

# Charing CE Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter

### Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025



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
						
86%	88%	94%	97%	85%	96%	83%
Whole School – 91%		Year to date – 93%			Target – 96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter and didn't eat too much chocolate! It's great to be back although, because Monday was a holiday, we have had to try to cram a full week into 4 days. This is quite a challenge but the children have risen to the demands of a short first week back very well. The break seems to have done them good and I feel they've all come back a little taller and more mature.

Although the school was closed over the holidays lots of work took place on the site. A team of helpers from the Early Years Staff came in to paint the outside part of their classrooms and it's looking very smart now. A group of parent volunteers came in with Mr Cook to carry out some more amazing work to our planned Spiritual Garden and Mrs Gilbert (one of our After School Club Leaders) came into develop the outside area near where the After School club is based. I would like to thank everyone for giving up their time to support the school by making a better learning environment for everyone.

I was also delighted to come in during the holidays to see the amazing work outside the front of the school building where the drive has been tarmacked. It has been a long time coming but is so much safer for everyone. Thank you to our academy trust, Aquila, for supporting us with this project.

The booking letter for clubs (at the third time of asking!) came out this week and the booking form will be open until Tuesday lunchtime. Please ensure you book your child into a club by then if they wish to join a club. Clubs will begin in earnest on Tuesday 6th May.

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

On Wednesday, together with a colleague, I was privileged to be invited to attend an Alcoholic Anonymous session that was aimed at showing professionals how the organisation works and supports so many people. It was a very humbling experience to watch and see how the AA community have helped and saved so many people. Their premise is supported by a belief in God, or a spiritual power, and that helps them come through the tough times in tackling their illness. At a time when there is a lot of hate that is all too visible in the world it reminded me how, when people come together, show respect, support and love one another a greater good can be achieved. Making a positive difference to people has a good impact on the giver as well as the receiver and truly gets through to the soul in a very special way. This is a message we regularly try to get across to our children.

I spoke to an official from KCC about our parking situation this week. The yellow zigzag lines are now enforceable and people will be given penalty notices if found to be parked on them. Although we should park sensibly for the greater good in its own right some parents may want to take note that I have been informed parking attendants will be visiting the school this term. If a parking attendant does come out, they will be doing their job to keep our roads safe so can I ask parents to please respect them and remember that children will be present.

It's such a short term this term but there is lots going on. Please keep an eye on the diary page on the newsletter to see upcoming events. Sports days are coming thick and fast.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend and I hope the sun continues to shine on you all.

Kind regards,

Tom Bird  
Head Teacher

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## SWIMMING LESSONS FOR TERM 5

### WOODPECKERS & BADGERS

Y3 and Y5

Starting 22<sup>nd</sup> April till 30<sup>th</sup> May– every Tuesday



This is under TRIPS, for parents to give consent and make payment for lessons.

If you haven't made payment yet, we have kept payment through instalments open to be paid weekly.

However, the first deposit of **£5.02** should be made by now as children have had their first session on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

Thanking you

***P.S If you have a deposit and want to make the rest of the payment, please go under 'outstanding payments' under 'instalments' to pay off the remaining amount left.***



## KENT LIFE TRIP- OTTERS AND SQUIRRELS – 5<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025

This has been set up for you to make payment on MCAS app under TRIPS.

Please make sure to fill in the consent form attached and make payment of **£13.67**.

***Disclaimer: If we do not get enough interest we would have to make a decision to not go ahead with the trip.***



## FOLKSTONE BEACH TRIP- RABBITS – 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025

This has been set up for you to make payment on MCAS app under TRIPS.

Please make sure to fill in the consent form attached and make payment of **£7.09**.

***Disclaimer: If we do not get enough interest we would have to make a decision to not go ahead with the trip.***

## This week in Worship

This week's Worship has been focused on: Responding to Hope & to Easter

Jesus is alive! Luke 24:1-12. We remembered the events of Holy Week; thinking about the grief felt by Mary and the women with her at the cross.

