

# Charing CE Primary School Weekly Newsletter



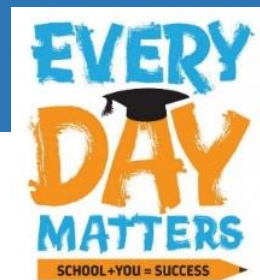
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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
98%	93%	98%	92%	87%	93%
Whole School – 93%		Year to date – 93%		Target – 96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

And this is it, another end to another term! The end of March is one my favourite times of the year as spring begins; the days get longer and the weather starts to change and hopefully warm up! Metaphorically, it feels like we are reaching the light and it gives me great hope. What a great way to reach the end of a term from which we have lots to celebrate.

The Easter service on Monday was absolutely FANTASTIC. It brought me great joy seeing so many children take part and sharing the story of Holy Week. I really felt like we were living the first line of our vision by being an inclusive school with all talents developed, celebrated and enjoyed! I was also really impressed with the respect the children showed whilst waiting for the various classes to get ready! Thanks to all the parents who came and supported the event and a big thank you to James and Esme Brown for playing the organ and piano in the service!

OPAL play made its debut on Tuesday and I feel so excited about the future! What a wonderful start; the children really loved it and were in their absolute element. As parents know, I like children to be children and that's what they were able to be during their lunch break on Tuesday. Please make sure your children have their wellies in school so they can take part in all areas that are set up. A huge thank you for all the donations to get it up and running and a special thank you to Mr Hallam for making us a sink to go in the mud kitchen - it was greatly received by the children. Also, a big thank you to Mrs Golden, Miss Dowsett, Mrs Young and Mr Cooke for getting this new initiative up and running!

I really hope you will have seen the letter I received from the Minister for Schools last week about our school's SATs results last year. Every child achieved at least the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths; putting us in the top 1% of schools in the country. I am very proud to lead such a great school that is progressing from strength to strength.

*Compassion*

*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

*Resilience*

*Hope*

To continue the school's improvement, I am delighted to inform parents that for September we will be moving to single form entry, which means each year group will be a stand alone class and altogether we will have 7 classes plus the Ducklings. We will, as a consequence, be appointing a new teacher for September. This is altogether really exciting news for the school and we are getting closer to increasing the number of children attending our school to around 200 which in many ways is the ideal size for a primary school.

Another week, another set of sporting fixtures. This week the football team took on Victoria Road and came out for victorious winning our first game since the Covid pandemic 3-2. It was a great performance from all with Amos, Joseph and George scoring our goals. Also, later today, Thursday, our Rugby squad will be playing their first fixture of the year against St Theresa's. We have been taking part in a lot of sporting fixtures this term and I would like to thank Miss Jones for her dedication in organising these events which are not only enjoyable for the children but teach them many life skills. I am also grateful to her for giving up her own time in attending these events. We would not be able to take part in so many events if it were not for her dedication.

Key Stage 2 parents, I wrote to you last week inviting you to come in to school on Thursday 18th April at 9am to discuss e-safety. I have called the meeting due to my serious concerns about the rising number of incidents we are having to deal with concerning our children and their use of phones out of school. Please do come if you can, even if you do not currently have your own concerns because our aim is to be proactive in keeping children safe for the future.

What a fantastic last few weeks and this sets us up beautifully for next term. I have managed to thank some members of staff personally for their hard work and dedication but I would like to thank all my staff for all they do in making the school a great place of learning for all the children. Thank you too to you the parents and of course the children. Please ensure your children are well rested, have a great holiday and are raring to go for a fantastic final two terms! We return to school on Monday 15th April. I would love to see everyone back in school on that first day and beyond because we all know how important attendance is!

Take care,

Thomas Bird  
Head teacher

# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

## INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster about is [What Parents need to know about CLICKBAIT](#) 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



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](mailto: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.

**MAIN ENTRY**

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

## PAYMENTS FOR SWIMMING LESSONS

### YEAR 4 AND YEAR 5



If you haven't yet paid for your child's space for swimming lessons to start in Term 5, please log onto the MCAS app under Products to do so.

