

Charing CE Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 12th September 2025

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	Foxes	 Badgers	Owls
						
100%	87.5%	95.1%	91.2%	93.2	95.2%	91.7 %
Whole School – 93.2		Year to date – 94.5%			Target – 96%	

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

As you know I have been very optimistic about this new academic year and the excellent start to this term has only fuelled that enthusiasm further. The dedication and effort our children have shown by embracing school life since last Tuesday has been very good indeed. I am confident that we have placed the right staff in the right positions, creating an environment where every child can truly flourish and reach their full potential.

Our Year R children deserve particular praise for the way in which they have settled into school life. I am really proud of how they have begun this chapter of their educational journey, and I am confident the positive start will continue throughout the year ahead. Their enthusiasm and adaptability have been remarkable.

As many of you will now be aware, we have undertaken extensive building work across the school during the summer holidays. This ambitious project has delivered a new Owls classroom, a modern office, and a contemporary staff room. While I had formed a clear vision of what these spaces might look like, I am delighted to report that the finished results have been better than even my highest expectations. We now benefit from an airy and spacious staff area, a purposeful and strategically positioned office, and a classroom that provides the perfect learning environment for our Year 6 children.

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

Although the building company carried out a considerable amount of skilled work, I must pay particular tribute to Mr Cooke, our site manager, for his individual contributions to the building work and his exemplary project management throughout the entire programme. He has performed a sterling job and represents one of the unsung heroes of our school community. His dedication and expertise have been instrumental in delivering these outstanding facilities.

Yesterday, several of our Year 6 children took the Kent Test, and I want to compliment them for their hard work and excellent attitude towards this important task. Their approach demonstrated the maturity and dedication we have come to expect from our oldest pupils.

I would like to take this opportunity to raise an important matter regarding children's use of mobile phones. I strongly encourage all parents to limit the amount of time your children spend on these devices. Our children need to be experiencing the real world as fully as possible during their formative years and they are simply not old enough or sufficiently mature to navigate the complex world of messaging and social media safely and appropriately. There will be plenty of time to learn these skills when they are older.

Following my request to parents on Wednesday regarding parking arrangements, I must remind everyone about the importance of being respectful when parking around our school premises. This consideration helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of all members of our community.

I am disappointed by the number of holidays children have taken since our return to school, particularly considering that families have just enjoyed a six-week break. However, I want to commend all those children who have maintained excellent attendance and are working diligently to sustain this important commitment. Attendance remains crucial for both academic progress and social development, providing the foundation upon which successful learning is built.

Please remember to book your parents' evening appointment for Wednesday 24th September, and ensure you complete the Facebook permission form if you have not already done so. These opportunities are vitally important in supporting your child's educational journey.

As we look ahead to what promises to be a wonderful year, I am only too aware that sadly we live in times when hate and fear can make our world feel like a dark place. However, there are countless great things and remarkable people in our world, and we must look deeply to see the brightness that surrounds us. This school has been a particularly bright place during these first two weeks of term, and I am determined that this positive spirit will continue throughout the year ahead.

Have a lovely weekend.

Tom Bird

Head Teacher

This week in worship

In this week's Worship we have been looking at the Old Testament of the Bible, with a focus on Joshua from Joshua's book of the Bible, Chapter 1 verses 1-9. Joshua had great faith in God and displayed values of trust, loyalty and faith. We wondered what trust meant to us, who we trusted and why. Joshua helped Moses lead the Israelites slavery from Egypt, they wandered around in the desert waiting to enter into the land that God had promised them for 40 years. Moses and Joshua trusted in God even when things seemed too difficult. I wonder if it was easy for Moses and Joshua to keep trusting in God, even after wandering in the desert for 40 years? It can be hard to trust God, but I wonder if there is anything we might want to put our trust in God for Strength! Courage! Don't be timid; don't get discouraged. God, your God, is with you every step you take. After the death of Moses the LORD said to Joshua: "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua: "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. . As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. After the death of Moses, the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua: "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. Then they answered Joshua, "Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. Just as we fully obeyed Moses, so we will obey you". Joshua was able to lead the Israelites to freedom when the River Jordan opened up so they could walk through it. God had kept his promise; Joshua's trust, loyalty and faith in him had given him the courage to lead God's people to freedom.

I wonder...how Joshua and the people felt when they stood in the dry river. Did you know ... It says in the Bible 365 times 'Do not worry'. That's one for every day of the year! I wonder how this promise makes you feel.



