

# Charing CE Primary School Weekly Newsletter

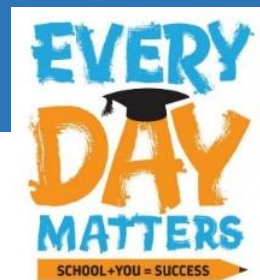
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

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	Foxes	Badgers	Owls
						
87%	99%	82%	90%	94%	87%	97%
Whole School – 91%		Year to date – 92%			Target – 96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy week at school with visitors from Aquila and the Department for Education coming to see how great our school is. They were very impressed with the school environment and the learning that they have seen. School staff work incredibly hard every term to create an engaging and inspiring learning space for our children. Lots of new displays have been put up around the school to showcase the amazing learning that is taking place. I hope you get to see some of these fantastic displays in the hall and around the school. They look great!

This leads me quite nicely into reminding you that it is **Parents Evening in the hall next week on Tuesday 19th November 3.30pm-7.30pm**. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress and to see evidence of their learning in their books. Mrs Hammond will also be in the hall to support parents with SEN queries or concerns. If you haven't managed to book a slot yet, please do so by the deadline which is 18th November at 10pm. If you find that you are unable to attend any of the available slots, then please see your child's teacher as I am sure they will be happily book you in on a separate day. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

During our staff meeting this week, all leadership and teaching staff discussed reading in our school. It was agreed by all staff that although some children are reading most nights and reading in general is in a good place within our school, our children need to be reading more at home. Please encourage your children to read at home as much as possible and then sign their reading record to let us know that they have read. If you need support or have concerns about this, please speak with your child's teacher at parents evening next week.

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

Unfortunately, I do have a grumble that I need to mention. Every child should be coming to school with a bottle of water every day. It is so important for children to drink water and stay hydrated during their time at school. Children are not permitted to bring in any flavoured water or juice to drink throughout the day. We have noticed an increased number of children bringing in bottles of squash instead of water. This will be tipped out and refilled with water unless there is a medical reason for children to be doing this. We trust that you understand why we have this policy in place and thank you for your support with this.

This week prospective 2025 parent tours have taken place. We were thrilled with such a fantastic turnout! We thoroughly enjoyed meeting lots of prospective parents and telling them about our amazing school. **Our next tour is on Wednesday 27th November 5pm-6pm. Please come and join us if you have a child starting YR in September 2025.**

On Sunday our school choir and community attended the Remembrance Service in our local church. Mrs Horsford was super impressed with how the children showed respect, maturity and dignity at such an important event. To add, she said their singing was beautiful! A huge Well done to our school choir and thank you to Mrs Horsford for dedicating her own time and for the continued support she gives to our children.

Last week's, PTFA quiz night was a great success. It was a fantastic turnout and so much fun. The PTFA raised a huge £766! Thank you to everyone who came along to support this event and to the PTFA for their continued hard work and dedication to the school.

Today we had been raising money for Children in Need. The student council have been busy organising a non-uniform day and class challenges in the hope to raise money. This has been a fun event and all for such a good cause. We will let you know how much money we raise in the newsletter next week.

We have another busy week next week and an incredibly busy rest of the term. Please keep an eye on the 'dates for your diary' page as there is a lot going on.

Finally, I wish you a restful weekend and look forward to another great week at school next week.

Take care,

Miss Humphries

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our catering company, Caterlink would like feedback about school dinners at our school. If your child has school dinners or has had school dinners, please could you take the time to complete the survey, using the links below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RLKQLHJ>

Scan the QR code

**We would ask that all responses are completed by 30th November.**

**caterlink**  
feeding the imagination



*Compassion*

*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

*Resilience*

*Hope*

## This week in Worship

This week's focus in our Worship has been Remembering. As a school we marked the two minutes silence impeccably, in the playground on Monday, (Remembrance Day) immediately after morning break.

We thought about Remembrance in different ways and why it is important to remember. We shared a memory that makes us feel happy and also acknowledged memories which are sad. Memories are important because they are a link to the past that can affect the future.

We looked at a Cairn, which is a memorial to which stones can be added.



