



CHARSFIELD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Executive Headteacher: Mr Mark Taylor
Head of School— Mrs Amie Reeve

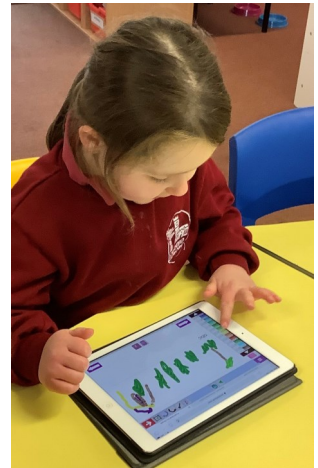
School News – February 2022



CLASS 1

This term our topic is 'Farming' and we have begun by exploring how we get food and where it comes from finding out that not all the food we eat, such as pineapples, do not grow in the UK. We have looked at where various foods grow and how we get these foods not grown in the UK transported to us.

Within the food topic we have looked at animals we may find on a farm and why farmers have them; what do they provide us with? The children have found out



what we can get from certain animals, and that some produce, such as milk, can then be turned into other products such as cheese. In history next half term we are going to look how farming has changed over the years and we are hoping to organise a visit to Easton Farm Park later on in the Spring Term.

Alongside this the children have been learning about Self-portraits in art and focusing their work on Picasso. Children in Class 1 have been learning about Pablo Picasso in their art lessons. They had a go at designing their own surreal portrait in a similar style with some great results. Picasso photo

The children have been learning how to use a computer. Year 1/2 have been working on Purple Mash developing our skills of using a mouse and navigating the computer using this. They have created their own stories, which include drawings and writing. We extended our stories by adding in sound and animation. The reception children have been playing games, colouring in and drawing pictures using touch screen equipment. The children then moved onto creating their own stories using the touch screen equipment and they too have added in animation and sound to their stories.

In Thursday PE the children have been learning about defending and working together as a team. The children have played various games to develop defence strategies and have made really good progress in their individual skills and team work. On a Friday afternoon the children have been learning about dance. The children have learnt to sequence movements together, some more difficult than others, and to perform it to their peers.

On Friday 4th February the whole school had a maths morning. In Class 1 we learnt about symmetry and made our own butterflies to create a symmetrical pattern on each wing. The children thoroughly enjoyed this. Alongside our maths morning the children practised their times tables using TT Rockstars and had a competition between each other. We had a really fun morning.

We are really looking forward to next half term.

Miss Sayer & Mrs Smith



CLASS 2

Class 2 have had a great start to 2022. We began by planning and writing our very own stories based on The Three Little Pigs and The Big bad Wolf. The children were very imaginative in their thinking coming up with characters from sharks to sheep dogs! They wrote their stories and presented them beautifully as proper books with chapters.

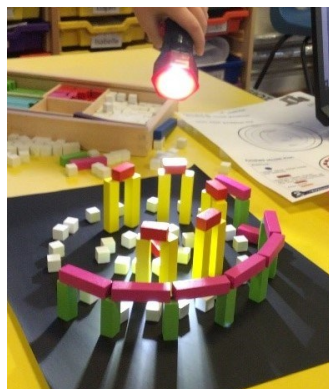
We are enjoying reading The BFG by Roald Dahl. We have written some super descriptive recounts of the opening chapter and will be using the story next term to write newspaper reports.

In maths we have been getting to grips with fractions and using our tables and division facts to help us calculate fractions of quantities. We have explored the way in which equivalent fractions are generated and found some interesting patterns. TT

Rockstars is really helping to embed all the times tables we have been learning since September.

In our history lessons we have been learning about the Stone Age. We began by making a timeline to set this period into the wider context of British history and looked at how it is subdivided into distinct ages. We looked at how hunter gatherers survived in Stone Age Britain by using assets provided by their natural environment. We also explored the style of Stone Age cave art and had a go at drawing some of the animals using similar techniques.

We took a virtual tour around Stonehenge and explored different theories about how and why it was built. We then used a plan of Stonehenge to reconstruct it using coloured blocks. Finally, we used a torch to illustrate the



sun as it rises and casts shadows either side of the stones. It was great fun!

We are all very excited to be performing at Snape Maltings on Tuesday 8th March and hope that as many of you can come and watch as possible. Keep practising those songs!

Hope you have a lovely half term break.

Mrs Merry.



