

Charing CE Primary School Weekly Newsletter



Friday 15th September 2023

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Attendance

 Rabbits	 Squirrels	 Otters	 Woodpeckers	 Badgers	 Owls
94%	98%	98%	95%	98%	97%
Whole School –		Year to date –		Target –	
		97%		96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 1 is in full swing now and this week we have had our new Rabbits Class in for their first two full days. They have settled in brilliantly and are enjoying exploring their new classroom and playground. They have already started their phonics learning.

We hope you have all had a chance to sign up for clubs this term. Acceptance letters confirming places will be sent out next week and clubs will start the following week. It is great to see a variety of sport, music and art as well as Lego club being offered this term.

I was delighted to discover this week that the Summer Reading Challenge was a great success for our children at Charing. Out of a total 21 schools locally, we are third in the league table! Thank you to all those who kept up with their reading over the summer and used this fantastic resource in our village. We are arranging for one of our lead librarians to visit school this term to congratulate all pupils who took part in the challenge. Keep a look out for the date and time so children can bring their medals and certificates to show to the whole school.

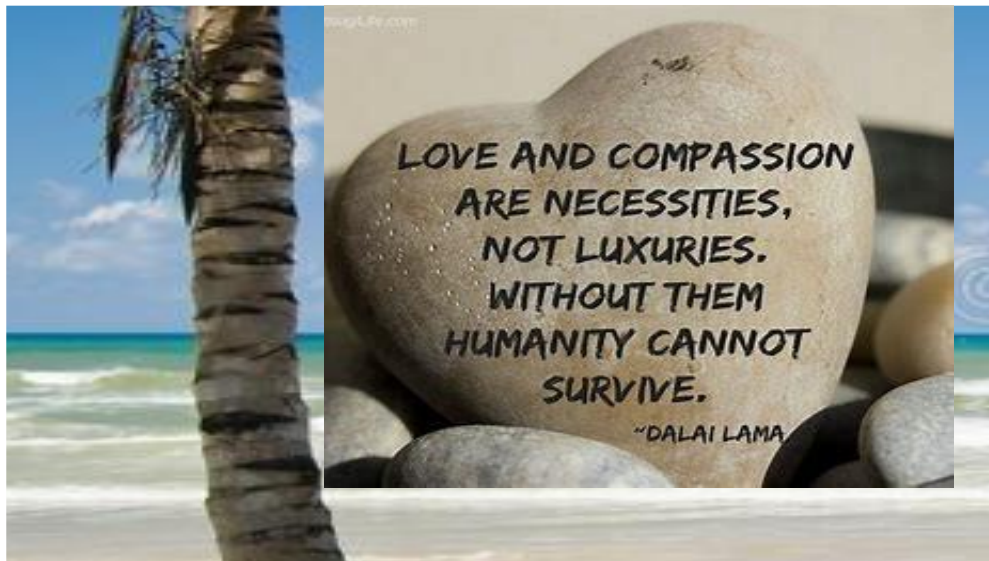
We look forward to using our local library more in the future with more class visits and helping to encourage our pupils to enjoy reading as a 'passport to countless adventures'.

Please continue to support us in having high expectations of our pupils in school. This is not only in the educational experience we provide, but also having high expectations of school uniform, attendance, attitude and behaviour as well as homework.

We wish you a great weekend. It will certainly not be as hot as last weekend!

Mrs Golden

During our Worship in the next few weeks, we are thinking about, being together again, sharing our School Values; Friendship, Forgiveness, Hope, Resilience and Compassion. This week's focus is **Compassion**. We thought about what this means and decided it's about being loving, kind and understanding to our friends and especially to those who are in need.



Our Bible Reading as from Lukes's Gospel Chapter 10, verses 29 – 37 which is a parable Jesus used when he was teaching the crowds of people who followed him. In it he was trying to show how we need to show Compassion to those in need. A man was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. He was all alone, on foot and it was a very dangerous route. All of a sudden, some robbers leapt out from their hiding place, stole the man's money, beat him up and left him by the side of the road to die. A while later, another man walked down the same road. He was a priest at the temple – a very important man – but he just took one look at the poor man, crossed to the other side of the road and walked on by. Not long afterwards, another figure appeared on the horizon. He was a Levite – someone who also worked at the temple – the kind of person you might expect to help someone in need. So what do you think he did? Rush to help the poor man? No, he did exactly the same thing as the priest – he crossed to the other side of the road and walked on by! Later again, a third man came down the road and he was riding on his donkey. This man was a Samaritan. The Samaritans did not get on at all well with the other people around them – in fact, they hated them! So, did the Samaritan walk on by and ignore the man who had been hurt by the robbers because he was not a Samaritan? No, he felt so sorry for the man that he rushed over to him, bandaged his wounds, helped him on to his donkey and took him to an inn in the next village. He gave the innkeeper some money to look after him until he was well again and even promised to give the innkeeper more money if he needed it. Jesus looked straight at the man who had asked him the tricky question and said, 'Which of the men do you think showed compassion to the man who had been robbed – the priest, the Levite or the Samaritan?' 'I suppose it was the Samaritan', replied the man.



Living and Learning with Faith, Friendship and Fun



Dear Father God,

Thank you for the story of the Good Samaritan,

Help us to understand that we should show Compassion to anyone who needs our help.

May we always notice those around us who need our love and care, so that they do not feel

alone.

Amen.



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This week's poster about **SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING** 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!

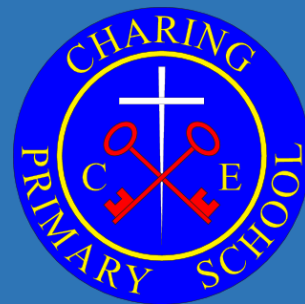
Esme Brown is an experienced piano teacher with an up-to-date DBS check who can teach all styles, musical notation and theory.

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



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Dates for your Diary



Date	Event
28 th September	Individual School photos for the children
5 th October	School census day
11 th October	2024 prospective Year R parent meeting and tour <i>10am-11am</i>
18 th October	2024 prospective Year R parent meeting and tour <i>5pm-6pm</i>
8 th November	2024 prospective Year R parent meeting and tour <i>10am-11am</i>
29 th November	Parents' Evening 3.30pm-8pm



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Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could agree on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

18
CENSORED

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle. So, when friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undoubtedly, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful; if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Conan Green is a writer specialising in technology video gaming, virtual reality and esports. He has also written IT guidesbooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Call of Duty: Warzone and Minecraft. His work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Eurogamer, Pocket Gamer and VICE. He has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



NOS
National
Online
Safety
#WakeUpWednesday