We then heard the story of Joshua's memorial from the Bible, Joshua Chapter 4 verses 4 – 8. Joshua, was a leader of the Israelites who, following God's guidance, helped all the people cross the River Jordan to safety and the Promised Land. Twelve leaders of Israelite tribes carried the Ark of Covenant ahead of the people, as the River parted to allow them to walk safely to the other side. Twelve stones were placed as a memorial, to mark where the Ark of Covenant had stood. I wonder why it was important for the Israelites to mark and remember this moment as God's people entered the Promised Land. A daily act of remembrance takes place at 8pm, this ceremony of remembrance is held at the Menin Gate.

We also talked about the Poppy and its importance as a symbol of Hope at the end of the Second World War and how during and following war, true peace often demands forgiveness. We thought about our small but vital part in World Peace mattered. How we could bring Peace in our: class – our family-our street, or village or town – even, as adults, in our world.



*Dear Father God*

*Thank you for our many positive memories.  
Be with those who have sad memories at this time  
of year  
and help us to make the world a better, safer and  
more Peaceful place*

*Amen.*



# COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

**Sienna**

**Poppy**

**Isabelle S**

**Lyla**

**Finn**

**Liana**

**Audrey**

**Kash**

**Maxx**

**Darcy**

**Delilah D**

**Miley**

**Joey H**

**Tia**

**Millie G**

**Jessica**

**Ruslana**

**Lia**



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*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

*Resilience*

*Hope*



# Meet Our Mental Health First Aiders



**Mrs. Hebbes**  
(Mon- Fri)



**Mrs. Alexander**  
(Thru- Fri)

Hello we are Mrs Hebbes and Mrs Alexander, your mental health first aiders. Mrs Hebbes is here Monday to Friday and works within Ducklings preschool. Mrs Alexander works Thursday and Friday as a teaching assistant in Badgers.

We are here to support the children, staff and families of Charing School. If you would ever like to speak to us, feel we can offer support to yourself or someone in your family, please come and find us on the playground or let the office know and we can arrange a time.

## SEND SURGERY DROP-IN

*Do you have a question about your child's needs  
or a concern about a Special Education Need?*

*Pop in to talk to Mrs Hammond at the*

*SEN surgery drop-in.*

*No appointment needed.*



### Upcoming Dates

Wednesday	23rd October	9:15-10:45
Friday	8th November	1:30 - 3:30
Tuesday	19th November	During Parents Evening
Friday	29th November	9:30 - 11:00
Christmas SEN Coffee Morning - pop along to enjoy a festive treat		
Wednesday	18th December	9:15 - 10:45

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*Resilience*

*Hope*

# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

## INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster about is **10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS TEACHING CYCLE SAFETY** 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.

### **MAIN ENTRY**

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



We would politely ask all parents/carers to park sensibly when dropping and while picking children off at school.

Please be considerate that the school setting is within a neighbourhood area so please be mindful of village residents.

Parents Evening is NOW LIVE!

Please log onto the MCAS app and book a time slot for your child/ children for Parents Evening which will be taking place on the **19<sup>th</sup> of November 2024.**



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*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 (IF REQUIRED)*, 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



## 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.***

Compassion

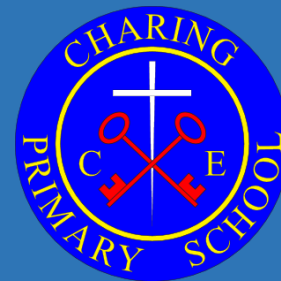
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# Dates for your Diary



Date	Event
<b>TERM 2</b>	
19 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parents Evening 3:30pm to 7:30pm 
27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	YR 2025 school tours (evening) 5pm to 6pm 
11th Dec	Christingle Service in hall - Parents invited -2:30pm
12th Dec	KS1 Christmas performance to school – 1:30pm
13th Dec	Pantomime trip for: Woodpeckers, Foxes, Badgers and Owls  Visit from Santa for (morning) Duckling, Rabbits, Squirrels and Otters
16th Dec	Christmas performance for parent -9:30am  Pantomime for: Duckling, Rabbits, Squirrels and Otters
17th Dec	EYFS nativity to school  Whole School Christmas Dinner(lunchtime)  KS1 Christmas Performance to parents -2:15pm
18th Dec	Christmas Service in the church -9:15am  EYFS nativity to parents- 2:15pm
19th Dec	EYFS nativity to parents- 9:15am  Christmas Fayre-1:30pm
20th Dec	Whole School Healthy Living Day

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Charing CE Primary School

# Open Day

For Reception intake  
September 2025



If your child is starting school in September 2025, please come along to our Open Day!