Dear Father God

*Please give me strength when I am weak,
love when I feel forsaken,
courage when I am afraid,
wisdom when I feel foolish,
comfort when I am alone, hope when I
feel rejected,
and peace when I am in turmoil.*

Amen.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster about is [10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BUILD EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE](#) 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



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 (Pedestrian gate).

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.

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope



Parents Evening is NOW LIVE! 24th September 2025 3:30 – 7:30

Please log onto the MCAS app and book a time slot for your child/children.

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 £3.05

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.

RECEPTION CLASS 2026

OPEN DAY

Friday 31st October 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30

Friday 7th November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30

Thursday 13th November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30

Friday 21st November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30

Thursday 27th November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30



TERM 1

From 5 th September...	Bookings for parent's evening are opened from 1:30pm on MYCAS
24 th September	Parents Evening 3:30pm to 7:30pm
2 nd October	Individual Photographs
30 th September	Kingswood installment is due

What's on in and around Ashford

THE NORTH SCHOOL WELCOMES YEAR 6 STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES



THE NORTH SCHOOL



Year 6 Open Mornings will take place over two weeks as follows:

Monday 22nd September to Friday 26th September 2025

Monday 29th September to Friday 3rd October 2025

There will be two tours available each day at 9.20am and 10.45am

Only one parent and one child per family are requested to attend

Please book your place via email at tns-openmorningbookings@swale.at

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Ashford Family Hubs Timetable

8th September 2025 - 17th October 2025

All of our groups and services are free to attend.

NEW

Stanhope Family Hub Coming soon

Our Family Hubs:

**Ashford North
Family Hub**
03000 417567
Mabledon Avenue
Ashford
TN24 8BJ

**Bockhanger
Family Hub**
03000 418600
Belmont Road
Kennington
Ashford
TN24 9LS

**Tenterden
Family Hub**
03000 418400
Recreation Ground
Road
Tenterden
TN30 6RA

Email: ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Ashford North

Sports Connect
Monday
5.30pm - 7.00pm

Baby Steps
Pre-walkers only
Thursday
10.00am - 11.30am

Talking Walk In
1.00pm - 2.30pm
2nd Tuesday of the Month
Starting October 2025

**Breastfeeding
Support**
Thursday
10.00am - 11.30am

Invite Only
**Compass Wellbeing
Group**
Wednesday
3.30pm - 5.30pm

BeYou Project
Thursday
5.00pm - 6.30pm

Booking Only
**Includes Us Too
Youth Group**
Wednesday
6.00pm - 8.00pm
To book email:
info@includesus2.org.uk

Invite Only
**Compass Resilience
Group**
Friday
3.30pm - 5.30pm

Please Note: Signing in will not be available until 10 minutes before the session starts.

Bockhanger

Talking Walk In
9.30am - 11.00am
4th Monday of the Month
Not 26th October 2025

Baby Steps
Pre-walkers only
Monday
1.30pm - 3.00pm
**Please note not running on
1st Monday of the month**

Stay and Play
Tuesday
9.30am - 11.00am

Booking Only
Little Bookworms
Friday
10.00am - 11.00am

www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub

Tenterden

Child Health Clinic
Monday
9.30am - 12.30pm
Last admission 12.15pm

Baby Steps
Pre-walkers only
Tuesday
12.30pm - 2.00pm

Stay and Play
Wednesday
10.00am - 11.30am

Talking Walk In
1.00pm - 2.30pm
26th November 2025

Mildred Trust Larder
Friday
9.30am - 10.30am

Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council



Ashford Family Hubs Timetable

8th September 2025 - 17th October 2025

All of our groups and services are free to attend.

NEW

Stanhope Family Hub Coming soon

Our Family Hubs:

**The Willow
Family Hub**
03000 418800
Halstow Way
Ashford
TN23 4EY

**Waterside
Family Hub**
03000 418700
Turner Close
Willesborough
TN24 0PQ

Email: ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

The Willow

Booking Only
Little Bookworms
Monday
1.00pm - 2.00pm

**Parent Advice
Drop In**
10.00am - 11.30am
Last Thursday of the Month

Stay and Play
Wednesday
9.30am - 10.30am
or 11.00am - 12.00pm

Baby Steps
Pre-walkers only
Thursday
12.30pm - 2.00pm

Booking Only
Introducing Solids
9.45am - 11.30am **or**
1.30pm - 2.30pm
2nd Wednesday of the Month

Child Health Clinic
Friday
9.30am - 12.30pm
Last admission 12.15pm

Talking Walk In
9.30am - 11.00am
1st Thursday of the Month

Talking Walk In
1.30pm - 3.00pm
3rd Friday of the Month

SEND Stay and Play
10.00am - 11.30am
2nd Thursday of the Month

Please Note: Signing in will not be available until 10 minutes before the session starts.

