

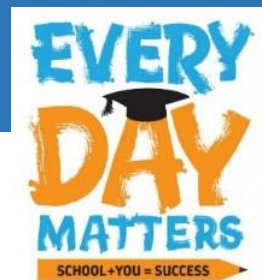
Friday 19th April 2024

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
94%	90%	88%	94%	94%	97%
Whole School – 93%		Year to date – 93%		Target – 96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 5, only 12 more Wednesday roasts until the summer holidays!

The weather has started to brighten up a little this week, hopefully it will warm up properly soon. With the inconsistent weather we are still experiencing, please ensure your child has wellies in school for playtimes so they can access the school field.

Talking of playtimes, it has been another great week for the children with OPAL play. The children seem to be thoroughly enjoying their play times and it is (most of the time) a joy to be out there. I am very excited to see how playtimes develop with OPAL play over the coming months but it has been a great start.

It has also been a great first week back in general and the children have engaged well with their learning. They are really working hard. On Wednesday, I was in and out of Otters class for most of the day as we were interviewing a teacher for September. This teacher appointment means that I will be establishing 4 classes in Key Stage 2 next year, which supports our school in becoming a one form entry school. I am confident I will in a position to be able to let parents know the class placements for September at the beginning of term 6. I really enjoyed being with Otters on Wednesday and all 4 candidates commented on what a lovely class they are.

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

Can I remind parents that next week we will be trialling the staggered finish across the school to ease traffic congestion. This was explained in an earlier letter and please remember that you do not need to come to school (or park) until 5 minutes before your oldest child finishes school. We will look after any younger siblings in the meantime. A reminder that Ducklings finish at 3pm; Rabbits, Squirrels and Otters finish at 3.10pm; and for next week only Woodpeckers, Badgers and Owls finish at 3.20pm. After the experiment I will be sending out a survey to parents for your input on how successful, or otherwise, you thought this process went.

I am looking forward to our third quiz night of the year next Friday - 26th April. The evening starts at 7.30pm and it's £10 for everything. It is always a great evening. For more information, please contact the PTFA and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

I am really looking forward to the term ahead and feel the Easter break and rest have done everyone a lot of good. We are already for a fantastic finish. Please look at the calendar at the end of this newsletter for Sports Day dates - they are this term. Have a fantastic weekend.

Kind regards,

Thomas Bird
Head teacher



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

INTERNET SAFETY

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

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.



PAYMENTS FOR SWIMMING LESSONS

YEAR 6



If you haven't yet paid for your child's space for swimming lessons to start in Term 6, 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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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

Tia

Miley

Sophia

Audrey

Christophe

Isabelle

Saxby

Anderson

Tommy. H

Esmae

Ralph

Bonnie. L

Rachel-Rose

Lena-Marie

Kelsie

William

Trillion

Kaycie

Zakhar

Fletcher

Jack.W

Sherrilee



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This Week in Worship

Our theme for Worship this term is responding to Hope.

This week's theme to our Worship has been 'exciting news'. Our Bible passage was from Luke 24:1-12.

We spent time thinking about exciting news we have had to share with others and then reflected on the events leading to the resurrection of Jesus. We wondered how the friends of Jesus felt when they saw the tomb was empty and wondered how Mary felt when she saw Jesus standing front of them. I wonder what the women said to the other disciples and how they replied. Were they excited or possibly couldn't believe what they were being told? I wonder what their first words to them were. Jesus had told his friends that he would rise again; perhaps they had forgotten this. For Christians, the resurrection of Jesus provides hope for the life they have in this world and also hope for a life to come.

We also talked about Jesus appearing to the 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus. The disciples were sad and forlorn, discussing the sad news that Jesus was crucified. They did not realise that the stranger walking with them, was Jesus. They invited him to their room for a meal; when he broke bread and poured the wine, they immediately recognised Jesus. One of the Disciples, wasn't there so when the other disciples excitedly talked about Jesus being alive, he did not believe them. However, when he did see Jesus and could touch the marks on his hands and his side he believed. This disciple was known as Doubting Thomas.

I wonder why Jesus needed to show them his hands and side?

It can be hard to believe in stories that people tell you, but believing in something that you cannot see is called having faith. I wonder if there is anything that you have faith in?



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Dear Father God,

*You are the God of Creation; Dear Father God,
You are the God of Creation, we thank you for the
wonders in the world around us.*

We see beauty that takes our breath away.