They had forgotten that Jesus had said he would rise again. We thought about the women visiting the tomb on the Sunday morning, where Jesus' body had been laid, what did they see / hear? I wonder how they felt when they saw the tomb was empty? I wonder how they felt when they saw Jesus standing front of them? I wonder what the women said to the other disciples? I wonder what their first words to them were? We felt that the women would have been surprised; possibly worried that the body had been taken away. Then when they saw Jesus standing in front of them they would have been excited, speechless with joy that he had risen from the dead. We shared times when we heard exciting news and how this made us feel; who we shared this news with, how it filled us with hope. The Good Friday story of immense sadness had been changed by Jesus coming back to life, into one of hope and joy.

We moved on to the first time Jesus' disciples saw Jesus. I wonder if you think it is ok to say you are not sure about something, or that you don't believe someone? I wonder if you think it is easy to believe in something you can't see?

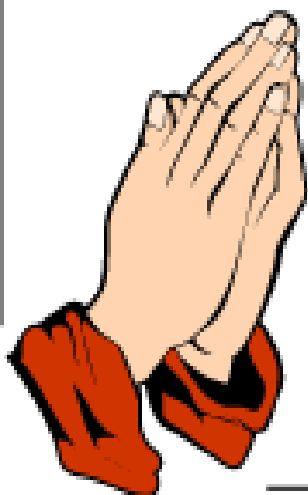
Jesus appeared to two of his disciples on the road to Emmaus; they did not realise it was Jesus, perhaps because they weren't sure that the news of his resurrection was true. Later, Jesus met with his disciples in a secret room where they realised it was Jesus, back with them. One of his disciples, Thomas did not see Jesus; he doubted that Jesus was alive. I wonder why Jesus needed to show him 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?



*Dear Father God,*

*Thank You for the message of Easter.  
Thank You for sending Jesus, your Son,  
to show us how to love, be kind, and follow You.  
We are happy because Jesus is alive!  
He came back to life, to show us that  
Your love is stronger than anything*

*Amen.*



# COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION

**Adrie**

**Liana**

**Eliza L**

**Savanna**

**Harry W**

**Parker**

**Margot**

**Tia**

**Jack H**

**Lilly-Belle**

**Christopher**

**Tommy H**

**Zak**

**Jesse B**

**Theo**

**Christophe**



*Compassion*

*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.

ptfa@charing.kent.sch.uk or speak to Miss Goodright'. The bottom of the banner is decorated with a green grass border."/>

**Can you help?**

The PTFA are having a games stall at Charing Village Fete on Saturday 10th May and need more volunteers! Would you be free to give some time during the afternoon to help raise funds for the school?

If you are able to help please email [ptfa@charing.kent.sch.uk](mailto:ptfa@charing.kent.sch.uk) or speak to Miss Goodright

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# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

## INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster about is WHAT PARENTS AND EDUCATORS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SEARCH ENGINES. 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**



We would politely ask all parents/carers to park sensibly when dropping and while picking children off at school. Please do not park across or on other people's drives including local businesses.



Please also do not move the yellow bollards that are up in front of the school and park in that space. These are in place deliberately to ensure there is access to the school.

Although School Road and Downs Way have limited parking, there is plenty of parking throughout the village. The slightly longer walk will do children good, if you are unable to park legally near the school.

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# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SEARCH ENGINES

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Search engines are an integral part of everyday life – with Google alone processing around 100,000 searches every second. Search engines use algorithms to predict which results will be useful to us, though this can expose children to inappropriate content, misinformation and even scams. This guide explains the risks associated with search engines and offers practical advice to help safeguard young users online.

### MANIPULATED SEARCH RESULTS

Although search engines take site reputation into account, trustworthiness isn't the main factor. Instead, they use algorithms that can be gamed via tactics like search engine optimisation (SEO), which is big business. As a result, users may encounter misleading content and low-quality commercial products that appear more credible than they actually are.

### MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION

Search engines index billions of web pages – and not all of them are factual or safe. Children might stumble across false information or even deliberate disinformation, especially when searching for trending topics or controversial issues.

### ENGINES BEYOND GOOGLE

Even if Google's SafeSearch is enabled, children may use lesser-known search engines that don't have similar protections. Some of these alternatives are less effective at blocking unsavoury content – sometimes by design – making it easier for children to encounter harmful or explicit material. Parental controls may also struggle to detect and block these sites.