If you have any difficulty, please do not hesitate to contact the office.



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*Hope*



# We are now collecting:

Dressing up clothes:

- Jackets
- blazers
- Hats
- Bags
- Waistcoats
- Dresses
- Skirts

We still need:

- An oven
- Hob
- Car tyres

Small toys:

- Cars
- Dinosaurs
- Animals

No shoes please.

Lots of different sizes please.

# Early Years Garden needs your help!

Over the Easter holidays the early years team are going to be working hard to get the garden ready for the summer term.



If you are able to, or know anyone, who are able to donate the following please let Miss Goodright or Miss Jones know:



- Fencing
- Fence paint
- Compost
- Plants
- Role play clothes e.g. high vis jackets, ties, bags, shirts (no princess or marvel dressing up type clothing)



We are aware a lot of people are kindly donating to Opal play so please do not feel you need to give to both!

# 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.

**WRAPAROUND CARE:** Both Breakfast and Afterschool club bookings are placed under this tab and payments need to be made when you book your session for your child. *This is done to avoid any payments not made.*

**PARENT CONSENT:** Please select the options given to update your child's consent.

If payments have been made otherwise and in advance before booking the sessions, please call or email the office to book your child's space. ***Please be reminded to clear out any outstanding balances under individual accounts of your children.***

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# COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

**William**

**Finn**

**Georgie**

**Grayson**

**Vinny**

**Abubakar**

**Darker**

**Jasmine**

**Ellie**

**Ava**

**Trixie**

**Eliza L**

**Jenson**

**Archie**

**Harry H**

**Dippa**

**Annie**

**Lia**

**Trillion**

**Zyanyah**

**Johnny**

**Ella-May**

**George M**

**Freddie- Joe**



*Compassion*

*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

*Resilience*

*Hope*

# This Week in Worship

In our Worship this week we have been thinking about the events of Holy Week and we will continue this next week. Holy Week is a time when we remember the week before Jesus was crucified up to his Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

We began by considering What kind of a leader the Jews were expecting? We looked at a crown of thorns and a golden crown – we wondered who would wear this crown and who they wore it for? For themselves/for others?

We read one of the gospel accounts: of Palm Sunday, the first day in Holy Week. Jesus was recognised as the Messiah. This procession with palm leaves (symbolising goodness and victory) celebrated Jesus coming as a king, with everyone crying 'Hosanna' ('save now'). For Jews, waving palms was a symbol of rejoicing and part of the Feast of the Passover, a bit like we would wave flags to rejoice at a Royal Wedding/National event.

Yet the donkey Jesus chose to ride on showed that he would be a very different king, a humble Saviour king.

We then thought about when Jesus went into the Temple, was angry and upset; he said 'This is my Father's house and it has been turned into a den of thieves'. The traders were using it as a selling place for their caged animals, and other produce. Jesus was so cross that he overturned tables to show his feelings.

We moved onto the Thursday of Holy Week when our thoughts turn to Holy Thursday when Jesus had the Last Supper with his disciples; Jesus surprised his disciples by washing their feet. After this they ate Supper together. Jesus knew he was going to leave his disciples, and wanted to share this last meal with them, to prepare them for what was going to happen to him. To leave symbols to help them remember this, he broke bread saying this is my body and drank wine which was his blood. These Symbols are still used by Christians today to remember Jesus, in Eucharist/ Communion Services. In Luke's gospel, Jesus tells his disciples to 'do this in remembrance of me'. Jesus took his disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane; his disciples fell asleep – while Jesus prayed to his Father God for strength and courage. Jesus was betrayed and arrested.

We will be remembering these events on Monday morning during our Easter Service in St Peter's Church at 9:15.

*Dear Father God,*

*You made my friends and you made me,  
You made the world for us to see.  
You love each one of us and long ago,  
You sent your Son to tell us so.  
Jesus showed us many things,  
To love and share and dance and sing.  
To learn and pray, to help and care,  
He promised he'd always be there.  
He died but then came back to life,  
Let's celebrate for he's alive!*

*Amen.*



*Compassion*

*Friendship*

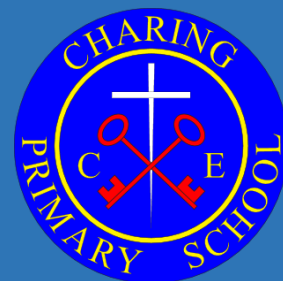
*Forgiveness*

*Resilience*

*Hope*



# Dates for your Diary



Date	Event
<b>TERM 5</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Kingswood Representative talk to Parents of Year 4 2:30pm
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Ducklings and Rabbits Sports Day 9.30am-10.30am  Owls' Sports Day 2pm-3pm
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Woodpeckers and Badgers Sports Day 9.15am-10.30am
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Squirrels and Otters Sports Day 1.45pm -3:00pm





# Free term break activities at Kent Libraries in the Ashford District



## Easter Fun with Dogs Trust:

Thursday 4 April: 10.30am – midday at Ashford Library

A FREE, fun family workshop to learn all about safe behaviour around dogs and being responsible around our four-pawed friends! Booking is essential suitable for 7 - 11 year olds.

Advance booking essential. In association with Dogs Trust. Online bookings via Eventbrite. Scan the QR code above, speak with a member of staff at Ashford Library, call 03000 41 31 31 or email us at [ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk)



## Story & Rhymes:

Tuesday 9 April: 10.30am – 11am at Ashford Library

A FREE fun, story & rhyme session suitable for preschool aged children. No booking required!

For more information please contact Ashford Library on 03000 41 31 31 or email: [ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk)



## Lego Activity:

Thursday 11 April: 11am – midday at Ashford Library

Create exciting STEM based constructions at our free Lego Activities and explore ways to improve the constructions!

No Booking required! Suitable for children aged between 5 -11 years old. For more information, please contact Ashford Library on 03000 41 31 31 or email: [ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk)



## Lego Club

Saturday 13 April: 11.45am – 12.45pm at Ashford Library


Design, construct, play and create together to your heart's content!

No Booking required! Suitable for children aged between 5 -11 years old. For more information please contact Ashford Library on 03000 41 31 31 or email: [ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ashfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk)

[kent.gov.uk/lib](http://kent.gov.uk/lib)

 @KentLibrariesArchives

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 03000 41 31 31



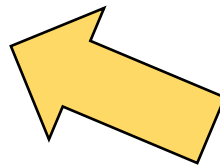


**ROCHESTER ART FAIR**

**3-5 MAY 2024**

**ROCHESTER CORN EXCHANGE**  
**ROCHESTER, KENT**

One of our very talented parents, Charlotte Coe, is exhibiting her art work.



Please do come along and share with your friends and family!



**ADULTS £7 | CONCESSIONS £3.50**  
**CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE**

[www.rochesterartfair.co.uk/tickets](http://www.rochesterartfair.co.uk/tickets)

**EASTER**

# **HOLIDAY CLUBS**

**MON 8TH APRIL & FRIDAY 12TH APRIL**

-  **AGE 5-11 YEAR OLDS**
-  **£20 PER DAY**
-  **10:00 AM - 3PM**
-  **CHARING PRIMARY SCHOOL**
-  **CONTACT LIAM ON**  
07845811004  
LFRIEND1988@OUTLOOK.COM




**SPORT FRENZY**  
**ASHFORD**

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

# SOFT PLAY AT HARPER'S CAFE



**£5 per session (1 hour)**  
(Rescheduled session)

**Monday 8th April**

Session times:

9:30-10:30am / 10:50am-11:50am / 12:10-1:10pm  
1:30-2:30pm / 2:50-3:50pm / 4:10-5:10pm

To book go to: [www.harperscafe.org/book-an-event](http://www.harperscafe.org/book-an-event)

