



## CHARSFIELD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Head of School— Mrs Amie Reeve

# School News – December 2020

### Note from the Executive Head

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all the staff in our wonderful little school for going the extra mile to make things as normal as possible for children throughout this difficult year. Children are now well accustomed to the hygiene measures and it is 'business as usual' in the classrooms. I would also like to say huge thank you to all our parents and carers for their patience and understanding with the changes to school routines. Hopefully things will be back normal at some point next year and this will all begin to fade into memory. Please have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year. Paul Parslow-Williams (Executive Headteacher)

### Class 1



What a busy half term we have had! The children have continued to work really hard in every lesson and we have had a lot of fun. We have continued to focus on the quality of our writing by including adjectives into our sentences to make our writing more exciting for the reader. We have also worked hard on handwriting



neatness and keeping our letters the correct size. In maths we have progressed onto learning more written formal methods to work out answers, we will continue with this after Christmas to make sure they are secure.

In DT the children have made catapults out of lollipop sticks and elastic bands and we are planning to test and evaluate them before the end of the term. In art the children created a landscape collage. They had to work from the background forwards and think carefully about proportions of the objects they were collaging.

The children have been learning about algorithms and debugging in computing. The children have really understood these concepts and have had a lot of fun on Purple Mash testing these out. You could ask the children what an algorithm and debugging mean.



The children this term have thoroughly enjoyed the nativity. This year as it was in the school hall we could make scenery for the play. The nativity stage looked amazing! All the children worked really hard and performed amazingly. We hope you enjoy watching them on DVD.

We are so pleased with how the reception children have settled in this term; it feels like they have been here a lot longer! We wish to welcome George into reception, so give him one of your cheerful waves if you see him.

From all of us in Class One we would like to thank you once more for your incredible support through these tricky times we are experiencing. We would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## Class 2



Class 2 have been working extremely hard this term. In maths we are becoming experts at spotting patterns in our times tables and this has helped us enormously when chanting them out loud. We have also been learning how to derive related division facts from our times tables' facts.



In geography we have been learning about our World, and the way in which the earth moves in relation to the sun to give us both seasons and day and night time. We have had fun learning how to use Google Earth to help us locate places using grid references.

In music, with Class 3, we have been learning how to play and layer increasingly complex rhythms on the djembe drums. This culminated in a fine performance of 'Conga.' Next term the children will be learning to recognise and play notes written on a stave when they learn to play the recorder.

The children have enjoyed their art and DT lessons this term with Mrs Crane. They have produced some lovely prints in the style of Viking jewellery, made their own brooches, and designed and made Viking longboats.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year.

Mrs Merry



**Save the Children**  
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

**Save the Children**  
**Christmas Jumper**  
**Day**

Thank you to those pupils that wore a festive top on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December to help to raise money for the Save the Children charity. We raised a fabulous £30 in total. By taking part in the festive fun you and your child have helped families from the UK and all around the world! That's what Christmas Jumper Day is all about, people!

## Children in Need

This year's dress up day for Children in Need raised £39.00. 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.

## After School Club

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

- Monday - Cooking Club (booking taken for the full half term)
- Tuesday - Film Club
- Wednesday - Craft Club
- Thursday - Construction Club
- Friday - Computer Club



Craft Club planned activities:

- Wednesday 6th January - Pastel Pictures
- Wednesday 13th January - Woven Cardboard Llamas
- Wednesday 20th January - Paper Lanterns
- Wednesday 27th January - DIY Kaleidoscope
- Wednesday 3rd February - DIY Newton's Cradle
- Wednesday 10th February - Chinese New Year Dragons



Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year! - Terri



### Class 3



Class 3 have worked so hard this term and I think they have earned a rest over Christmas. We have really enjoyed finding out about World War 1 and 2, the children tackled this subject with maturity and sensitivity. I have been super impressed with their diary writing as a soldier in the trenches. The children have been enthralled with the story Goodnight Mr Tom and I am so pleased that they've wanted to read it as it is a challenging book.

In maths we have been getting to grips with fractions – we will continue with these after Christmas. Please encourage your child to play some TT Rockstars over the Christmas period as this will help to keep their brains ticking over!

In DT, with class 2, we made pizza, vegetable soup and dips. The children have also learned about the different food groups and the benefits of eating a healthy balanced diet.

