

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING JANUARY 31st, 2020



Dear Parents,

Global Community Week

There has been a buzz of excitement around the school this week as the children have expanded their horizons and embraced being global citizens. The theme of the week has been to recognise our similarities and celebrate our differences through cross curricular studies. Each class has made connections with a country and learnt about their culture in different ways including art, music, food and religion.

The children have considered their place in the world and how to be good neighbours. On Wednesday, we had an inspirational assembly from the Cambridge charity Street Child United which brings together homeless street children from around the world through sport. They left us with the powerful message that every child is important no matter where they come from.

Key Stage 1

Reception Class have been visiting China and their classroom is decorated with lanterns, dragons and a Chinese wishing tree. In Year 1, they have been learning about France, finding out about school life and developing their language skills. Class 2 have been in India and they were lucky to enjoy one of our Year 6 pupil's presentation on the school he and his family recently visited.



Key Stage 2

Year 3 were excited to welcome a Year 4 pupil, Thomas Stevenson and Mrs Stevenson, to hear all about their experiences in Kenya. They also had a Skype call with Matt Hopewell (an ex-pupil) who is working with a charity in Uganda. Year 4 have linked up with a school in Cyprus this week, they carried out a Skype interview with the children and were very excited to hear that there had been a poisonous snake making a nest close to the classroom in the Cypriot school grounds! Year 5 have written letters to pen pals in an international school in Bangkok and their week began in style with a Thai feast generously provided by the chefs at the Crown and Thistle. Year 6 have continued to develop links with our partner school in Ireland. Their week ended with a climate change debate via Skype.



On Friday morning, all children in the school completed a word tour in their Friendship groups. Armed with their Great Chesterford passports, they toured the school exploring the global communities that each class have visited and finding out about the wonderful world that they live in. Huge thanks must go to the kitchen staff who, as always, made a great effort to support the learning in school with a global themed menu. Thank you too to the many children and parents who have provided information, pictures and artefacts to enhance the learning experience. Thanks to Mrs. McCullough for visiting Class 1 to share her experiences of living in France and to Mr. Drake who visited the upper Key Stage 2 classes to discuss some of the global projects he has been involved with. Thanks to The Crown and Thistle for generously providing the Thai food in Class 5. Lastly, thank you to Mrs. Lincoln for all her hard work in coordinating such a successful theme week.



Tag Rugby

Laurence and Charlie Year 6 write: On Wednesday, 18 pupils from Years 5 and 6 took part in a tag rugby tournament at Joyce Frankland Academy. These pupils played several matches and demonstrated tremendous teamwork. The Year 5 B team did brilliantly and won all their matches in the heats and the Year 6 A team also did well managing to win the final against Clavering to secure a place in the next round. All the children said they enjoyed the opportunity to play. Many thanks to Mr. Duers and Mrs. Balchin for accompanying us to the event. Thank you to those parents and friends who were able to give up their time to transport the children: Mr. Cole, Ms. Smithers and Mrs. Law. Without their support the children would not have been able to attend.

Holocaust Memorial Service

On Monday, Year 6 represented our school at a very moving service in St Mary's Church in Saffron Walden to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. They were great ambassadors for the school and were very proud to be part of such an important local event. Thank you to the parents who provided

transport: Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Buchallet, Mrs Williams, Mrs. Brooker and Mr. Altaparmakov. Without their support the trip would not have taken place.

Archbishop of York 'Young Leaders' scheme

Before Christmas, details of this as a proposed new club was circulated in the Newsletter. While we were pleased to hear from parents who expressed an interest for their child to take part, and running the club is not dependent on a certain number of participants, we thought that Global Community Week would be an ideal opportunity to explain more about what the scheme involved to KS2 children.

Following Wednesday's Collective Worship about this, if your child has expressed an interest and you would like them to take part, we would love to hear from you. Mrs Starbuck, who will lead the group, has suggested Monday after school as a possible time for the club however, we are happy to review this to suit the majority of those who are keen to join. Please contact Mrs Starbuck via the Admin email to confirm your child's interest or if you would like any further information.

Please note that there is a £10 charge (per child) for the club to cover the cost of resources from the Diocese of York.

Claire Witney
KS2 Lead

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
4 th February	Open Afternoon – The Arts
4 th February	KS2 Eucharist Service
17 th -21 st February	Half term
2 nd - 6 th March	Book Week
17 th March	Open Morning 9.30 – 10.30 am
3 rd April	Easter Service at All Saints' Church 9:30am Last day of term
20 th April	Pupils return to school
11 th -15 th May	Year 6 SATs Week
18 th May	Open Afternoon
19 th May	KS2 Eucharist Service
25 th May - 1 st June	Half term
2 nd June	NPD
16 th June	Music Evening 6:30pm
15 th -19 th June	MADD Theme Week
30 th June	Sports Day

Date	Event
2 nd July	Reserve Sports Day
3 rd July	Transition Afternoon tbc
6 th July	Transition Afternoon tbc
8 th July	Years 5 and 6 Summer Play
9 th July	Years 5 and 6 Summer Play
12 th – 15 th July	Year 6 Residential
17 th July	Year 6 memories assembly 1:30pm
17 th July	Open Afternoon – current parents only (looking at pupil's work and collecting reports) 2:15-3:15pm for Rec to Year 6
22 nd July	Leavers' Service at All Saints' Church 9:30am
22 nd July	Year 6 Entertainment 1:45pm Last day of term
23 rd July	Non- Pupil Day