**Soft Play supplied by Candytan Events**

Harper's Cafe, Victoria Park, Jemmett road, Ashford, TN23 4QA  
**FREE PARKING**

Made with PosterMyWall.com



## EASTER FUN DAY AT HARPERS CAFE 10AM - 3PM

**Meet the Easter Bunny!**

**Easter Trail (includes an Easter Egg!)**

**Arts & Crafts    Face Painting**

**Inflatable Playpark  
(5 years and under)**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CANDYTAN EVENTS

**EASTER MONDAY 1ST APRIL**

**NO NEED TO BOOK**

**ACTIVITIES ARE INDIVIDUALLY PRICED**



HARPER'S CAFE, JEMMETT ROAD, VICTORIA PARK, ASHFORD, TN23 4QD

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# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CLICKBAIT

Clickbait is a controversial online marketing strategy which uses sensationalist (and frequently misleading) headlines to encourage engagement with an article, image or video – often playing on users' emotions and curiosity, while much of the actual content is of questionable accuracy. Clickbait is also sometimes used to disguise scams, phishing sites and malware.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### HARMFUL MISINFORMATION

Clickbait tends to play fast and loose with the truth, opting for eye-catching content over objectivity. This is particularly dangerous for younger internet users, who are generally more susceptible to that type of material. A child could be presented with fake news, misleading articles and – in some cases – outright lies without fully understanding what they're viewing and why it's harmful.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Due to the misleading nature of many examples of clickbait, what may seem to be innocuous and child friendly could actually contain age-inappropriate material such as extremist political views or violent, pornographic or sexually explicit content. This is clearly a hazard for young people, who could be upset, disturbed or influenced by exposure to such subject matter.

### HIDDEN MALWARE

While most clickbait is simply trying to promote engagement to earn companies additional revenue, some of it does redirect to dubious sites with the potential to infect devices with viruses or malware. This could put a child's sensitive data – such as their name, their location and their date of birth – at risk of being accessed and exploited by malicious hackers.

### PRIVACY PROBLEMS

Some clickbait leads to sites which could coax a child into volunteering their personal data – using pop-ups to ask them for their email address and phone number, for example, in exchange for accessing additional content or subscribing to various services. Normally, this harvested information is then sold to third parties, who often utilise it for targeted adverts and other sales schemes.

### A DRAINING DISTRACTION

Clickbait encourages spiralling consumption of online content, which could easily result in a young person spending hours scrolling aimlessly instead of doing something productive or interacting with family and friends. This can leave them tired, asocial and lacking focus – and, in the long term, can negatively impact their social skills, education and mental wellbeing.

### IMPACT ON BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the type of clickbait a child is interacting with, you might notice negative changes in their behaviour. Weight loss scams, for example, are common among clickbait and have the potential to influence eating habits and body image – while deliberately inflammatory 'rage bait' articles can leave impressionable young people feeling irritable, restless or argumentative.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### START A CONVERSATION

The sheer volume of clickbait can make protecting children against it quite challenging. It's vital to talk to young people regularly about the types of content they encounter online, so that they understand the risks of engaging with clickbait. If you're still concerned, it may also be wise to keep an eye on children's online activity to ensure they're not being tempted by clickbait headlines.

### PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Encouraging children to question the legitimacy of sensational headlines and too-good-to-be-true promises will help them to become savvier online – and far less likely to be drawn in by clickbait content. These critical thinking skills will also serve to protect them in other areas of the digital world where misinformation is becoming increasingly common.

### SPOT THE TELLTALE SIGNS

There are certain common elements in clickbait, including headlines and images that use shock and outrage to grab people's attention – as well as numbered lists, such as "8 Facts You Won't Believe Are True". Some clickbait combines several of these tactics to snag users' interest. Learn to recognise these techniques for yourself so you can teach children to notice them as well.

### TAKE CONTROL

Many parents opt to place limits on how long their children can spend online each day, which obviously reduces the chance of exposure to clickbait. Alternatively, most internet-enabled devices have built-in controls that allow parents to manage what sort of online content their child can access – including filtering by age, which can screen out a percentage of inappropriate material.

## Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for *Forbes*, *TechRadar* and *Wired*, among others.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College