Waterside

Child Health Clinic
Monday
12.30pm - 2.30pm
Last admission 2.15pm

Stay and Play
Thursday
9.30am - 10.30am
or 11.00am - 12.00pm

Invite Only
**Compass Healthy
Relationships**
Monday
3.30pm - 5.30pm

**Young Parents
Stay and Play**
Friday
10.00am - 11.30am

Baby Steps
Pre-walkers only
Tuesday
1.30pm - 3.00pm

Talking Walk In
1.00pm - 2.30pm
3rd Wednesday of the Month

**Stanhope Parish Hall
TN23 5TG**
**Moat Housing Baby and
Toddler Group**
Friday
12.00pm - 2.00pm

www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub

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Ashford Family Hubs

Timetable

8th September 2025 - 17th October 2025

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Our Family Hubs:

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Stanhope Family Hub Coming soon

Ashford North Family Hub
03000 417567
Mabledon Avenue
Ashford
TN24 8BJ

The Willow Family Hub
03000 418800
Halstow Way
Ashford
TN23 4EY

Waterside Family Hub
03000 418700
Turner Close
Willesborough
Ashford
TN24 0PQ

Email: ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Adult Education Courses

Booking Only

Supporting Teens Mental Health

Ashford North Family Hub
Wednesday 17th September
10am - 12pm

Booking Only

Exploring Behaviour Strategies

The Willow Family Hub
Tuesday 14th November
1.00pm - 3pm

Booking Only

Supporting Your Child's Anxiety

Online Via Zoom
Wednesday 5th November
12.30pm - 2.30pm

Booking Only

Confident Parent Confident Child

Waterside Family Hub
Wednesday 26th November
9.30am - 11.30am

To book your place on one of these **FREE** Kent Adult Education courses please contact:

Email: ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Call: 03000 418600

Go Online: KAE Family Learning

Please Note: Signing in will not be available until 10 minutes before the session starts.

Parenting Courses

Booking Only

Baby, Family and You

Using Triple P
The Willow Family Hub
TN23 4EY
Wednesday 17th September to
Wednesday 5th November
10.00am - 12.00pm

Booking Only

Solihull Parenting

The Willow Family Hub
TN23 4EY
Thursday 2nd October -
11th December
9.30am - 11.30am

Booking Only

Strengthening Family Relationships

Ashford North Family Hub
Monday 22nd September
10.30am - 12.30pm
The Willow Family Hub
Thursday 20th November
10.00am - 12.30pm

www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub

Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council

Health

Hothfield Village Hall TN26 1EG

Child Health Clinic
Tuesday
9.30am - 12.00pm
Last admission 11.45am

Ashford Gateway TN23 1AS

Breastfeeding Clinic
Wednesday
9.30am - 12.30pm

Booking Only

Ready For Baby

A free session for parents to be offered expert NHS advice, led by your local Health Visiting Team.

Book your place at:
family.kentcht.nhs.uk/baby
or ask your Health Visitor.

Information on our groups and sessions



Drop In

Child Health Clinic

Come along with your baby/child to speak to one of the Health Visiting Team, for information, advice and support, any worries or concerns you may have. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the end of the session. These run throughout the school holidays.

Drop In

Baby Steps

A group for pre-walkers, supporting your baby to make independent choices and respond to new experiences. Providing sensory experience and new textures to investigate. Introducing different themes and ideas to support adult and child bonding/interaction. **Limited numbers**

Drop In

Stay and Play

Enjoy free play activities to support your child's development including active movement, singing and socialising. Suitable for children aged 0-4 years with their parents/carers. **Limited numbers**

Drop In

Young Parents Stay and Play

This group for young parent aged 19 and under (up to 25 with SEND), provides support, advice, activities and information on a variety of subjects tailored to your needs. You can attend antenatally and postnatally and bring someone to support you.

Booking Only

Baby Massage

A 5 week course suitable for babies from 8 weeks until crawling. Parents learn a new set of massage strokes to perform on their baby, each week. Parents learn the benefits of baby massage including helping baby relax and sleep better, alleviating colic, and constipation as well as bonding with their baby. Dates will be shared after registering interest

Drop In

SEND Stay and Play

This group is for pre-school children aged 0-4 years with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Enjoy free play activities to support your child's development, singing and socialising. Your child does not have to have a diagnosis to attend.

11th September 2025
9th October 2025
13th November 2025
11th December 2025

Drop In

Parent Advice Drop In

A group to help you with understanding your child's needs, tips and strategies to help at home, signposting to local SEND support services and getting the best from your child's education.

