

Charing CE Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

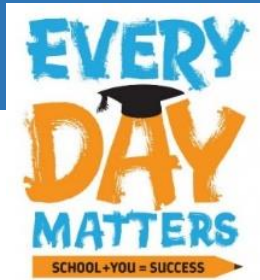
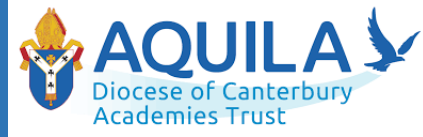
Friday 8th September 2023

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  | Badgers  | Owls  |
| From next week | 98% | 96% | 98% | 96% | 97% |
| Whole School – 97% | | Year to date – 97% | | Target – 96% | |

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to the new term. It is typical of the great British summer that the hottest week since June falls once we are back in school! Despite the extreme heat, the children have returned in great form and have been absolutely brilliant. They are really raring to go and I feel sure it's going to be our best year yet.

To ensure we achieve this goal it is essential, as always, that we work together. From the school's perspective, we will continue to improve our communications with you and try to ensure parents are given as much notice as possible about upcoming events for the children. The two areas for improvement where we really need your support are attendance and uniform. We are just finalising our uniform policy and will then send it to you. The uniform policy will cover what the children wear at all times when they come to school, including PE and forest school. It is important the children wear the correct uniform, not only to look smart and represent the school but for safety reasons too. If you need assurance with aspects of uniform, please contact Mrs Nunn and she will help you. If we notice children are not wearing the correct uniform we will contact you unless a reason is given in advance.

Last year, our KS2 data, of 100% combined in Reading, Writing and Maths, was the highest within the overall Aquila chain of schools. However, our school's attendance of under 92% was one of the lowest. As a result our attendance is a real school focus for improvement this year and an area with which we will be receiving support from outside providers.



It is so important that your children come to school everyday and on time. They miss out on so much if they are away.

Last year, lots of holidays were taken during term time. Such absences will be unauthorised again this year and it is likely that the relevant families will be fined by the Local Authority. The main reason we finish very early for the summer holidays in July, compared to most other schools, is to enable you, the parents, to be able to get away earlier for cheaper holiday deals. Please therefore help us and your child by not taking holidays in term time. Thank you.

Still on the subject of attendance if your child is very unwell, we expect them to stay at home but to return to school as soon as they are better; if children become unwell at school, we will phone you and seek your advice on whether you wish them to go home or not. Please remember just how important attendance is. If you ever need support in helping to get your child to school, please let the office know and we will help you.

Yesterday, some of the year 6 children sat the Kent test in the school hall. They all gave it their best shot and should be proud of their efforts - well done.

The new year is always a time for welcomes. We welcome Miss Bone-Knell to the school team, she is teaching Otters class this year. It is also great to welcome the many new children to school this week in different classes; they all seemed to have settled in well. The new Rabbits class arrived on Thursday and Friday of this week for two mornings and by this time next week they will have started full time. We of course extend a warm welcome to them as well.

This week we have formally adopted the new vision and values that I wrote to you about last year. We have introduced our new values of *compassion, forgiveness, hope, friendship and resilience* to the children this week and it is important that all stakeholders show and live by these values to help the children and school community to grow. The new vision will be shared with the children in the coming weeks.

I wish you all a great weekend, hopefully it remains just as warm as it has been this week. I look forward to another fantastic term as we work together for our children.

Kind regards,

Thomas Bird
Head teacher



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun

COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

William

Jaxson

Lylah

Annie

Grant

Johnny

Teddy

Orion

Nehan

Trixie

Ruth

George

Vinnie

Savanna

Freddie

Olivia

Our Worship theme this term is *New Beginnings and working together*.

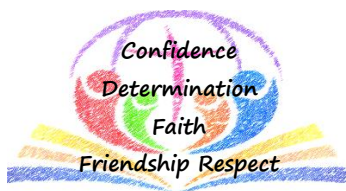
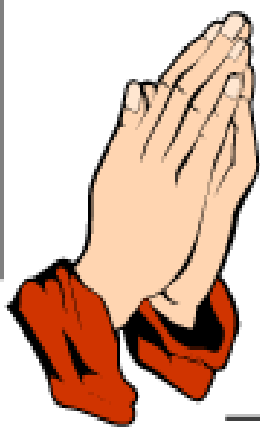
As this has been our first week of the new school year, we have been celebrating being back to school and welcoming our new friends who have joined us in most classes. We thought about changes we will be facing and the opportunities which await us. Our Bible reading was from Isaiah, Chapter 43: verse 1, Chapter 49; verses 15 – 16; this passage reminds us how each one of us is special in God's eyes, he knows each of us by name and is always with us. We briefly considered our new School Values; Compassion, Hope, Forgiveness, Resilience and Friendship which will form the basis for our Worship during the next few weeks. We reminded ourselves how important the value of Friendship is in our school; especially as we have several children joining our Charing School Family and discussed how we could make them feel welcome. In our class Worship we reminded ourselves of our school's special Bible Story, The Miraculous Catch of Fish from John's Gospel.