Dates for your diary

- Monday 28th February—Pupils return to school
- Tuesday 1st March—Pancake Day
- Thursday 3rd March—World Book Day
- Friday 4th March—Class 1 Pupils start swimming every week
- Tuesday 8th March—Class 2 & 3 Snape Music Celebration Day and Performance at 7pm
- Thursday 7th April—Pupils last day in school
- Friday 8th April PD Day
- Mon 11th April—Friday 22nd April—Easter Holidays
- Monday 25th April—pupils return back into school
- Monday 2nd May—May Bank Holiday
- Wednesday 4th May—Individual and Year 6 Photographs in school
- Friday 27th May—pupils last day in school



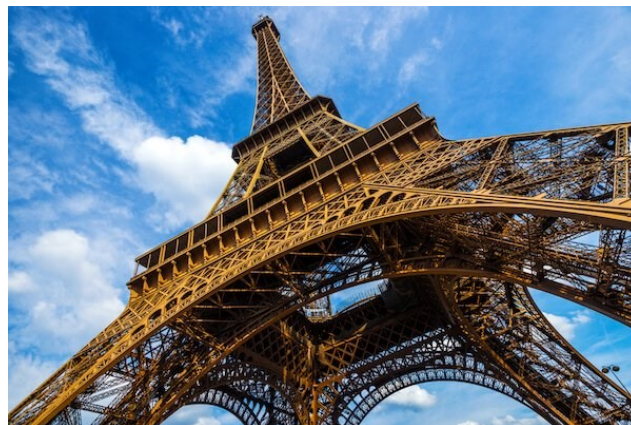
CLASS 3

Class 3 have had a busy half term and I've been so proud of how they've all coped during the changes of the past few weeks.

In maths we've been getting to grips with fractions and their relation to decimals and percentages. We still have a bit more to do after half term before moving on to measurement and geometry.

In history, pupils have been learning about the Titanic and how the disaster has influenced changes to travelling on the sea now. The pupils have really engaged with this topic and enjoyed learning about it.

In literacy we have written our own short stories – there are some very impressive writers among the children! We have also been looking at the art of persuasion and how to write our own persuasive information leaflet about the city of Paris. Next term we will be looking at what it's like to live in Norway and use this information to write a letter to a friend describing what it is like. Sticking to the holiday theme, we will be imagining what horrors could happen on holiday and write a formal letter of complaint about it!



In music the children have been working hard learning their songs for Snape and we are looking forward to sharing this experience with the children's families on 8th March.

Our science lessons have involved looking at how we can help endangered species and what we can do to reduce our impact on the environment. After the half term, we will be looking further into evolution and features we inherit from our parents and ancestors.

Class 3 have been given a little bit of homework for the half term holidays (spellings, TT Rockstars, reading for the reading challenge and free writing) and I look forward to seeing them after the break.

Mrs Reeve

THE LIGHTHOUSE WOMENS REFUGE

Thank you to you and everyone at Charsfield Primary School for your kind donation of £80.00, and the wonderful Christmas gift donations that were given to Lighthouse in December 2021. Support from our local community really does make a difference to the help we can provide to those that need it.

As you know Lighthouse is a local, independent charity and in the current situation it is a huge challenge to ensure we are there to provide the support that is so desperately needed. Support from local businesses, community groups and individuals, are really important to enable Lighthouse to sustain and develop our services not just now but going forward.

Thank you again for your support of our organisation, we take great pride in our mission and accomplishments, and with your help we can continue to support those in need.

Yours sincerely
Deborah Johnson
Business Coordinator
The Lighthouse

Lighthouse

A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE HEAD

COVID UPDATE

Thank you all for your support during the recent COVID outbreak. Even though we have had a lot of infections, the school has managed to stay open due to the hard work of the staff, and the fact so many cases were caught early by vigilant parents. I know the staff really value parent's support and I very much hope that no one in your families have been affected too badly.



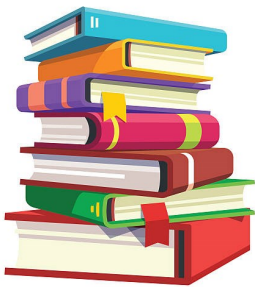
CURRICULUM REVIEW

The school is reviewing its curriculum and we would like to hear parents' views. A short questionnaire has gone out to parents so please take a few minutes to complete it and return to your child's class teacher by Wednesday 2nd March. I will be talking to the children after half term to gain their views as well, before publishing our updated curriculum in the summer term.

I thank you in advance.

Mr Taylor (Executive Headteacher - Charsfield and Fressingfield C of E Primary Schools)

READING CHALLENGE AND LIBRARY UPDATE



We are currently in the process of updating the library and it has been a joy to hear squeals of delight when pupils go into the library to choose their books! We are hopeful that the library should be up and running to full capacity in the next few weeks.

We've been so pleased with the uptake for the Reading Challenge and the enthusiasm that the children are showing towards their reading. Thank-you so much for support in listening to the children read at home, it makes a huge difference to their progress. Did you know that listening to your child read and reading to your child has many benefits? Some benefits include: an increase in fluency, it can help to improve concentration, improve vocabulary, help to

strengthen the understanding between spoken and written language, helps to strengthen skills in writing and provides enjoyment. Any reading can be included in the Reading Challenge, please record whatever you are able to do in your child's Jungle Reading Record (Class 1) or Yellow Reading Record (Class 2 and 3). Many thanks for your continued support.

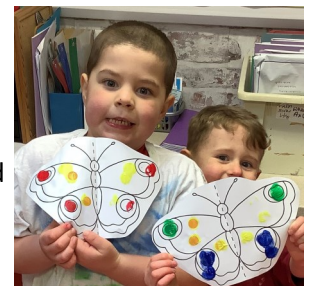
Mrs Reeve

NSPCC MATHS DAY



In early February, the school held a maths day along with other schools in the Trust. Pupils in all classes played TT Rockstars and it was wonderful to have some pupils who were at home learning, take part too. First place for each class was awarded to: Lola, Geraint and Theo. 2nd place went to: Liam, Tilly and Luna and 3rd place was awarded to: Thomas, Elliot and George.

In Class 1 pupils learned about symmetry and produced some lovely art work based upon their findings. In class two pupils investigated perimeter and in class three pupils attempted an escape room challenge where they had to solve the clues to escape. We had a wonderful day focusing on maths. A big well done to all those who took part.





THE FRIENDS OF CHARFIELD SCHOOL (FoCS)

I want to start by saying that I am sorry that things have all been a bit quiet again on the F.O.C.S. PTA front. Sadly we have been restricted from meeting or holding events again this half term due to the pandemic, but with the talk of everything easing and opening up I am hopeful that we can start planning some events

soon.

I would like to give everybody an update on the Outdoor Play Equipment that we all fundraised hard for. Thanks to everybody's kind support and donations we have been able to book the company to replace/mend the A-frame and the Monkey Bars in the outside play area. This is all looking to be done at the start of April so the children will be able to enjoy this in the Summer Term.

Looking forward I am hoping that we can soon arrange a meeting to plan some exciting and fun fundraising events, especially with Mother's Day and Easter coming up this next half term.

We will also be holding a sale of children's DVD's after the Half Term holiday. These have kindly been donated by Mrs Butcher to sell to raise some funds for the school. We would like to say thank you to Mrs Butcher for all the hard work and support that that she has given F.O.C.S. PTA over the years. We are sad to say goodbye, but wish you all the best for your new venture.

Have a great half term.

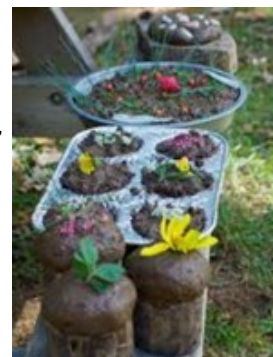
Kat Jeffery (Harry's Mum) Chair of FoCS

FOREST SCHOOL



Are you spring cleaning or having a de-clutter? If so our Forest School area would benefit from any old kitchen wear, metal or wooden for preference, such as wooden spoons or cake tins. We would also be grateful for old buckets, towels and blankets. All items are likely to have a hard life so nothing that has value or that you would want returned.

Thank you - Mrs Foster



PANCAKE DAY

We have a special pancake day menu on Tuesday 1st March - for a pudding your child will be able to choose a pancake on the day with a choice of Ice Cream or Golden Syrup. All other mains and pudding options will be the same on this day. Although we do have visitors in school and activities planned, we are planning to have some pancake races on the Wednesday—Weather permitting! If you're able to send in an old frying pan and a couple of pancakes please that would be fantastic.

TT ROCKSTARS FOR PUPILS IN YR.S 1-6

Our TT Rockstars log in has changed. We now have our own school page: Charsfield VC Primary (changed from Dennington CEVCP School). When logging in at home select change school if you have Dennington School saved on your computer, otherwise search for Charsfield VC Primary when logging in. Pupils' personal log in details remain the same and their profiles have been transferred across. If there are any problems logging in please speak to Mrs Reeve.

