

# Charing CE Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter

### Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025



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Website: [www.charingschool.org.uk](http://www.charingschool.org.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CharingPrimary/>



# Attendance

Rabbits	Squirrels	Otters	Woodpeckers	Foxes	Badgers	Owls
						
96%	91%	96%	92%	94%	91%	97%
Whole School – 93%		Year to date – 93%			Target – 96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are edging ever closer to the finishing line and the end of the school year; I know I sound like a stuck record when I say I just can't believe how quickly the time has gone but I really can't! The next time I write the newsletter it will be the end of the academic year and what a great academic year it has been: I will go into more detail about the past year in my next newsletter.

This term has been nonstop with so much to squeeze in before we finish. This week and last week we welcomed in School Improvement Advisors to support the school's progress. They were delighted with the overall atmosphere and work ethic of the children and how happy they are in their classes. They were also pleased with the progress the children are making in their academic studies. I always enjoy showing visitors how brilliant our children and school are.

Today our local MP Katie Lam came to take a look around the school and to be quizzed by our Year 6 children and student council. They really gave her a grilling and enjoyed their time finding out about the impact she has had since becoming our local MP. Photos of this event can be found on our Facebook page.

This week the children also welcomed the Kent and Fire team to discuss with them the importance of fire safety and what to do in the case of an emergency. These life lessons are so important for the children in their everyday lives.

On Wednesday Miss MacMillan took 6 children to Christ Church University to celebrate the electric cars they have been making as part of their STEM project. Thanks are due to Miss MacMillan and Miss Humphries for giving up their time to ensure the children had these opportunities.

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

On Monday, a former colleague of mine now turned author, Nina Dougall came into school to lead sessions with children based on the themes of one her books. The children loved their time with Nina and were inspired by her. We certainly hope to see her again soon. Before arriving, Nina set out a writing competition for the children in Years 2 to 6. *Congratulations to Adrie, Lehumo, Ruth and Jesse who won a copy of her book.*

On Tuesday, Mrs Siddiqui and Miss Axon took children to a Rugby Festival at Ashford Rugby Club. The staff had a blast and really enjoyed their time with the children who showed great team work, effort and competitiveness together with respect throughout, for their opponents.

This week we welcomed into school the children who will be joining Rabbits and Ducklings in September. All the children thoroughly enjoyed their settling in sessions and seemed very happy. We can't wait for them to join us full time.

Next Tuesday afternoon, our students will meet the staff they'll work with next year. Parents will receive a complete staff list before the transition event. I'm pleased to announce that Miss Broadway will join as a teaching assistant in Year 3, while Mrs. O' Riordan will support Year 6 two days a week. Please join us in welcoming them to our school community.

In a related change, Mrs. Alexandra will transition to our office team in September, replacing Ms. Rehman, who will be leaving us in July to pursue full-time work. We extend our gratitude to Ms. Rehman for her hard work and dedication over the past two years and wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

Parent events are being organised this week and parents will receive the dates very soon. This is a great opportunity to join in with your child's learning. If your child is working with a new teacher in September, they will endeavour to be at the parent event and take the opportunity to meet parents.

Reports are just being finalised and will be ready to be sent out during the week beginning Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July. To ensure the smooth delivery of the reports, they will be sent out at a class at a time. This means all parents should have received their child's report by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July at the very latest.

As explained earlier this week, from next week we will be changing the drop off arrangements in preparation for September. In the morning, children in Rabbits, Squirrels, Otters and Woodpeckers should now, enter at the wooden gate outside those two classroom blocks. Children in Foxes, Badgers and Owls should still come in through the main office gate. This will be the set up for the morning drop off from September. The afternoon pick up will remain unchanged from the current arrangements.

Wow, this has been a long newsletter! What a week! I think we all need a restful weekend ready for three more weeks of hard work and excitement. I wish all of you a great weekend.

Kind regards,

Thomas Bird  
Head teacher

# PAYMENTS



## SWIMMING LESSONS FOR TERM 6

### FOXES & OWLS

#### Y4 and Y6

**Starting 3<sup>rd</sup> June till 8<sup>th</sup> July– every Tuesday (except 1<sup>st</sup> of July)**

This is under TRIPS, if you haven't made payment for your child's upcoming swimming session, we have kept payment through instalments open to be paid weekly.

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



## DUCKLINGS- RARE BREED CENTER-- 13<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 **£7.29**.

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



## RABBITS- FOLKSTONE BEACH TRIP-- 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.***



## BADGERS- SUNNY SANDS BEACH-- 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**.

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



## OWLS- THE NATIONAL ART GALLERY AND LION KING THEATRE- 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY 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 **£35**.

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



## FOXES- TURNER CONTEMPORARY-- 15<sup>TH</sup> JULY 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 **£6**.

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

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

## This week in Worship

Our focus for Worship this week has been The Lord's Prayer. Our Bible text was from Matthew's gospel Chapter 6 verse 9. We looked at the first line, 'Our Father who art in Heaven' and discussed what we thought it meant. Firstly, art is an old word for is, so we are talking about our Father who is in Heaven. Jesus taught his followers the Lord's Prayer, after they had asked for help with praying. In Matthew's Gospel it gives us his response: 'But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen.

Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. And when you pray, you do not need to use many words, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. "This, then, is how you should pray": He told them to start 'Our Father'; he used the word 'abba' which means 'daddy. But this was no ordinary earthly 'dad', but a heavenly father who knows our every need. We then wondered about the next line, 'Hallow'ed be thy name'. We agreed that our names are very important to us so God's name is very important too, in fact in the Bible he has more than one name, Father, Abba, Most High, Almighty, Lord, Yahweh. This line tells us that God's name is 'holy', which means set apart, pure or perfect.

This is a way of saying God's name is very special and should be treated with respect. God's name is very holy and Christians hold it in awe and wonder. It has to be handled with great care and we need to think about how we use it. We thought that there are times when God's name is not used carefully. We moved onto 'Your Kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in Heaven.'. We wondered what God's Kingdom would be like, small things might start off God's Kingdom, like a mustard seed. Small things make a difference. I wonder what we can do today that will make a kingdom moment.

The Bible says that in heaven there will be no more crying, no more hunger and no more hurt. I wonder what 'your will' means? Your will is what you want to happen – so God's will is God's plan. In the Lord's Prayer, this is a request in which Christians say that they want what God wants to happen. This part of the prayer reminds us that we should be living the way God wants us to live every day of our lives. We will continue with the Lord's Prayer in next week's Worship

*Dear Father God,*

*Our Father who art in Heaven, Hallow'ed be thy  
name,*

*Thy Kingdomem come, thy will be done as it is in  
Heaven.*

*Give us this day, our daily bread and forgive us our  
trespasses,*

*As we forgive those who trespass against us.*

*Lead's not into temptation, bur deliver us from evil,  
For thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory  
for ever and ever.*

*Amen.*





# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

## INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster about is **TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT NINTENDO SWITCH 2.** 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. R Golden.



## 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.

*Compassion*

*Friendship*

*Forgiveness*

*Resilience*

*Hope*



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18  
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like *Cyberpunk 2077* and *Hitman* have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

### IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

### UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like *Fortnite* or *Splatoon 4* allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

### GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

### CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

### POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, *'The Super Mario Bros. Movie'* (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

### REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

### REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#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

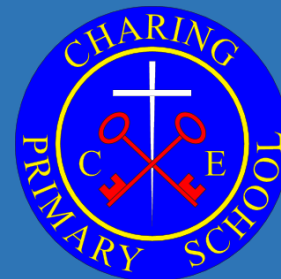
Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

# Dates for your Diary



Date	Event
<b>TERM 6</b>	
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Rabbit Trip- Folkstone Beach Badgers Trip- Sunny Sands Beach
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Woodpeckers Class Event- 2:30pm – 3:00pm
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Squirrels Class event- 2:30pm – 3:00pm PTFA AGM meeting- 3:30pm
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Owls trip – Tate Museum and Lion King
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Otters Class Event- 2:30pm -3:00pm Transition day for new Reception starters- <i>(children only)</i> 2pm to 2:45pm Student Reports to be sent home
11 <sup>th</sup> July	Rabbits Class Event- 2:30pm – 3:00pm
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Foxes Trip-Turner Contemporary
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 performance to parents- 5pm
17 <sup>th</sup> July	School disco 3:00pm – 5:45pm <i>(more information for follow)</i> Charing has Talent 1:30pm – 2:30pm Year 6 leavers BBQ 3:15pm – 5:00pm
18 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 leavers service in the church-9:15am



## Reminder:

NO Sewing Club: 1<sup>ST</sup> July – Tuesday

NO Swimming for Y4 and Y6: 2<sup>nd</sup> July -Tuesday *(as some of our Y6s are out on Transition week)*

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# JOIN US!

Information session on speech and language and general strategies.



Come along and join us in the school hall on:

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June at 2:30pm**

Our Speech and Language therapist Eve will be here to share some information with parents and answer any questions.  
Everyone is welcome!



**SATURDAY 28 JUNE 2025**  
**ASHFORD TOWN CENTRE**  
**10AM-7PM**

INCLUDING

FOOD AND DRINK STALLS — STREET THEATRE — ASHFOOD! AT ELWICK PLACE — KIDS CRAFTS  
DEMOS AND SAMPLES — GREAT ASHFORD SARNIE SEARCH TRAIL — PIZZA MAKING WORKSHOPS

# African Drumming Workshops

sign up on: [events@equatorfestival.com](mailto:events@equatorfestival.com)



## Charing

Sat June 14<sup>th</sup> 4-5pm

Sat June 28<sup>th</sup> 2-3pm

Charing Church Barn  
Market Place, TN27 0LP

## Woodchurch

Sat June 14<sup>th</sup> 2-3pm

Sat June 28<sup>th</sup> 5-6pm

Jean Mealham Pop-in Centre  
Lower Road, TN26 3SQ



The Jellycat trail is back by popular demand 🎂

To celebrate our 25th Anniversary this weekend, along with other activities such as caricature artists and African drummers, we'll be hosting our second Jellycat trail!

Head to Guest Services 26-29 June to collect your leaflet; complete the trail to enter our prize draw for a chance to win the birthday cake Jellycat. Open to all ages 🍀

Good luck 🍀

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