If you would like to see what we have been up to this term, please do have a look at the website as I've put together a video of photos of moments from this term for both Class 2 and 3. It is amazing to see how much we've packed in this term! Please check on our [Video Gallery](#) on our website in the New Year for snap shots of the different Key Stage's work.

I have been delighted to work with this group of children and, whilst I am looking forward to having a rest over the Christmas break and spending time with my family, I look forward to welcoming them back in January.

With best wishes - Mrs Reeve



### Welcome!

We have been delighted to welcome George into Reception in Class 1 here at Charsfield. I am sure that parents in Class 1 have already introduced themselves to George's Mum and Dad, and I know that he has had a lovely start to his time with us.

We also welcomed Maxx into Year 4 in Class 2 earlier in the term and he has settled in well into life at Charsfield, making lots of new friends.

Mrs Reeve

### A Special Virtual Message from Santa

Even Father Christmas has stepped up to the plate and gone virtual this year. As he was not able to join us in person, he sent us a very special video – Please see the attached video so that you know that your youngster **IS** telling you the truth!



### Cookery Club News

Children in Cookery Club have been busy making lots of different things this term, chocolate crunch, cornflake tart and mincemeat tart amongst other items. For the last session the children made their own tea for a Christmas tea party. They made mini pizza breads, chocolate tray bake, which they then decorated, cooked sausage rolls and had other bits too. We look forward to another fun packed Cookery Club next term. Places are limited so if your child would like to attend please let Mrs Butcher know by Wed 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Merry Christmas

Terri and Mrs Crane





## Clubs/School Dinners



| Days / Dates    | Times            | Name of club   | Session Cost   | Club Leader                       | How to book in  |
|-----------------|------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Daily (Mon-Fri) | 8am to 9am       | <b>Breakfast Club</b>  | £2.50 for the first child<br>£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 | <b>Cookery Club</b><br>(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 | <b>Film After School Club</b> (Includes a snack)   | £6 per child   | Miss Terri King                   | With the club leader/school office on an ad-hoc                 |
| Wednesday       | 3.15pm to 5.15pm | <b>Crafts After School Club</b><br>(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 | <b>Construction After School Club</b><br>(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 | <b>Computing Club</b> -<br>No food is provided please send children with a snack / drink | £4 per child   | Miss Terri King                   | Please complete the sign up letter from reception letter holder |

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

### School Money Payment System

We do hope that you find the 'School Money' payment collection system seamless and fairly easy. Could we politely ask you to intermittently log on and keep your outstanding balance down to a minimum to help with the cash flow of the school. If you have any issues with either logging on 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: New Year, Truthfulness & Humility**



### Remembrance Day

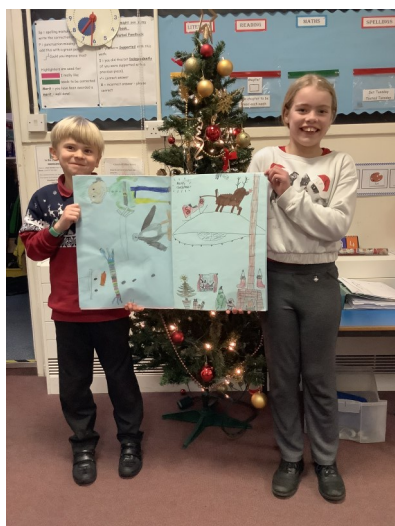


For Remembrance Day this year, pupils learnt about the different Poppy Appeals, what the colours mean and the different charities they represent. As part of the school's Remembrance commemorations, staff and pupils were delighted to have Suffolk Soprano and Purple Poppy Ambassador for the War Horse Memorial, Christina Johnston, join them virtually for their Remembrance Assembly on 11<sup>th</sup> November. The children were able to ask Christina about her work as an ambassador for the Purple Poppy Appeal as well as finding out more about her life as a professional singer.

To finish the assembly pupils were then treated to two of Christina's songs: Fallen Soldier by Frederick Forsyth and Gareth Williams, and the official song for the Purple Poppy Appeal; A Million Tears by Warwick, Young and Maclean. At 11am staff and pupils held a two minute silence outside the front of the school by the beautiful Red and Purple Poppy wreath and the crosses that the children had made. To finish, the pupils sang "Remember" to members of the public who had stopped outside the school to mark the two minute silence. Christina's weekly online concerts can be watched on her YouTube Channel: The Christina Johnston.



### Mental Health and Well Being



This term we have been looking at how to identify emotions and manage them so that they don't overwhelm us and knowing how to ask for help when we need it. We have made worry monsters, had a go at chocolate meditation and explored many emotions and scenarios that the children may have to deal with in day to day life.

One of the aspects we looked at, was how giving to others helps our own mental health and we used this to strengthen the contacts we had made with Handford House Nursing Home in the summer term, when some of the children were able to write to the home and tell them about school life in lock-down. The Handford House residents kindly sent us a handmade Christmas card, the children reciprocated with great enthusiasm creating a wonderful collection of drawings made into a large book full of good wishes.

We are so proud of how they threw themselves into this task and how much they thought about the people it was going to with a genuine desire to bring happiness to other people that they don't even know.

Mrs Foster

### The Show Must Go On !



Thank you so much to the Friends of Charsfield School (PTA) who kindly paid for all of the children to watch the virtual pantomime Cinderella. The children absolutely loved the performance and it was a real treat to see their faces when the staff dressed up as characters from the fairy-tale! Some of the children really got into it and I wasn't very popular as the Wicked Step-Mother! Thank-you so much for helping us to keep the surprise, as I don't think the children were expecting it at all; so it made it all the more special for them. - Mrs Reeve



### Dates for your diary

(More dates will be emailed out shortly.)

- Monday 4th January - PD Day
- Tuesday 5th January - Pupil's first day in school
- Monday 25th January - Tempest Individual Photographs
- Monday 15th - Friday 19th February—Spring Half Term
- Friday 26th March - Pupil's last day in school
- Monday 29th March - Friday 9th April - Easter Holidays
- Monday 12th April - PD Day
- Tuesday 13th April Pupil's first day in school



### Reverse Advent

Thank you so much to everyone who was able to donate to this worthy cause. The goods have been collected and we were delighted to hold a virtual assembly with Debbie from the Lighthouse Women's Aid who explained to the children how these gifts would help so many people over the festive period.

Debbie said "We thank Charsfield Primary School for their support again this year, it is always such a pleasure to talk to the lovely children, thank them

personally for their donations and explain to them how they make a difference to those less fortunate than themselves this Christmas."

Thank you for helping us to show the pupils how we can help others again this year.

### Christmas Decoration Competition

The pupils were invited to take part in our yearly competition to design and make a Christmas tree decoration. Most of the pupils entered and produced some truly amazing items. Poor Mrs Butcher had another really hard job to try and pick the top 3. Congratulations to the following:

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Megan's Rudolph
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tilly's Pom Pom Angel
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Maria's Pistachio Shell Angel / Tree

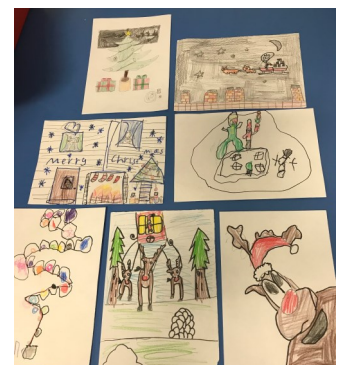
Every child that took part gained a house point for their house and the winners also received a prize. Well done to all who took part!



### Christmas Card Designing Competition

The pupils have made some amazing Christmas Cards again this year and in the competition, judged blindly by Mrs Butcher, and congratulations goes to the winners from each year group which are:

- Yr. R – Luna
- Yr. 1 – Cooper
- Yr. 2 – Maisie
- Yr. 3 – Isabelle
- Yr. 4 – Maxx
- Yr. 5 – Ava
- Yr. 6 – Harry C



A big thank you to Mrs Crane for giving up her time to process and copy your orders for you. From the sales of these we have raised an amazing £80. We decided that this year we would like to donate this to the Salvation Army. Thanks to your support, they can provide the comfort and friendship needed by isolated older people. They can ease the anxiety of grinding poverty and help give a family a meal on the table and the joy of a small present for the children. They can provide warmth and dedicated commitment in their Lifehouses for people who are homeless and have nothing. Your gift will help them do this day in, day out, not just at Christmas.