



CHARSFIELD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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School Newsletter – November 2022

CLASS 1



Well, what a fun term we have had so far! It's been jam packed studying our new topic 'Movers and Shakers' which is based on historic people who have shaped our past. We have studied Emmeline Pankhurst, Queen Elizabeth II, Rosa Parks and Neil Armstrong. The children have learnt how they shaped our history and why we remember them.



In maths the children have been building their knowledge of place value, fact families and addition and subtraction. In literacy we focused our work based on 'The Queens Hat'. We have been widening our vocabulary on how to describe in more depth. Recently the children have studied the poem 'Firework Night' by Andrew Collett, and are writing their own poems based on their own experiences.

In science the children have been learning about how to keep healthy and the importance of it. We have looked at a healthy balanced diet, exercise, hygiene and sleep.



The children enjoyed inviting their parents and grandparents in for the morning to show them what they have been up to. The children made fruit kebabs which is linked to our healthy living in science, showed parents how to use Purple Mash, which is linked to our ICT and researched our 4 historic individuals in more detail. They then shared their posters on past people in parents' assembly.

At the moment children are learning and practising the nativity. It is the first year since lockdown that we have been able to invite parents in for it and we are very excited to have a live audience again.

Miss Sayer



Cross Country



On Monday 31st October the children enjoyed an afternoon at Charsfield recreational grounds for a inter-house cross country competition.

All children ran in their age groups over different distances. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and showed great sports-

manship to their friends. This was a warm up event for the county competition on Wednesday 2nd November.



CLASS 2

Children in Class 2 have had a super start to the year.

In maths, we began by exploring place value. Children learnt how to use place value grids to read, write and compare numbers with up to 4 digits as well as to understand zero as a place holder. We looked at negative numbers and related this new concept to temperature and sea levels. They had fun learning how to read and write Roman numerals and relating them to the real world. Children used dienes and magnetic base ten to help them carry out standard written methods for addition and subtraction and then apply them to real life problems.

Our literacy learning this term was based on a book called 'The Incredible book-eating boy' by Oliver Jeffers. The children learnt, and practised writing effective sentences using literary devices such as onomatopoeia, alliteration, similes, metaphors and repetition. They then used their ideas to write stories of their own. We look forward to sharing them with you at the next parents' assembly.

Art this term has focused on observational drawing of bees, butterflies and beetles. The children have learnt how to use line, tone, shape and colour to record the details of these insects. They used materials to create mixed media collages and painted in the style of Andy Warhol to create a series of pop art images of their chosen insect. Their artwork has made a beautiful display in the library.



In French, we have been learning how to ask for foods politely and give our opinions of them. We have learnt how to say whether they are good for us! We enjoyed sing our song J'aime les fruits, which you can find on YouTube by following this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJ03KjwiIVM>.

Our science this term has been all about light and shadows. We have learnt how to recognise the difference between natural and artificial light sources and that reflective materials are light in colour, shiny and smooth whereas non-reflective materials are dark in colour, dull and rough. We have also considered and talked about the harmful effects of the sun's rays on our skin and ways we can protect ourselves. We have conducted experiments to investigate the types of shadows produced by transparent, translucent and opaque objects.

Mrs Merry

Our Late Queen

Like everyone else, we were all deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II in September. As a school, we looked back on the life of Her Majesty The Queen and we discussed the events that would take place during the national mourning period. To celebrate The Queen's life the children drew pictures and wrote poems. I hope that you all got to see the lovely display outside the school of the children's work. The children also created a book with messages of condolence to the Royal Family and these were passed on by Mrs Crane and Kat Jeffery who went to visit Sandringham on behalf of the school at the weekend. We want to thank Jo Reed for leading an impromptu service across at the church which was very moving and a special time to celebrate the life of Her Majesty The Queen.



Mrs Reeve

CLASS 3

In our maths lessons, the children in class 3 have been working very hard at getting to grips with place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Pupils have learned how to compare the value of numbers and what each digit means. The children have also looked at estimating answers which is a very useful tool in real life. Over recent weeks we have been refining written methods for addition and subtraction and in the coming weeks we will move on to multiplication and division, and then finally we will be learning about fractions – including equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting them, and ordering and comparing them.

In our English lessons, pupils have been creating their own stories based upon a class book. Our class book Rose Blanche, looks at the concentration camps in WWII Germany through the eyes of a young girl called Rose Blanche. It is a sad story, but the children found it really interesting and we were able to discuss the reasons for these camps in a sensitive way that linked to our history topic of Britain at War. This term we are going to write biographies about the life of David Attenborough together, and then the children will have the opportunity to write a biography about someone of their choice.



In history lessons with Class 2 we have been learning about the World Wars and what caused the fighting. The children were particularly interested in learning about the trenches in WW1 and the awful conditions that the soldiers had to contend with! We are looking forward to holding a share morning later on this term and we thought that a focus on the Home Front would be something that you would enjoy sharing with your child. More details will follow in the next few weeks.

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this event.

Mrs Reeve

Volunteers needed—we need you!



Do you or anyone you know, have a few spare hours a week to help us at Charsfield Primary school. We are so lucky to have such extensive grounds, however, it can be a bit hard to keep on top of. We are looking for someone to come and do some gardening/weed, sweep up our ever falling leaves and generally help to keep the school grounds looking tidy. The hedges and grass are all maintained by Suffolk County Council, so wouldn't need doing. If you are able to offer some of your time and would be willing to help us in any way, please contact the school office on 01473 737347, we look forward to hearing from you. Thank you!

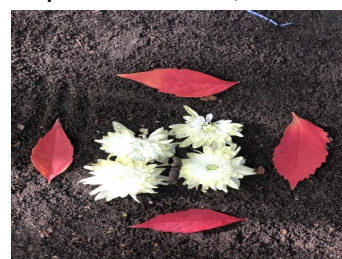
Forest School



class room and the wider world.

Mrs Foster

This half term in forest school the children have enjoyed exploring the art and beauty in nature using mediums such as windfalls and clay. They have looked how to collect rain so they have a supply of water for the mud kitchen and making bug homes for the winter. They have created, explored, built, played and discovered which has helped them with so many skills such as perseverance, cooperation, tolerance and problem solving which they will be able to take into the



Whitlingham Trip



At the beginning of the term, the whole school enjoyed a day at Whitlingham Adventure. We had perfect weather and enjoyed various activities. KS2 children had a go at stand-up paddle boarding, which is a lot harder than it looks! The children had to work together using their paddles so that they went in the right direction, this developed their team work and leadership skills. The children were given the option to stand up, which requires a lot of balance. At the end the children were given the opportunity to jump into the lake. The other activity



KS2 had was raft building. The children only had barrels, string and wood to build their own raft, which they then tested out on the water. Most were successful!

KS1 also went on the water in a Katanu, again they had to work as a team to paddle together. KS1 also enjoyed bouldering, which developed their co-ordination and team work and bush craft, where they had to work together to make dens.



The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and it was a great start to the new year as it encouraged team work and leadership skills.

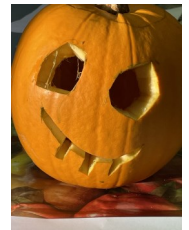
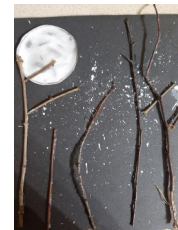
After school clubs



What a half term we've had in cookery club. We've been cooking with produce that's in season, which the children have really enjoyed. We have made yellow pumpkin curry, apple crumble, apple and blackberry turnovers to name a few. We've also taken to opportunity to have a lot of Halloween themed cooking sessions, the children have really used their imaginations to create the end product.



In craft club we have been collecting sticks and leaves and have been using them to make our creations, it's really lovely seeing children's crafts coming together. They also enjoyed carving pumpkins!



Mrs Hood

The Friends of Charsfield School PTA (FoCS)

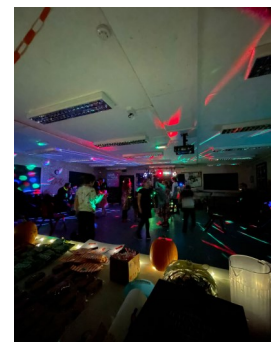


I just want to say thank you for supporting our last two events - the Autumn Cafe and Awesome Abi's Disco. It was lovely to be together, socialise and have some fun together. I loved seeing some of the decorated pumpkins after the Autumn Cafe and it was fantastic to be able to have a boogie at a school disco again. These two events have been to fund a special treat for all of the children before Christmas. We hope the children and staff all have an amazing time.

