

# Charing CE Primary School Weekly Newsletter



Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Telephone: 01233 712277







Email: [office@charing.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@charing.kent.sch.uk)

Website: [www.charingschool.org.uk](http://www.charingschool.org.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CharingPrimary/>



## Attendance

 Rabbits	 Squirrels	 Otters	 Woodpeckers	 Badgers	 Owls
91%	87%	94%	92%	87%	91%
Whole School – 91%		Year to date – 92%		Target – 96%	

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It is beginning to look a lot like Christmas, with all the festivities we have had going on over the past two weeks!

We have held Christmas and Christingle services, pantomime visits, a Christmas Fayre, Christmas dinner and nativity performances from Ducklings, Rabbits, Squirrels and Otters. The two class performances were amazing and the children showed great confidence and enjoyed the opportunity to share their talents and the story of Christmas with you.

The Christmas Fayre was a huge success and we raised over £1,400 which was magnificent. A big thank you is due to the PTFA for all their efforts in making this such a huge success. A special mention must go to the Year 6s who showed great maturity in running the stalls and ensuring everyone had a wonderful time. A big well done to them all! They were a real credit and made me very proud. I was also very proud of Sienna in the Owls class: she sang her solo beautifully at our Christmas service on Wednesday morning and was well received by all in attendance. The singing of all the children was fantastic at both the Christmas and Christingle service and this made the services even more special.

*Compassion*

*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

*Resilience*

*Hope*

I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work and dedication throughout 2023 and for making this year's school Christmas a huge success for everyone. Two unsung heroes, who support the school in so many ways are Mr Norris and Mr Cooke. This Christmas time they have worked tirelessly to ensure the hall was set up ready for each different event. This has made the staff's life so much easier by ensuring things run smoothly.

This calendar year has been a very special one for the school and one we can look back on with great fondness. The 150-year celebrations back in January and the support we had from the community is a stand out moment of 2023 for me. Other stand out moments are the improved external data scores across the school, with the 100% combined score in KS2 being exceptional. Other really pleasing events were the emergence of the school choir, raising nearly £2,000 for playground equipment back in June from the children's fun run and how quickly the school's new vision and values have been embedded by the staff and children.

If you do not follow our school Facebook page, I strongly recommend that you do. On our page we really celebrate and show off the great events and work that the children are involved with.

Unfortunately, last week I had to write to parents reminding them of our new vision and values and how it is important that all stakeholders live these values out as role models for the pupils. I have had complaints about language used by parents around the school grounds. As a school we do not tolerate swearing from the children and this needs to be role modelled by all of us to ensure that we set the best possible example to the pupils.

School will resume on Wednesday 3rd January with clubs restarting on Monday 15th January. If your child has PE on a Wednesday, this will take place on the 3rd and our Friday activities will take place on Friday 5th January. Children in Otters, Woodpeckers, Badgers and Owls will have PE on that day and children in Badgers and Woodpeckers will need clothes suitable for forest school on that Friday too.

I would like to wish everyone a wonderful and peaceful Christmas and whilst we can look back at this year with such fondness, I look to 2024 with great hope for us all.

Take care,

Mr Bird

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*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

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*Hope*



### **INTERNET SAFETY**

This week's poster about **TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS** 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.



### **ATTENDANCE**



*Every student. Every day.*

If your child is poorly and unable to come to school, please ensure that you inform the office via telephone or leave a message on our answer phone. Can we please request that all attendance related emails are sent to the following:

**Ms. Nimrah Rehman**  
**attendance@charing.kent.sch.uk**

Please be aware that if we haven't heard from you, we will call you or may even come to your home as we have a duty of care to ensure that all children who are absent from school are safe and accounted for.

### **DROP OFF**

Can we please remind parents that school gates shut at **8:55am**. If you arrive late, please drop off your child/ children at the school office.

For safeguarding reasons we do not allow parents/carers to drop off their children to their classes.

**MAIN ENTRY**

**ALL VISITORS  
MUST REPORT  
TO THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE**



### **THANK YOU, PARENTS!**

We would like to thank you all for your donations. With your help we were able to raise a total of: **£ 207.17**

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*Hope*

# REMINDER

## MEDICATION SAFETY

We understand that at times children are unwell and need to stay at home to recover, however please remember that we can administer *prescribed medication*, so if your child is feeling better but needs medicine, this can be brought to the office and managed as necessary. The office would be able to assist in this.



## HEALTHY LUNCHES



We promote healthy eating at Charing CE Primary School and would appreciate parents adhering to the healthy eating guidelines as below:

**Sweets:** Please do not pack sweets or chocolate bars.

**Drinks:** children under 5 receive free milk with their snacks and water is available for everyone whenever they want to drink. Please do not send in fizzy drinks with your child's packed lunch.

**Nut Free:** Please be reminded that we are a nut-free school. We have children in school who have potential life-threatening nut- allergies which can be triggered by direct or indirect contact with nuts in the environment. To keep our children safe, we request that parents please find a nut-free alternative. This also includes NUTELLA or any CHOCOLATE spread. Thank you for your co-operation.

## SCHOOL DINNERS

### **Dinner Money cost £2.43:**

Please be reminded school meals are to be paid for in advance. Our caterers will not allow a debt to build and as of next term, any unpaid accounts will result in your child not receiving a meal and you will need to provide a packed lunch.



## WRAP AROUND CARE

### **Payments for wrap around care:**

If you have unpaid sessions, please ensure that these balances get cleared off by the end of term. **We advise you to frequently check your 'Outstanding Balances' in your BROMCOM app to keep up to date with payments.**

Unpaid sessions will result in you losing your child's place at the club for term 3 and will be offered to other families. If you are experiencing problems in paying, please contact the school office.

