

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 29th 2019

Dear Parents,

Class 2 Collective Worship

Thank you Class 2 for leading today's collective worship on this week's big question. You all spoke so clearly about 'what or who you would be like to connected to' giving super reasons and sharing colourful artwork. We all enjoyed your 'fun connected bones' song - well done!

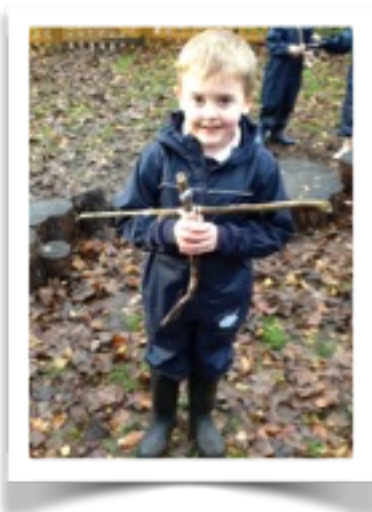
Year 4 Public Speaking Festival

On Thursday, Barnaby, Jasmine, Lilia and Theo represented our school in a Public Speaking Festival along with the five other local primary schools who are part of our cluster: Bentfield, Debden, Katherine Semar, R A Butler and St. Thomas More. Our team's speech was about respecting animals and they did a super job in evidencing why animals deserve our care and respect. They all spoke clearly and confidently and were able to field a wide range of questions. Thanks must go to our visiting panel: parliamentary candidate Mrs Tealby Watson and the Saffron Walden Town Mayor - Councillor Coote and his consort Mrs Coote for their carefully considered feedback to all of the participating teams. Well done!



Nature Area Update

This week, Reception Class have made some very cute stick men at the nature space.



Together in Sound Project

Today, Class 5 pupils and staff enjoyed a trip to Saffron Hall where they performed songs as part of the Dementia Together in Sound Project. In addition to their singing contributions, the children were also involved in improvisation activities with musicians and members of the wider community who are coping with dementia as part of their daily lives. At the end of the musical activities, the children shared lunch with the guests. The feedback from this event has been so positive with Class 5 pupils touching the hearts of many with their compassion, care and lovely manners. The children were sociable and interactive with all the guests and worked with them on a craft activity making forget-me-not petals together. Class 5 proved to be outstanding ambassadors for both the school and their families and we are very proud of them! Thank you to Mrs Middleton for supporting the school with our musical opportunities.

Christmas Jumper Fundraising

As part of our Christmas activities, all children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school on Tuesday 17th December which will also be our Christmas lunch and Christmas parties day! Please do not feel any special purchase should be made - any festive colour such as red and green would be welcome.

To support our 'Christmas Jumper Day', and promote recycling, our School Council will be organising a Christmas jumper fund-raiser. They are appealing for any outgrown Christmas jumpers to be donated to school so that they can then be passed on to a new owner for a donation to charity. Please can jumpers be sent to school by Monday 2nd December clearly labelled 'For Sale' to avoid any confusion with play costumes. We will be holding the sale on Wednesday 4th December at 3pm.

Christmas Post Box

From Monday December 2nd, the school Christmas post box will be in operation. If pupils wish to send their Christmas cards to friends in school, they can use the post box up to Monday 16th December. Each envelope needs the child's full name and class number to ensure our Year 6 postal team are able to deliver it to the correct pupil.

Winter Party

On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to say a huge thank you to our hardworking Friends' Committee who organised the Winter Party social event last week. It was a great success raising £1,320 for the school - well done to all involved! Thank you to everyone who supported the event by attending or purchasing raffle tickets.

KS2 break and lunchtimes

Thank you for everyone's patience and understanding during our current building works. We are currently struggling with mud in the KS2 playground so would like to provide the option of children bringing in alternative shoes / trainers for break and lunchtimes. If your child would like to wear their PE trainers for this, please ensure that they have plimsolls in school for indoor PE - thank you.

School Photographs

Please check your child's book bags for details of the 'Early Bird' school photograph discount.

Theme Weeks

Please note that STEM week and other theme week updates can be found on the school website under the parents tab.

Primary School Admissions for 2020

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opens on 11th November 2019, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2020. The statutory national closing date for applications is 15 January 2020. From 11 November 2019, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Breakfast Club Assistant

We currently have a vacancy for Breakfast Club Assistant - please refer to our website for further details or speak to a member of the office team.

Mrs Sarah Mitchell
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
4th December	Christmas Jumper Sale - 3pm
7th December	Spirit of Christmas for Years 5 and 6
8th December	All Saints Church, Great Chesterford, Carol service 6:00pm
10th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon performance
11th December	Christmas Plays for KS1 and Lower KS2 - afternoon and evening performances
12th December	Flu immunisations
13th December	Friends' KS1 Christmas Disco Friends' KS2 Christmas Disco
17th December	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas lunch Christmas parties
19th December	Christmas Church Service at All Saints' Church, 9.30am Last day of term
6th January	Non-pupil day
7th January	Pupils return to school