Looking forward we will be having a 'Festive Fun' event after school on Friday 9th December. There will be fun Christmas games, crafts, 'Elfridges' Secret Shop, refreshments and more. We hope you will be able to join us. More information to follow.

Thanks again for your support

Kat Jeffery - Chair of Friends of Charsfield Primary School



Thank You Miss Sayer!

This edition of the newsletter sees the school say goodbye to Miss Sayer. She has been extremely well liked by the pupils, staff and parents during her 8 years working at the school. I have known her for only a relatively short period, but during that time she has been a ray of light and a pleasure to work with. It is sad to see her go, but I know you will all join me in wishing Miss Sayer every success in the future and a safe passage during her travels. Thank you to all who came to assembly to say goodbye and wish her well.

Mr Taylor



Attendance

Thank you with your support regarding attendance, however, our current percentage is 93%; our target is 97%. To help make our community more aware of the issues regarding attendance please read the information below.

Attendance Matters



- ⇒ Attending school every day = 100% attendance
- ⇒ Attending 4½ days a week = 90% attendance = 4 weeks missed per year
- ⇒ Attending 4 days a week = 80% attendance = more than half a term missed per year.
- ⇒ Attending 3½ days each week = 70% attendance = more than a quarter of the school year missed.
- ⇒ An average attendance of 80% or less across a child's school career adds up to missing a whole 2 years from school.

Make every minute count

- ⇒ Being late for school reduces learning time.
- ⇒ If your child is 5 minutes late every day, they will miss three days of learning each year.
- ⇒ If your child is 15 minutes late every day, they will miss 2 weeks of learning each year.

What can you do to help?

- ⇒ If you suspect that your child may be missing school or is unhappy at school, you should contact the school as soon as possible so that you can work with them to resolve any difficulties.
- ⇒ Be on alert for any particular reasons for non-attendance, such as bullying or problems with school work and discuss these with the school.
- ⇒ If your child is ill or absent for any other reason, contact the school on the first day of absence.
- ⇒ Follow the schools' procedures for notifying absence, and always let the school know of any days that your child is unable to attend.
- ⇒ Make sure your child arrives at school on time.
- ⇒ Take an interest in your child's education. Ask them about their day and praise and encourage their achievements at school.

We do understand that illness and other extenuating circumstances play a part here, however, we would like to ask that you carefully consider taking your child out of school for alternative reasons. For more information please visit:

[School website attendance page](#) [School attendance policy](#) [Gov website Education Hub](#)

Our next term's Values for Life themes are: Perseverance, Anti-Bullying Week, British Value and Children in Need

Church Update



We have had the pleasure of attending a couple of church services led by Rev Gary. The latter being the Harvest service, which, as always, had a lovely atmosphere and lots of singing. We look forward to the carol service Wednesday 14th December. On behalf of the Church, we would like to invite parents to join Jo every Friday morning, for coffee, cake and a chat, for a small donation.

RE for Next Term

Below are the big questions we will be thinking about next term in our RE lessons.

EYFS—Christianity— Why is 'God' so important to Christians?/Why do Christians perform nativity plays at Christmas?

KS1—Christianity— Why is belonging to God and the church family important to Christians?/**Judaism—** Why is learning to do good deeds so important to Jewish people?

KS2—Christianity— How do Christians show that reconciliation with God and others is important?/**Islam—** How does a Muslim show their submission and obedience to Allah?

If you have any questions about RE, please do speak with me.

Many thanks, Mrs Smith

Harvest Offering



In early October we held our annual Harvest service which was led by Rev. Gary Best and Lay Elder Jo Reed (who are also governors at our school). Families joined in and it was a wonderful atmosphere with singing and learning all about the harvest. We would like to thank all of our families for donating to the collect, particularly as times are currently challenging. We are delighted to report that all of the items we collected have been donated to the foodbank in Wickham Market to help local people in need.

Dates for your diary

November

- Monday 28th —School Open Evening for current and prospective parents , all welcome

December

- Friday 2nd—Surprise Christmas Trip
- Tuesday 6th—Class 1 Nativity
- Friday 9th—PTA Christmas Event
- Tuesday 13th—Christmas Lunch
- Wednesday 14th—Carol Service

December cont..

- Thursday 15th —Last Day of school
- Friday 16th —P D Day
- Monday 19th —Monday 2nd January—Christmas Holiday

January

- Tuesday 3rd January—P D Day
- Wednesday 4th January—Pupils return to school