Discover the benefits of sending your child to a growing, vibrant Church of England School.

Before and After School Care on-site

Come and meet our staff and find out more about our amazing school and outstanding Early Years environment. We'd love to show you around!

5<sup>th</sup> November  
9.30am-10:30am  
Tuesday

13<sup>th</sup> November  
1.30pm-2.30pm  
Wednesday

27<sup>th</sup> November  
5pm-6pm  
Wednesday

Telephone: 01233 712277 Email: [office@charing.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@charing.kent.sch.uk)



WESTWELL WINES + KATHARINE GRAY PRESENT

## A CHILDRENS CLAY WORKSHOP SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER | 10.30-12



CREATE YOUR VERY OWN CERAMIC CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS  
AT A WORKSHOP HOSTED BY KENTISH POTTER KATHARINE GRAY  
**WESTWELL WINE ESTATES, KENT TN27 0BW**  
**TICKETS: £25 PER CHILD INCLUDES DRINK + SNACK**  
[KATHARINEGRAYCERAMICS.COM](http://KATHARINEGRAYCERAMICS.COM) | [WESTWELLWINES.COM](http://WESTWELLWINES.COM)

christmas clay ornament making

## WORK SHOP

Thursday 28th November | 7-9pm | £45

A glass of fizz + snacks + all materials + firing included

[katharinegrayceramics.com](http://katharinegrayceramics.com) | [westwellwines.com](http://westwellwines.com)

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# Beware of suspicious callers

Most people who call at your home are genuine.

But sometimes people may turn up unannounced and try to:

- Trick their way into your home to steal valuables or money
- Sell you services or items you do not want or need
- Carry out unnecessary repairs to your home at inflated prices.



If concerned about someone calling at your home, **don't open your door.**

You can also:

- Ask for identification and call their company yourself (not on a number they provide) to check they are genuine
- Never leave your door unattended
- Ask the visitor to return another time when someone can be with you.



#### Contacting Kent Police

Report a non-urgent crime online [www.kent.police.uk/report](http://www.kent.police.uk/report)  
Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 [www.kent.police.uk/contact](http://www.kent.police.uk/contact)  
In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call 999  
If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to 60066  
[www.kent.police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk)   

## Perry Court Farm Festive Fayre

16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> November

10am-3pm.

Country Crafts & Demonstrations

Christmas Gifts

Festive Farmhouse Refreshments

Floral Festivities

Tombola & Raffle

All Proceeds to the

Ashford Pilgrims Hospice.

Perry Court Farm, above Wye,

Canterbury Road, TN25 4ES

## Mental Health Helplines - UK

**Samaritans** - 116 123 (free 24 hour helpline)

**SHOUT** - Text SHOUT to 85258 (free, confidential, open 24 hours)

**CALM (For anyone)** - 0800 58 58 58 (open from 5pm to midnight every day)

**Papyrus (below 35)** - Call 0800 068 4141 (young suicide prevention open 9am to midnight every day)

**YoungMinds (young people & parents)** - Crisis Messenger text YM to 85258 (available 24/7)  
Parent Helpline 0808 802 5544 (Mon-Fri from 9.30am to 4pm)

**Would you share? It could save a life.**



## ALDINGTON CRAFT AND FOOD FAIR

Come along and find gifts, food, clothes, jewellery, crafts and raffle

*Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November*

**1-5 PM**

**Aldington Village Hall,  
TN25 7EE**

S&K Events

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Did you know Ashford Designer Outlet now offer sensory backpacks for anyone who might find the environment a bit overwhelming.

They're available to borrow from the guest experience team, free of charge, with just a refundable deposit. It's great to see more places taking steps to make their spaces more accessible for everyone. Great work Ashford Designer Outlet 🍪🍪

# We are accepting new NHS patients

{my}dentist®  
helping the nation smile

4 Elwick Road  
Ashford Kent TN23 1PF  
CALL: 01233 624913



## Carnival of the Baubles Home Kits

### Build a bauble at home!

Carnival of Baubles build at home lantern kits are now available, because it is never too early for some Christmas crafting!

Purchase a kit for £5 on the Made in Ashford website. Either have it delivered to your home or save on postage by collecting it from the shop located in Park Mall, Ashford Town Centre.

These kits are aimed at 5+ and smaller children will need adult supervision & guidance.

The kit includes willow, tissue paper and instructions. You will need scissors, tape, PVA glue and a light (fairy lights or an electronic candle).

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# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## TEACHING CYCLE SAFETY

Cycling is an amazing way to spend quality time together as a family, as well as keeping everyone healthy and active – and it's an excellent exercise, whatever the age of your children. Getting started can sometimes be daunting, and there are obvious safety concerns over youngsters who are still getting used to a bike – so follow our top tips to help you ride with confidence.

### 1 CONSIDER CYCLE TRAINING

Courses like Bikeability are extremely useful, and training in general has come a long way since cycling proficiency began; there are Bikeability courses for adults, too. Cycle training teaches invaluable skills (such as good road positioning, signalling and visibility), and can help both parents and children feel more at ease on busy streets.

### 2 USE A SUITABLE BIKE

Find a bike of an appropriate size for its rider and resist the temptation to have children 'grow into' theirs by buying one too large for them. A bigger bike will be heavier and more difficult to control, making accidents more likely and potentially putting youngsters off cycling forever. If your child has any specific physical needs, or has dyspraxia, then try out a trike, handcycle or other adaptive cycle to see what works best.

### 3 TRY A CARGO BIKE

Cargo bikes, particularly the box-bike style, are ideal for transporting small children around. Depending on the type of bike chosen – as well as the size and age of the children – it can be possible to transport up to four little ones in this way, with additional space for other cargo as well.

### 4 INSPECT YOUR CYCLE

It's a good idea to do some routine checks on any bike before going for a ride to make sure everything's working correctly. The 'M check' is particularly useful: assessing the condition and position of the bike's wheels, handlebars, brakes, pedals, chain and saddle, working from front to back. Online tutorial videos can also teach you how to carry out basic repairs if needed. For more complicated fixes, head to your local bike shop.

### 5 BRING SUITABLE GEAR

Ensure whatever you're wearing, and any attachments for your bike, are suitable for the ride. A waterproof jacket will let you cycle safely in almost any weather. Make sure any helmets are fitted correctly. If you're riding after dark, remember to fit your bikes with a white front light, a red rear light and a red rear reflector. These are required by law.

### 6 STICK TO FLAT TERRAIN

Take a smooth, flat route if possible, so it's more suitable for younger cyclists. You might be surprised by how many quiet roads or back streets there may be in your area. Don't be put off by an indirect but easier path as opposed to a shorter, busier one. Look out for the National Cycle Network, canal towpaths and even parks that you can cut through.

### 7 STAY ALERT AND IN SAFE FORMATIONS

For maximum protection and visibility, ride in a line with children in the middle and adults at either end. If you're the only adult present, take up a position at the rear to ensure all children remain in your sight. Don't be tempted to hug the kerb if cycling on the road – riding approximately a metre out will make you more noticeable to other road users, and you'll also stay clear of any debris in the gutter.

### 8 AVOID PARKED CARS

When riding past parked cars, try to stay at least a metre away, just in case anyone inside opens a door unexpectedly or the vehicle itself starts to move. This precaution will also deter anyone driving behind from trying to squeeze past you when there isn't enough space, so don't be afraid to ride in a prominent position.

### 9 START A 'BIKE BUS'

Cycling to school with other families is a potentially fun experience – one which comes with the added benefit of safety in numbers, in case anything goes wrong along the way. Team up with other parents, carers and educators and pick a day to cycle to school together. Who knows – maybe, in time, you'll have other folks asking to join you?

### 10 HAVE FUN!

Keep in mind that cycling should be fun! A good bike ride can be really enjoyable for adults and children alike, while also being a superb form of exercise. Ease children into the hobby by starting them off with shorter journeys – such as a trip to the park – and build them up to longer, more complicated outings. Some children may get bored on a longer ride, so try to keep a conversation going with them.

## Meet Our Expert

Sophie Gordon is the campaigns manager at Cycling UK, a charity which inspires and enables people to start cycling. She has spent six years campaigning for safer roads and more protected cycle paths, while supporting communities to call for better cycling conditions where they live.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/teaching-cycle-safety>