25th September 2025
30th October 2025
27th November 2025

Booking Only

Introducing Solids

A Face to Face session (no siblings please) which is aimed to support you in preparation for starting solid food from around 6 months old.

10th September 2025
8th October 2025
12th November 2025
10th December 2025

To book: call 03000 418800 or email: ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Drop In

Breast Feeding Support

Breast feeding support is available by a member of the Health Visiting Team.

Wednesday - Gateway Ashford
9.30am - 12.30pm

Thursday - Ashford North Family Hub
10.00am - 11.30am

Drop In

Little Bookworms

A short 3 week programme for 1-4 year olds. Step into the magical world of books! Each week is themed around a well-loved story focussing on positive interaction and communication. A reading gift will be given on completion of the three sessions. To book please call: 03000 418600

Booking Only

Solihull Parenting

A 10 week face to face parenting course aimed at anyone with a child over 1. The programme is designed to help parents and carers understand their children's behaviour and emotional needs. This course can also be adapted for children with SEND.

Healthy Start Vitamins

Are you eligible for Healthy Start Vitamins?

If so, complete this form to order Healthy Start Vitamins to your door.



Free for 2

Some 2 year olds can get up to 15 hours of free childcare per week!

For more information and how to apply:



Useful Contact Numbers:

Health Visitor
0300 123 3092

Midwife
ekhuft.ashfordmidwives@nhs.net

Please Note:

For Health and Safety please note: there are room capacity limits in place.

For more information about opening times give your local Family Hub a call

@ashfordfamilyhubs



@ashfordfamilyhubs



@ashfordfamilyhubs11to19



www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub

Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council

Compassion

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Information on our groups and sessions



Drop In

BeYou Project

Porchlight runs the BeYou Project to support LGBTQ+ young people to ensure they feel included, have positive mental health and a bright future. BeYou strives to promote allyship, helping to create an environment where everyone can be themselves.

For more information please email:
beyou@prochlight.org.uk or
ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Invite Only

Includes Us Too

A youth group for young people aged 14-25 with SEND. Make friends and enjoy fun together.
Numbers are limited.

For more information and to book please email:
info@includesus2.org.uk

Booking Only

Strengthening Family Relationships

For families who find themselves in conflict for a variety of reasons, facing new triggers such as money or debt, a new baby, unemployment, relationships with wider family, family breakdown, health and/or mental wellbeing issues and more.

To book please visit:
<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/kent-family-hub>

Invite Only

Compass Groups

This group is for 11-19 (25 SEND) for young people to support their emotional wellbeing, and build self esteem and confidence. The group meets in a calm and accessible environment and the young people have time within the session to practice what they have learnt.

For more information please email:
ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Referral Only

Little Talkers

A 6 week course for parents/carers and their children, to learn new techniques along with useful hints and tips for developing speech. During these sessions there will be focussed 'fun' activities for parents/carers to do with their child as well as some group time to improve listening skills and turn taking.

Suitable for parents and their children aged 2-5 years.

Drop In

Talking Walk In

For pre-school children and their parent. You can speak to a speech and language therapist with your child, if you have concerns with their speech. They will provide you with advice and ideas, signpost you to other services or refer you to their service. Runs at different Hubs throughout the Month.

Booking Only

Baby Family and You

This is a 4 week course to help you understand your baby's cues, promote social and cognitive development, learn strategies to cope with crying. This positive parenting programme uses the content of Triple P for Baby.

To book please call: 03000 418700

Drop In

Sports Connect

Multi sport with coaches from Sports Connect.
For ages 11 - 19 years old.

@ashfordfamilyhubs



@ashfordfamilyhubs



@ashfordfamilyhubs11to19



Healthy Start Vitamins

Are you eligible for Healthy Start Vitamins?

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Useful Contact Numbers:

Health Visitor
0300 123 3092
Midwife
ekhft.ashfordmidwives@nhs.net

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For Health and Safety please note there are room capacity limits in place.

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THE NORTON
KNATCHBULL
SCHOOL



To register:

<https://forms.office.com/e/UJnFXkrWyk>

Open Events

Y6 Event Schedule

Tuesday, 7th
October

Open Mornings (9:15 to 10:30am)

This will consist of speeches in the Hall, followed by a tour with our Y8 students.

Thursday, 9th
October

For further information please see our prospectus: [Y7 Prospectus 2025](#)

Hythe Road, Ashford TN24 0QJ

Tel: 01233 620045 Web: www.nks.kent.sch.uk



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