



# Great Chart Primary School Newsletter for Parents and Pupils



## October 2021



## MESSAGE FROM MRS PANG, HEADTEACHER

It was lovely to welcome our new children to our school. They are all settling well and beginning to feel part of our community. