



CHARSFIELD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Church Road, Charsfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 7QB

Telephone: 01473 737347 Email: office@charsfield.suffolk.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Dr Paul Parslow-Williams (Mr Williams)

Head of School— Mrs Amie Reeve

School News – March 2021

Class 2



First of all I would like to express a huge thanks to all the parents of Class 2 who have supported their children magnificently throughout this second lockdown period.

The basis of our literacy this term has been on the Ancient Egyptians. The children wrote some fabulous stories based on a book by Shirley Climo called 'Egyptian Cinderella'. We began by comparing it with the traditional story of Cinderella and then set about changing various aspects of the Egyptian version to plan and write our own.

We also learnt about the life of the Ancient Egyptian King Tutankhamun and then used our research to help us write a short biography of his life.

The children also learnt about the importance of the River Nile in terms of providing fertile land for crops, for trade and transport, and for providing raw materials for items like paper, bricks and clothes. The information was then presented as a poster.

On our first day back after lockdown we carried out a pretend mummification on Logan! After taking out his brains using a metal hook, we then removed his organs, stuffed him with natron, then wrapped him up in linen! I think you'd agree he made a very good mummy! We then had some fun singing the song 'We will make a mummy out of you'!

In maths we have been continuing to focus on our tables and have found some great songs online to help us with the 6 and 7 times table.

Since being back at school, we have been able to come together again for music. The children in Class 2 and 3 have been learning some uplifting sea shanties, including one called 'The Wellerman' which has proved to be a real hit! We have had fun adding some 'cup' percussion too!

In art, Class 2 & 3 have been focussing on the work of an Austrian artist called Gustav Klimt. With Mrs Crane, the children learnt about the way in which Klimt used pattern to build up his designs. Within the outline of a famous piece by Klimt, the children drew their own patterns which they then collaged using a variety of shiny papers. The results were stunning as you can see in the photo on the right.



Mrs Merry

Class 1



Well, I didn't think I would be sitting here at the end of the Spring Term looking back on another term where we experienced home learning again, especially at such short notice. A huge thanks goes to parents and children for their support, enthusiasm and perseverance as we all know how tough it was at times. We are very pleased to have welcomed the children back to school and to see all their smiley faces in person again. They all settled back into school as if they were never away and are thrilled to be back with their friends. This term we also welcomed George to Class 1, who has settled into school really well.

This term has been about Dinosaurs and at home the children set off at full speed learning about different dinosaurs creating a non-fiction book. They had to research different dinosaurs and add information to their books. They also included a contents page and a glossary, the pupils have shared their books in school with their friends. They were beautiful and the information included was amazing. They have all worked very hard on these. During the lockdown the children learnt about creating short stories on the computer through Purple Mash. I think it is safe to say they all thoroughly enjoyed this, learning valuable computer skills. The children also enjoyed reading their friend's stories at home too.

During lockdown we were blessed with snow. The children had a lot of fun playing and building, making lots of wonderful memories. During this time, we focused on acrostic poems. The children created some beautiful poems about the snow and other objects related to it. Back at school the children have enjoyed learning about books by the same author, focusing on character descriptions and story writing. We enjoyed World Book Day and Share a Biscuit, Share a Story.

In maths KS1 children have learnt about handling data, shapes, repeating patterns and revisiting addition and subtraction in lockdown and since being back they have learnt about symmetry and fractions. The children have done very well in with this. In Maths this term the Red Group have been learning about using numbers up to 10, measuring - capacity, height, length and time, as well as recapping 2D shape ready to start learning about 3D shape. Whilst at home they have worked incredibly hard and have continued their learning back in school seamlessly. Well done to all of you for your hard work!

During lockdown we carried on with our foundation subjects. In science we learnt about how we hear sound and ran a few small experiments at home. In geography the children learnt about the 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world through Go Jettors, which they really enjoyed. In school we have continued this and looked at landmarks each continent is famous for. We have been focusing on artwork from Gustav Klimt looking at the various patterns the artist uses to create their work. The children replicated it through their own artwork. In history children have been learning about their family trees. The children have really enjoyed this, as we also looked at what home and school looked like for their grandparents when they were at school. The children found this very fascinating. In DT we have been learning about T-Rex and how scientists have found new information about them and how they look. The children found this fascinating and as a class we recreated a junk model version of T-Rex based on the scientific evidence. Through this the children explored different ways to join materials together and how to make parts move.



Since being back at school the children have also taken part in a couple of competitions. We have planted potatoes, which we will harvest in the summer and create some delicious food. The children have also been making a Julia Donaldson themed scarecrow for the front of the school for the Suffolk Library Scarecrow Trail. Class 1 have made the Gruffalo and I think you would agree he looks amazing! We have also enjoyed Forest Schools for the last few weeks of the term. The children have enjoyed making grass heads, cooking, making dens etc.

We have had a very busy fun term and very much looking forward to the Summer term. Have a restful break.

Miss Sayer & Mrs Smith

Class 3

For the majority of the Spring term, Class 3 learned from home. But we didn't let that stop us from working hard and meeting daily (online of course!) for our learning. Although this was unexpected, the pupils worked really hard and should be proud of their achievements.

Here are just a few things that Class 3 got up to in the Spring term:

As part of our science based topic, pupils made discoveries about different inventions and technologies throughout history. Some were simple inventions such as a spoon, to more complicated ones such as an electric toaster. The children thoroughly enjoyed this work and shared some wonderful discoveries in our daily online lessons. In our science at home, as part of our materials topic pupils had the opportunity to make plastic from vinegar and milk!

In literacy we looked at poetry and shared the Highway Man by Alfred Noyes. Although a sad poem, pupils enjoyed reading and discussing this poem. The next poem we looked at was a modern poem by Kit Wright called The Magic Box. Pupils were inspired to write their own Magic Box poems and I think we gave Kit Wright a run for his money!

Since returning to school on 8th March, the pupils have been learning about a Mission to Mars and studied the Mars Rover footage from February. Pupils were challenged to think about the different items they would take for a manned mission to Mars in the future. There were some interesting choices and a lot of debate too! This has complemented our science topic this term of Space where we have been learning about the planets and our solar system. As it's such a short half term, we will continue with our space theme in science after the Easter holidays.

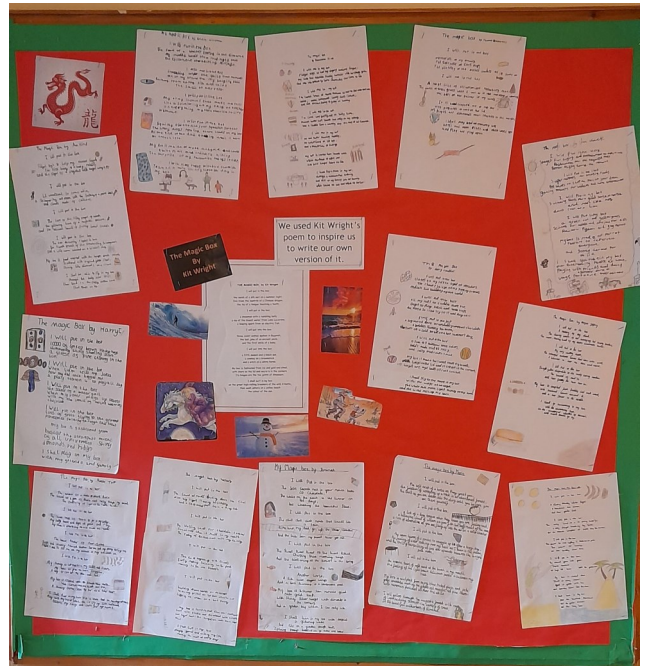
In literacy, continuing with the theme of space and inventions, we have learned about the genre of science fiction and, with the help of Dr Who, we have been writing our own sci-fi stories in literacy.

In maths pupils have been getting to grips with fractions, decimals and percentages as well as focusing on the four operations and written methods. They have worked incredibly hard and I am very proud of them all as the maths this term has been a challenge!

Finally a BIG thank-you from me to all the parents and adults who have supported the school during this period. Your continued support has been much appreciated by all of the staff.

I wish you all a restful Easter break and look forward to seeing you all in April.

Mrs Reeve.



Dear Parents and Carers,

I wrote to you recently to let you know the plans for the executive leadership of our school and the time has now come for me to hand over the reins to Mr Taylor. He has visited our school several times over the last few weeks and has met with the school team in order to ensure a smooth transition. I have worked with Mark for many years now and know that he is good fit for the school and that Charsfield will continue to offer that personalised and caring style of education that we all value. This will be helped by the fact that he will also have a dedicated school team behind him that will remain unchanged. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support for our school, particularly during what has been a challenging time for us all. Charsfield is a small school but it continues to 'punch well above its weight' in many areas! I will greatly miss our children and their families and Charsfield will always have a special place in my heart. I look forward to visiting again in the future in my broader Trust role.

With my very best wishes,

Paul Parslow-Williams



Clubs/School Dinners



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 Pearl 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)	£6 per child	Miss Terri King / Mrs Pearl Crane	With the club leader/school office for the full half term
Tuesday	3.15pm to 5.15pm	Film After School Club (Includes a snack)	£6 per child	Miss Terri King	With the club leader/school office on an ad-hoc basis
Wednesday	3.15pm to	Crafts After School Club (Includes a snack)	£6 per child	Miss Terri King	With the club leader/school office on an ad-hoc basis
Thursday	3.15pm to 5.15pm	Construction After School Club (Includes a snack)	£6 per child	Miss Terri King	With the club leader/school office on an ad-hoc basis
Friday	3.15pm to 4.30pm	Computing Club - No food is provided please send children with a snack / drink	£4 per child	Miss Terri King	With the club leader/school office on an ad-hoc basis

To book in for Breakfast or After School Clubs please speak to Mrs Crane, Terri or Mrs Butcher in the office.

New Arbor Payment System

We will be moving over to the new Arbor Parent Payment System after Easter—Mrs Butcher has sent all parents their log in details. Could we politely ask you to log into School Money and settle any payments that you have on there over the Easter Holiday. If you have any issues with either logging on Arbor or paying your charges off, please do speak to Mrs Butcher who will be able to help you.

Our next term's Values for Life themes are: Forgiveness & Justice

Forest Schools & Mental Health and Wellbeing

As part of our commitment to our pupils' mental health and wellbeing, we hold weekly Forest School lessons for all of our pupils. Forest Schools takes place in our wonderful school grounds and gives pupils the opportunity to learn about different aspects of nature and to take risks in a safe environment. The school is also taking part in the Suffolk Libraries Scarecrow Trail and we have chosen to use our love of Julia Donaldson books and the morals that these books teach us. We hope you'll agree that they're all fantastic!



Drop off and Pick up

Just a reminder that drop off time for Class 2 and 3 is at 8:55am at the back gate, and Class 1 is at 9am at the front door. Pick up points are the same as the morning and times are 3:10pm for Class 1 and 3:15pm for Class 2 and 3.

Comic Relief

This year's collection for Comic Relief raised £50.00. Thanks to your support, they can continue their life changing work, finding and funding voluntary groups, community projects and local charities to make an incredible difference for children and young people across the UK. Thank you for helping us to support this crucial work.

Water Bottles

With the warmer weather approaching please can every child have a named water bottle in school for the summer term. Whilst we can and do lend plastic cups to pupils who may have forgotten their bottle on the odd occasion, cups of water can cause damage to work and equipment if they get spilled in the classrooms. Many thanks—Mrs Reeve.

Nursing Home Link



We continue to link with the Activities Leader at Handford House, a nursing home in Ipswich that has 54 residents with both dementia and physical disabilities. This is used as part the focus for the pupils PSHE and mental health and wellbeing, they understand the type of difficulties that the residents struggle with and have kept in touch with them since the summer last year. This term, the pupils been looking at how making mistakes isn't something to worry about and how we can learn that if something goes wrong, you can

make it into something new or have another go. The pupils have created a "Beautiful Oops" handmade folder, making lovely pictures from mistakes such as coffee cup rings, ink spills and a bit of torn paper. The "Beautiful Oops" folder will go to the home for residents to thumb through or use as a source of an activity.

The pupils were also very aware that some of the female residents, might not receive a Mother's day card this year and made some extra beautiful flowery cards that were given out even to those who perhaps aren't Mums or who might have lost a child. We are very proud of the way the pupils help this home.



Dates for your diary



- Monday 12th April - PD Day
- Tuesday 13th April - Pupils' first day in school
- Monday 3rd May—May Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 11th May—Tempest Photography Class Photos
- Wednesday 19th—Sun 23rd May—Class 3 Hilltop Trip
- Monday 31st May—Friday 4th June - Summer Half Term
- Monday 7th June - Pupils' first day in school
- Tuesday 20th July—Pupils' last day in school

World Book Day



Now that we are all back at school pupils have settled back into the daily routine of school life, and the first exciting event we celebrated was World Book Day. On Wednesday 10th March pupils and staff dressed up as book characters; ranging from Puss in Boots to Harry Potter; and took part in differ-



ent book related activities in their bubble groups. The day was rounded off with our weekly session of Share a Biscuit, Share a Story where the children find a comfy place to sit, and enjoy a biscuit whilst listening to a story.

Parking reminder

Please remember that parents/carers for the school pick up and drop off may use the village hall car park just off St. Peter's Close. To access the school you can walk further along to the top of St. Peter's Close and through into the churchyard opposite the school.

Share a biscuit, share a story

Each Wednesday afternoon this term we have enjoyed coming together via Zoom to read a story. The story has been read by a member of staff whilst the children enjoy getting snuggled up and cosy in blankets and cushions, whilst enjoying a biscuit! After the story the children complete a task and get the opportunity to talk to everyone afterwards about their work. All the children have thoroughly enjoyed this and during such difficult times where they couldn't see all of their friends it has been a welcome relief. This activity has allowed the children to blossom with confidence in their ability to speak aloud to a group and listen to others.

Over the weeks we have read various books and completed different tasks, all of which you will find on our website here: <https://www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk/page/?title=Share+a+story%2C+share+a+biscuit&pid=68>

I think you will agree it has been a huge success!

After School Club

The pupils have had lots of fun this half term in the After School Clubs, these include:

- Monday - Cooking Club (Includes cooking to take home)
 - Tuesday - Film Club with Popcorn
 - Wednesday - Craft Club
 - Thursday - Outside Games (weather permitting)/Construction Club
 - Friday - Computer Club (Finishes at 4,30pm)
- (Monday to Thursday - All clubs run until 5.15pm and include a snack and drink)



Craft Club activities:

- Wednesday 14th April - Pastel Pictures
- Wednesday 21st April - Woven cardboard Llamas
- Wednesday 28th April - Paper Lanterns
- Wednesday 5th May - DIY Kaleidoscope
- Wednesday 12th May - Paper windmills
- Wednesday 19th May - Sun catchers
- Wednesday 26th May - Finger puppets



Happy Easter—Terri (After School Club Leader)