*We see amazing sights that we cannot wait to
share with others.*

*Help us to open our eyes to see the wonders all
around us.*

*Help us to open our hearts to respond to the Hope
of the Easter story.*

*we thank you for the wonders in the world
around us.*

We see beauty that takes our breath away.

*We see amazing sights that we cannot wait to
share with others.*

*Help us to open our eyes to see the wonders all
around us.*

*Help us to open our hearts to respond to the Hope
of the Easter story.*

Amen.



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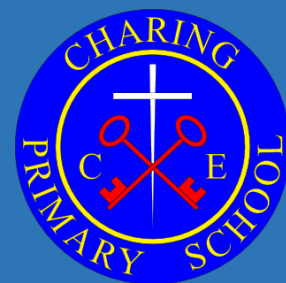
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Dates for your Diary



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



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Lego Club

Ashford Library

Every Saturday

11:45am-12:45pm

(term time only)





If you are looking for a fun and free activity to do with your children at weekends, why not pop along to Ashford Library's Lego Club? Design, construct, play and create together to your heart's content!

Lego Club runs every Saturday during term time, 11:45am-12:45pm.

Children must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.

For more information about Lego Club, please click this link bit.ly/AshfordlibraryLegoClub

For more information about Ashford Library, including opening hours, please click this link: bit.ly/AshfordLibrary-Kent



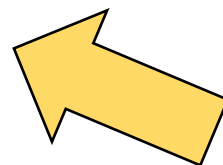
ROCHESTER ART FAIR

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

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

TOWNSHIP



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Despite launching in 2011, Township remains popular with children and adults alike. A city-building game with farming elements, it tasks players with developing their settlement and unlocking new features along the way. Aimed at the more casual gamer, it's mostly child friendly – but there are still some related risks to be mindful of.

MISLEADING PUBLICITY

Township's developers have previously faced criticism for advertising the game on social media by using clips of gameplay which can't actually be found in the final product. This may well lead to a child or young person downloading the game with severely misplaced expectations of what they'll be playing.

IN-GAME ADVERTS

While it's common for mobile games to feature in-game advertisements for other products and services, Township employs a particularly egregious strategy seen in several similar products. It offers users in-game currency in exchange for watching such adverts, which can obviously encourage young people to willingly expose themselves to marketing material.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

The game's core concept of building up a settlement to increase its population and income can feel slow paced at first – and players are incentivised to spend real-world money to move things along more quickly. That can mean handing over anything from £1.99 to £19.99 for these in-game boosts: amounts that can rapidly add up to a considerable sum if left unchecked.

TIME-CONSUMING GAMEPLAY

Township's gameplay loop of acquiring resources and reinvesting them into your little community is a fun one – but this rewarding sense of making progress can lead to players spending far more hours staring at the screen than they realise. There are also special in-game events which run for a limited time, designed to entice players into even longer gaming sessions.

ONLINE MULTIPLAYER MODE

After reaching level 19, players in Township can form a 'co-op' and unlock the option to exchange goods with up to 30 other users. Online multiplayer modes are nothing new, of course – but neither are the potential risks they pose to children and young people. Chances are, youngsters will be interacting with complete (and possibly much older) strangers within the game environment.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS THE GAME IN ADVANCE

While older children may notice and understand that Township might be marketed in a potentially misleading way, it could be worth explaining to prospective younger players how and why the game differs from what's been advertised. This will help them to manage their expectations and avoid any possible disappointment if they do decide to download and play it.

MONITOR SPENDING AND SCREEN TIME

More modestly priced in-app bundles can be a welcome treat for a child wanting to speed up their progress in Township, but it's wise not to leave a linked payment method active in case a youngster gets carried away. Likewise, to prevent Township from causing an increase in screen time, parental controls on most devices allow limits to be placed on how long a game can be played each day.

BE WARY OF EXTERNAL SITES

Township's makers state that all in-game ads are age-appropriate: children won't be shown adverts recommending more violent titles, for instance. Even so, clicking on these adverts can take players out of the game and onto external sites that have nothing to do with Township or its developers: this raises the risk of children encountering inappropriate content or being tempted by online purchases.

TALK ABOUT ONLINE STRANGERS

Township's online multiplayer mode (as with any game which includes that functionality), is an avenue through which a child could be contacted by people who they don't actually know. It's worth reminding young Township fans, therefore, not to give out any personal information to strangers online – whether that's within the game itself or in the social networks associated with it.

Meet Our Expert

Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon, Lloyd Coombes has worked in the games media industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new games and tools, he's also a parent who prioritises online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



The National College