Our next term's Values for Life themes are: Peace and Service



Available Clubs



Days / Dates	Times	Name of club	Session Cost	Club Leader	How to book in
Daily (Mon-Fri)	8am to 9am	Breakfast Club	£2.50 for the first child — £2.25 for additional siblings	Mrs Crane	With the club leader/ school office on an ad-hoc basis
Monday	3.15pm to 5.15pm	Cookery Club (Includes food to take home & a snack)	£6.50 per child	Mrs Hood and Mrs Crane	Please sign up for the half term with the relevant form from reception
Tuesday	3.15pm to 5.15pm	Crafts After School Club (Includes a snack)	£6.50 per child	Mrs Hood	With the club leader/ school office on an ad-hoc basis
Wednesday	3.15pm to 5.15pm	Cookery Club (Includes food to take home & a snack)	£6.50 per child	Mrs Hood and Mrs Smith	Please sign up for the half term with the relevant form from reception
Thursday	3.15pm to 5.15pm	Basketball Club (No food is provided please send children with a snack / drink)	FREE to all pupils as funded by our PE Premium	Premier Sport	With the school office on an ad-hoc basis
Friday	3.15pm to 4.30pm	Dodgeball Club - (No food is provided please send children with a snack / drink)	FREE to all pupils as funded by our PE Premium	Premier Sport	With the school office on an ad-hoc basis

Booking For Clubs

To book in for Breakfast or After School Clubs please speak to Mrs Crane or our admin in the office. Please try to book ahead where at all possible as this helps with organising resources for the clubs. We are aware that situations do happen that necessitate adding your child at late notice. Please do let us know if anyone other than normal guardians are due to collect your child from a club.

Arbor Parent Payment System

We do hope that you have find the new Arbor Parent Payment system fairly easy. Dinner are added to the system daily. Any clubs are added to the system the week following the clubs being taken. Other payments for trips / uniform are added on as and when taken.

Could we politely ask you to log into the Arbor system and clear your child's payment during the Half Term break.

If you have any issues with logging in, please do speak to our admin who will be able to help you.



BIG THANK YOU FROM MRS BUTCHER

I'm just going to take this sneaky opportunity to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to all of the fabulous, pupils, parents, staff and governors that have made me feel so loved and cherished this week. I have been overwhelmed by the lovely and thoughtful cards, messages and gifts that you've all showered me with.

Leaving the school has been a really hard decision to make, as I know that I'll miss you all desperately. Especially the little people that pass my office or come and see me to share what they've earned their buttons for (house points), that they really liked their dinner today or just to tell me their news. Some try to sneak past my office without being seen on the way to the toilet and are amazed



at my beady eye spotting them.

It's been a pleasure working with you all over the last 6 ½ years and watching the pupils growing and learning. I will miss you all dreadfully, along with any opportunity to get dressed up (something that sadly I won't get much chance to do where I'm going).

I hope to come back and see you all for anything that I can get myself invited to. Take care and keep smiling – Mrs Butcher. X

WORLD BOOK DAY

This year, World Book Day is Thursday 3rd March and we would like to have a morning of sharing books and stories with the children. On this day pupils can come to school dressed as their favourite book or film character, but please bear in mind that on this day we also have PE in the afternoon so pupils will need to bring their PE kits to school to change into. Please can pupils be able to change their costume easily as we don't have enough adults to help with bows and tricky costumes! If all items of clothing are named then lost items can be returned to the owner. On this day we have a special lunch menu, should your child wish to partake they can order on the day as normal.

AFTER SCHOOL AND BREAKFAST CLUBS

Due to the popularity of Cookery Club, we made the move to offer 2 of these clubs a week, now on a Monday and a Wednesday. We have had a great first half term in After School Club - In Cookery Club we have been focussing on cooking whole meals and have cooked lots of yummy things. In Tuesday's Craft Club we have enjoyed making lots of fabulous things—the following are the crafts that we have planned for the next half term.

- Week 1 – Q tip flowers
- Week 2 – Spiral Nails
- Week 3 – Paper Flower and Vase
- Week 4 – Animal Paper Chain
- Week 5 – Hand Tree
- Week 6 – Flower Tissue Craft



Please do book in ahead of time; where possible with either myself or the school admin; for the sessions that your child might like to allow me to source the resources. Wishing you a great half term holiday.

Mrs Hood (After School Club Leader)