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

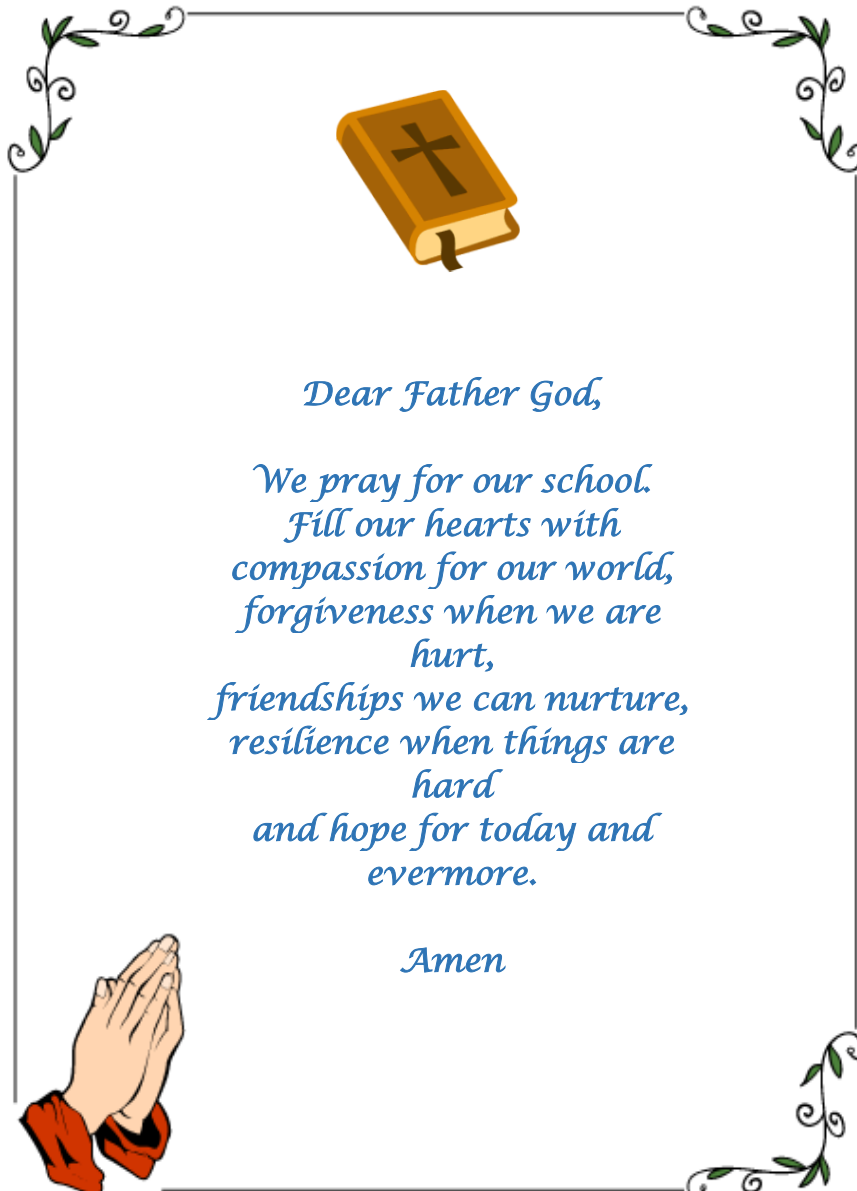
Resilience

Hope



# Dates or your Diary

Date	Event
TERM 3	
4 <sup>th</sup> January	KCH Hearing and Vision Test Rabbits and Owls Only
17 <sup>th</sup> January	Victorian dress up day – Woodpeckers, Badgers, Owls



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## The Big Little Nativity 2023

Thank you to everyone who has shown support this week to the Early Years nativity with Ducklings and Rabbits. Whether that is purchasing a costume or coming along and joining in the fun. We have thoroughly enjoyed every part of this years Nativity. Every child has been fantastic and we are so proud of them all. Wishing you a Merry Christmas!

The Early Years Team



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# Coffee Mornings

We will be holding coffee mornings at each of the following centres. A time and place for parents of children with Special Needs and Disabilities to come together and share the joys and challenges of parenting a child with additional needs.



Rainbow Centre,  
Great Chart  
Bypass, Ashford

The Village,  
Denmark Street,  
Folkestone

Aspen SMILIE  
Centre, Whitfield  
Dover

Wednesday 3rd January

Wednesday 10th January

Wednesday 17th January

Wednesday 24th January

Wednesday 31st January

Wednesday 7th February

Wednesday 21st February

Wednesday 28th February

Wednesday 6th March

Wednesday 13th March

Wednesday 20th March

Wednesday 27th March

All sessions are from 10am to 12 noon.

Please let us know if you plan to attend so we can make sure we can accommodate your needs.

Email - [familysupport@includesus2.org.uk](mailto:familysupport@includesus2.org.uk)

If you are not a member of Includes Us 2, please go to our website or join here

[Membership Application Form \(jotform.com\)](https://www.includesus2.org.uk/membership-application-form)

Membership is free.

## Please note

Ashford - We are able to provide hot drinks.

Folkestone - We cannot provide hot drinks.

Dover - We are able to provide hot drinks.

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# **Charing Indoor Boot Sale**

Charing Church Barn, Market Place,  
Charing, Ashford TN27 0LP

**Saturday 16th December 2023**

**9am - 1pm (Free Entry)**

**New + Second-hand Items  
Handmade Gifts | Sweets  
Hot Drinks | Cakes + More**

**Come along and grab a Bargain!**  
Only £10.00 per stall.

**Stalls Still Available. Contact:**  
07496 183 740 / 07961 768 812  
crystalcreative23@gmail.com





THE  
READING  
AGENCY

Winter Mini Challenge



SCAN ME

# Join the Ready, Set, Read! Winter Mini Challenge

1 December 2023 - 19 February 2024

Get  
rewards  
for your  
reading

wintermini.org.uk



Supported using public funding by  
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READING  
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**Kent Libraries**

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# 12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

## CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

## NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

## CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

## WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

## TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Jot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

## WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parcelling up those presents into a creative adventure.

## WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

## BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

## ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparkling stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book, from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

## SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

## GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

## GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

## Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



The National College

NOS  
National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday