

Charing CE Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 19th 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
96%	94%	96%	95%	90%	92%
Whole School – 94.2%		Year to date – 92.2%		Target – 96%	

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Winter has definitely hit Charing this week but we have kept warm by keeping busy and learning.

Woodpeckers, Badgers and Owls had a Victorian day on Wednesday. There were some amazing costumes and children enjoyed learning in a different way to normal to experience a little of Victorian life. We also had a visit from Maidstone Museum to provide the children with a workshop about life in the Victorian School and home. Learning how to write in cursive handwriting on a slate was a highlight! Maidstone Museum is free to enter and definitely worth a visit if you want to explore local and world history on our doorstep.

We have been talking to the children this week about school attendance and celebrating with the classes when they have 100% attendance for the day. Well-done to Rabbits, Squirrels, Otters and Owls who have all achieved this at least once this week. We are continuing to monitor the attendance closely and look forward to celebrating fantastic attendance at the end of term again. Please ensure if your child is off school that you inform the office by 9:30am each day with a clear reason. This can be by email - attendance@charing.kent.sch.uk - or by phoning the school office and leaving a message.

You will have received a letter from Mr Bird regarding e-safety this week - apologies for the issues sending it due to the management system. Please read this carefully and talk to your children. We talk in school about the 4 Cs of keeping safe online - Conduct (how we behave); Contact (talking to others); Content (what we see or send) and Commerce (scams and ads, online spending). Please remind your child of these each time they are online.

Congratulations to Mrs Hebbes and Mrs Alessandra who have passed their Mental Health for Adults First Aider course. If you feel that you would like to talk to someone for support or to know where to turn, please ask the office to arrange a meeting.

As the weather is looking cold or wet for the next few weeks, please ensure that your child brings a named coat to school each day. We will take the children outside for playtimes as much as we can. *Please also remind your child to bring a named water bottle to school.* We have an increasing number of un-named bottles in school and this makes it difficult to reunite the bottle with their owner when found.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend
Mrs Hammond



INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster about is **SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE** 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



ATTENDANCE



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

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.



****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.

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 under individual accounts of your children.

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

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.



COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

Jury

Kateryna

Kelsie

Gracie

Teddy

Audrey

Daniel

Jaxson

Fletcher

Darcy

Alexander

Isaac

Alfie

Abas

Trixie

Mathew

Roman

Amelia



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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 John the Baptist preparing the way – following the example of John.

We remembered one of the stories from before Christmas. We learnt about a man Zachariah and his wife Elizabeth. (Luke 1:5-23) They had a son called John. Like Jesus, John grew up and began teaching people about God, so he could prepare the way for the coming Messiah. The message he was sharing with people was to love one another and to stop their wrong doings. John knew that Jesus was the Messiah and that his job was to preach to the people about how to live their lives so they would be ready when Jesus began his teachings.

In verse 11 John says ... "If you have two coats, give one to someone who doesn't have any. If you have food, share it with someone else." We wondered and discussed what this meant and how this was similar to the 'Good News' that Jesus brought to the world.

We thought about how we could be like John, how we might share the good news message that John and then Jesus brought. Maybe through our actions we could show one of our school values, Compassion, to others.

We also looked at the baptism of Jesus which was carried out by John (Luke 3: 21 – 22)

We wondered what things in this story were amazing or unusual; the dove appearing when Jesus was baptised and the voice of God saying, 'This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased'. Baptism is about being sorry for all we have done wrong and starting again. They become a new person, someone who has 'washed' away their old life and all the things that they have done wrong.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

2 Corinthians 5:17



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Dear Father God,

When we are troubled and
worried, help us to trust in your
love that never leaves us.

Make us strong and fill us with
your hope.

Give us courage so that we never
give up,

Especially when we are afraid.

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

Thursdays - 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

E-scooters – are you breaking the law?



Can I ride my e-scooter to school or work?

No, it's Illegal...

E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. It's not possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them.

Can I ride my e-scooter on the pavement?

No, it's Illegal...

You cannot use e-scooters on public footpaths, cycle lanes or roads.

What happens if I'm caught using my e-scooter in public spaces?

The scooter may be seized and as a result, destroyed.

If stopped by an officer, you may be asked to complete a breath and drugs test. You also risk a £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for no insurance.



**Kent
Police**

Think before you buy:

The number of electrical scooters being used on our streets has risen, as well as reports of serious injury and fatalities.

For more information and advice on the use of e-scooters visit www.kent.police.uk/road-safety

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SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

for young people

7

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though: they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos: this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The
National
College

NOS
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#WakeUpWednesday