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Dear Father God,
Thank you that you are always here
to welcome us.
Please make our school a place of
compassion.
When we see anyone feeling left out
and lonely,
Help us to make them feel part of our
friends
Amen.



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This week's poster about **LIVE STREAMING** is at the end of the newsletter. 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.



We are delighted to offer piano lessons in school!

Esme Brown is an experienced piano teacher with an up-to-date DBS check who can teach all styles, musical notation and theory.

Please contact Esme on esme.c.brown@gmail.com for more information!



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about LIVE STREAMING

Live streaming involves broadcasting and watching videos online in real time, often on social media or via platforms like YouTube and Twitch. Viewers can interact through comments, chats and reactions during the broadcast: such instant engagement makes this an exciting way to share experiences, learn from others and build digital communities. Despite the many positives, live streaming also creates a potential platform for unsuitable content and poses some risks to children. It's essential to keep privacy and safety in mind and comply with each site or app's age restrictions.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+
16+ 18+
Age varies by platform

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Despite their age restrictions, some platforms don't require proof of age at sign up - meaning that anyone can register for an account (and potentially pretend to be older or younger than they actually are). In many cases, this means that young live streamers can never be totally certain exactly who they are broadcasting to and who is engaging with their live stream.

DISCLOSING PERSONAL INFO

A characteristic of live streaming is the ability for videos to be instantly shared worldwide. Without the correct privacy settings enabled, a child could inadvertently reveal personal information or their location, making them vulnerable to online predators or identity theft. It's wise to regularly check the privacy settings (and what data is being shared) on any apps your child has signed up for.

ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN

As the video streams are live, children might encounter (or inadvertently share) inappropriate content. Most live-streaming apps have rules to prevent this and monitor their services, also providing report buttons where content can be flagged for review. It may not be dealt with instantly, however, meaning that your child could be further exposed to harmful content during a live stream.

UNAUTHORISED RECORDINGS

Each live streaming platform stores completed videos for different periods (Twitch saves broadcasts for 60 days, for example, while Facebook and YouTube remove them only at the creator's request). Deleting a video, though, doesn't always stop it from being shared. In some cases, streams have been illegally recorded (or screenshots taken) by certain viewers and redistributed on other sites.

ROGUE CONTENT CREATORS

Children can also watch other people's live streams, which could potentially contain anything at any time (such as nudity, drug use or profanity). Most apps claim to monitor live streams and will stop any that don't adhere to their guidelines - but with millions of streams per day, it's complicated to regulate them all, so children could be exposed to inappropriate content without parents knowing.

DANGER OF GROOMING

There are increasing reports of children being coerced into performing "suggestive acts" by streamers on some live-streaming apps. Due to the lack of verification required for certain apps, almost anyone can sign up to these services (including anonymously or under a fake identity). It's vital, therefore, to ensure the correct safety measures are in place before your child begins live streaming.

Advice for Parents & Carers

PUT PRIVACY FIRST

Through the streaming app's settings, switch your child's account to 'private', so only their friends and followers can see their broadcasts. You could also turn off the live chat, shielding your child from any upsetting comments - although viewers' feedback is often seen as an integral part of the fun. Identify any nearby items (such as school uniforms or visible landmarks) that could give away your child's location.

MANAGE MULTISTREAMING

Some apps and sites let users stream their content through multiple social media platforms at once. A broadcast on SteamYard, for example, can be shared on YouTube, Twitch, X and Facebook if the accounts are linked. The privacy settings can differ on each of these, so we'd suggest only streaming via one platform at a time to maintain greater control over who's watching your child's videos.

GET INVOLVED YOURSELF

Research suggests a significant number of streams show a child on their own, often in a supposed safe space like their bedroom. If your child wants to live stream, ask if you could be present because you're interested in how it works. You could even set up your own account to gain a more detailed knowledge of what your child talks about in their live streams - and who they're broadcasting to.

TALK ABOUT LIVE STREAMING

Try to start with positives before discussing potential risks. You could ask which live streaming apps your child likes and how they use them. Do they just watch streams or create their own? Explain why it's unwise to reveal personal information while streaming (even to friends). If you feel your child's too young for live streams, explain your reasoning to them and perhaps agree to review this decision in the future.

CONSIDER THEIR ONLINE REPUTATION

As the broadcasts are live, it often causes the misconception among young people that whatever happens in their video simply 'vanishes' once the stream ends. However, videos can stay online indefinitely or be recorded by other users. It's important that your child understands what they do and say in a live stream could potentially damage their online reputation and, quite possibly, be seen by prospective future employers, colleges or universities.

Meet Our Expert

Michael Smith is Head of Digital Learning at Thomas's Essexington, London. Recognised in the EdTech 500 UK Awards Yearbook 2022 for his efforts in the digital transformation of Quirk's Town Primary School and Essex Barnards, he is also a sought after Education Certified Trainer and guest lecturer at University College London on the integration of technology across the curriculum.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday