed we have begun to block off the car park at the beginning and end of the school day. This is because it is getting increasingly dangerous for the children with people not taking care when parking. From now on, the school car park will be closed during these busy times. To try and avoid congestion, we ask that if you live close enough to walk, then please do. If you have no choice but to drive, please consider parking a little further up the road and walk down to the school.



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun

Upcoming Events:



Parents Evening

18th and 19th October 2021

Please reply to office@charing.kent.sch.uk to make an appointment

More details on parent Mail



Back by popular demand!

PTFA Quiz Night

12th November 2021

More details to be announced soon.



Friday 10th December 2021

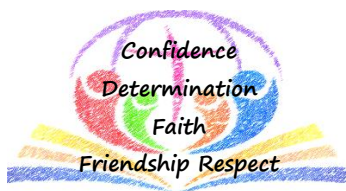
Hazlitt Theatre Maidstone

To secure your child's place, please reply to office@charing.kent.sch.uk

Full payment must be made by 22nd October 2021.

The PTFA are able to accept CASH payments for this event.

The usual Parent Mail option is also available.



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun

What parents & carers need to know about ... PLAYSTATION 5

The PlayStation 5 is the next-generation video game console from Sony. It offers improved graphics, sound and much quicker loading times. It also has a new controller with motion- and force-feedback features for a more immersive experience. Parents should note that there are two different versions available that support discs or digital downloads.

Safely setting up your Playstation 5

PlayStation 5 Blu-ray

PlayStation 5 Blu-ray is the larger of the two consoles, although not by a lot. It enables you to play games on disc or by digital download. Although all new games are available digitally, the disc drive is still useful to watch movies from discs as well as play most existing PlayStation 4 games you own. It also enables you to purchase second-hand games on a disc, which is often much cheaper.



PlayStation 5 Digital

PlayStation 5 Digital is slightly smaller as it doesn't contain a Blu-ray drive. This means the console is cheaper but can only run games you download via an internet connection. Unlike the Xbox Series X and the cheaper Series S, the digital-only PlayStation 5 is just as powerful as its more expensive disc-and-download counterpart.



Family Settings

Both PlayStation 5 models offer important family controls that should be set up before your family starts using the system. Although this can take a little time, it ensures that children have their own accounts and sets limits on spending, interactions and age ratings. If done correctly, children cannot circumvent these controls that require the parent's password to alter.



Setting Limits on Play Time

You can specify how long, and at which times of day, the console can be used to play without needing a password. Talk to your children and agree how long is appropriate, then set this on their profile, so it's something they understand and accept. You can set different time limits on each of the users on the system.



Managing Spending

You can set a limit on spending via Parental Controls. This means that any additional purchase requires your password. Another alternative is not to put credit card details into your account and instead add credit as they need it using the book token-like cards in-store or online. A nice feature on the PlayStation is setting an amount of pocket money to spend on games each month.



Setting Age Ratings

You can set a limit that stops any older-rated games being played without a password being entered. This is not only a good way to ensure children are playing appropriate content but is a good chance to talk about the games they are playing.



Downloading the PlayStation App

The PlayStation 5 uses the same PlayStation app as the PlayStation 4. This is a super-easy way to tweak the user settings for your family without having to log on to the console. It's also a good way to keep track of what different people are enjoying on the system. The app can also be used as an easier way to log-on by scanning the QR code.



Creating Guest Account Password

An important step during the PlayStation 5 set-up is specifying the default settings for guest accounts as well as a passcode for your own account. This ensures that all users need to access the system with their own account and related limits and settings.



Managing Online Interactions

Another important area of the Parental Controls is specifying how and who your child can interact with online. Modern consoles enable players to share text, voice, images and video with each other. You can set whether they can do this, and also apply a password before they can add new friends.



Game Subscriptions

In addition to buying individual games digitally or in-store, you can also subscribe to services that offer access to hundreds of games for a monthly fee. PlayStation Plus is needed to play games online with other people and offers a set of games you can immediately download for the new system. PlayStation Now enables you to stream (and download) a wider set of games.



Types of Accounts

Set up Parent Accounts

Setting up a parents' account is important so you can manage the console for your family. After plugging your console in, connect to the internet and wait for updates to finish. Once updated, create a parent user account with an email address you regularly check and password specified.



Set up Child Accounts

Setting up child accounts are important to be able to limit play time, spending and apply age ratings automatically. Separate accounts for each child user can be set up. It's a good idea to specify a password for the guest account so children cannot access this also.



Meet our expert

Andy Robertson is a freelance family technology expert who often works for the BBC. He runs the Family Gamer TV YouTube channel and contributes to a range of national media on the topic of video games and family.



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