### ILLEGAL CONTENT CAN SURFACE

Search engines are designed to retrieve content based on keywords – not to judge whether that content is lawful. As a result, even illegal or harmful material can appear in search results. Children might assume that anything found through search engines must be safe, just because they're so widely used. This misunderstanding can lead to accidental exposure to seriously inappropriate content.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT EXPOSURE

Although parental controls like Google's SafeSearch exist, they aren't foolproof, and search engines may bypass them. Young users may still see inappropriate images or content, especially in image searches, even though they may not be able to click on the results. Some niche search engines lack even basic filtering, posing further risks.

### UNRELIABLE AI SUMMARIES

Some search engines now offer AI-generated answers at the top of results. While these can be helpful as webpage summaries, they're not always accurate. There have been instances where AI summaries have presented false or even dangerous information, reinforcing the need for critical thinking.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

While no parental controls tool is perfect, this software can help reduce the likelihood of inappropriate content appearing in search results. Use tools like Google Family Link to set search restrictions and monitor your child's browsing activity.

### QUESTION AI-GENERATED CONTENT

While AI content is generated quickly and often appears legitimate, teach children that, just because an AI summary is well presented, it doesn't mean it's accurate. Encourage them to review the sources behind AI summaries and check the information with reputable sites or fact-checkers.

### IDENTIFY AND AVOID ADVERTS

One of the ways search engines generate revenue is by showing adverts to their users. Sponsored search results are labelled, but they're not always easy to spot and can sometimes be malicious. Show your child how to distinguish between paid ads and organic search results – explain why some ads might be misleading or unsafe.

### PROMOTE DIGITAL LITERACY

Encourage children to question the motivation behind online content and develop critical thinking, as not all sites can be trusted. Some deliberately misinform users in order to sell products or promote misinformation. Developing a critical mindset is one of the best defences against these tactics.

### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®



# 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

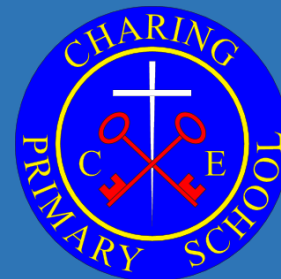
Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

# Dates for your Diary



Date	Event
<b>TERM 5</b>	
<b>8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Sports Day</b> <b>Rabbits: 9:15am</b> <b>Ducklings: 1:30pm</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Sports Day</b> <b>Badgers and Owls: 9:15am</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>Sports Day</b> <b>Woodpeckers and Foxes: 9:15am</b> <b>Squirrels and Otters: 1:30pm</b>

The North school FARM

## SPRING FAIR

SATURDAY 26TH APRIL 2025  
10AM TO 3PM

ENTRY  
£2 ADULT  
£1 CHILD

REFRESHMENTS  
BBQ

STALLS  
GAMES  
RAFFLE

SEE THE  
LAMBS!

FUN!

FUN FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY

The North School Farm   Essella Road   Ashford Kent   TN24 8AL

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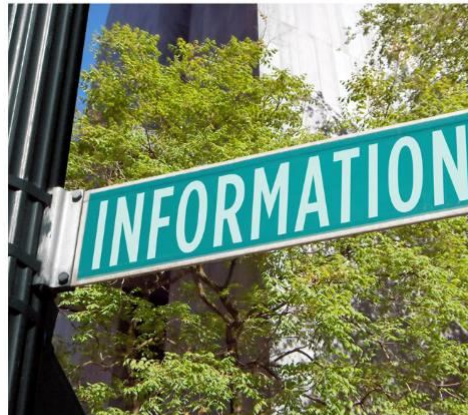
Hope





# Parent Information Sessions

## Ashford Family Hubs



### Parent Information Sessions

These sessions are for parents and carers to come along to learn about Autism and ADHD, anxiety and wellbeing, adolescence behaviour and conflict and behaviour that challenges.

**DATE:** Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025 - Adolescence behaviour and conflict (ages 10+)  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025 - Autism and ADHD  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025 - Behaviour that challenges  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 - Anxiety and Wellbeing

**TIME:** 10:00am - 12:00pm

**VENUE:** Ashford North Family Hub, Mabledon Avenue, Ashford, TN24 8BJ

email: [ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk) Follow us on Facebook or Instagram: [ashfordfamilyhubs](#)

**Visit your local Family Hub today**  
[www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub](http://www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub)



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