

Charing CE Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 5th January 2024

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
98%	94%	98%	91%	85%	83%
Whole School – 91.7%		Year to date – 92.7%		Target – 96%	

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Happy New Year to all of you. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and found time for a good rest. I have been delighted by the attitude of the children since returning: they have hit the ground running and I am sure 2024 will be another fantastic year for the school. In 2024 I want us all, including all stakeholders, to continue to live by our school vision and values.

Like most of you, we were impacted by the power cut that took place across the village on Wednesday. The power went down for 5 hours and came back just before home time. I was very proud of how everybody responded. For the school our approach was simply to adapt and carry on as normal. Nobody was fazed and it was a good lesson for life. The biggest issue we faced was that the staff were not able to have their cup of tea at lunch time!!! I would like to thank Kennington Academy, who were willing to host our afterschool club if the power had not returned. It's nice to know other school's are there for us during difficult times.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Field to our school. She is a trainee teacher from Kingsnorth Primary Academy, who will be carrying out teaching placement in Squirrels class this term. I hope she feels very welcome and enjoys her time with us.

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

As you can see from the attendance data, this week our attendance has, yet again, been very low. It is so important that children come to school every day and on time unless they are very unwell. It is very unsettling for children to be missing school and their routines. If you find getting your child to school a challenge, please let us know and we will try our best to help.

Please note Friday's celebration worship will now be held during the mornings at 9.05am. This is due to the afternoon time slot being too close to home time and causing the end of the day procedures to become too rushed.

I am really looking forward to the term ahead and I feel we have started strongly. I wish you all a peaceful weekend and look forward to another great week next week.

Kind regards,

Thomas Bird
Head teacher



INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster about **MANAGING SCREEN TIME** 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



**Attendance
Matters**

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**

****CHANGES ON MCAS**

We have been trying to improve MCAS to make things slightly easier for communication between Parents and the School. A few changes have been made as follows:

Parent Consent: Please select the options given to update your child's consent.

Clubs: All our school clubs running for each term will be added under here, allowing you to book them on a first come first serve basis. This will be available before the week beginning 15th January.

Wraparound Care: Both Breakfast and Afterschool club bookings are placed under this tab and will run as it was before.

Please be reminded to clear out any outstanding balances from TERM 2.

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Announcement for Key Stage 2 *Woodpeckers, Badgers, Owls*



Good news, we now have a subscription for **Times Tables Rock Stars!**

A massive thank you to PTFA for making this possible by funding this purchase which hopefully will be of great benefit to our children and families. Your child will bring home a parent letter along with their login details which are unique to them. If you have access to a device at home, please encourage your child to login and play.

Thank you for your support, let's get rocking!

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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.

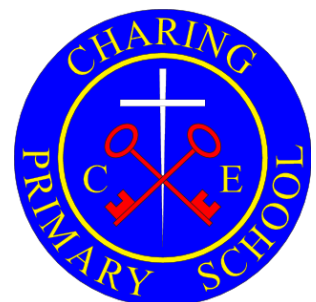


WRAP AROUND CARE

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.



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Dates or your Diary

Date	Event
TERM 3	
17 th January	Victorian dress up day – Woodpeckers, Badgers, Owls

COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

Hugo

Leah

Parker

Ava Lee

Nehan

Hodger

Baylei

Faith

William

Rueben

Trixie



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This Week in Worship

Our overall theme in Term 3 Collective Worship is ...the life of Jesus

This week's focus has been the continuation of the Christmas story where we have been thinking about the visit of the Wise Men or Magi.

6th January is the celebration in the Christian calendar called Epiphany. This is when the Christian church remembers when the wise men came to visit Jesus.

The word 'Epiphany' comes from Greek and means 'manifestation'. It celebrates 'the revelation of God in his Son as human in Jesus Christ'.

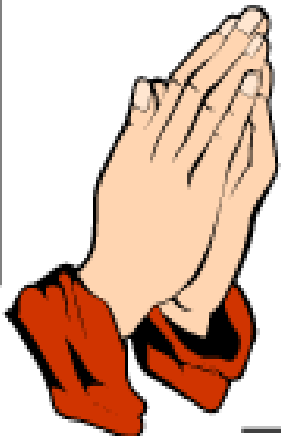
The wise men came from lands far away from Bethlehem, they did not worship the God of the Israelites, yet God chose them to bring worship and special gifts to Jesus.

I wonder what important message the visit of the Magi (wise men) has for us. (God sent his son Jesus to Earth for everyone, not just the Israelites) like giving gifts to people We thought back to a few weeks ago, how we felt when someone opened a present we had bought or made for them?

So, when Jesus was still a baby, he was visited by some very special people, who brought him some unusual gifts. I wonder how Mary and Joseph felt when they arrived and presented Jesus with Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh

The gifts were symbolic of the importance of Jesus' birth, the gold representing his royal standing; frankincense his divine birth; and myrrh his mortality.

I wonder ...are these normal gifts to give to a baby.



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Dear Father God,
May your light shine our way,
As once it guided the Magi;
That we too may be led
Into your presence and worship you,
The Child of Mary,
The Word of the Father,
The King of nations,
The Saviour of mankind:
To whom be glory for ever.

Amen.



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The Rugby Effect

at CHARING SCHOOL Presents

TAG RUGBY CLUB

Non-Contact Rugby **FUN** for Boys & Girls years 3-6

Mondays - 3.15 to 4.15: Only £3.50 per session

Term 3 Dates - Jan 11/18/25 Feb 1/8

Come and TRY it
First session FREE!

To enquire about places please email child's name
and year to steven.cream@btinternet.com or text
07756 097636

**Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis!*

- Ex WASPS Rugby Community Coach
RFU Level 2 Qualified Coach - DBS - First Aid

ALL DAY BREAKFAST!!

THURSDAY 18TH
JANUARY 2024

BREAKFAST ITEMS

Chipolota Sausage -
Meat Or Veggie
Omelette
Mini Hash Browns
Baked Beans
Slice Of Homemade Bread

DESSERT BREAKFAST

Chocolate & Banana Oaty
Square
or
Yoghurt
Or
Fresh Fruit





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

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

[Membership Application Form \(jotform.com\)](#)

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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Top Tips for...

MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

BUY MILK

GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

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.



DEVICE BOX

The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday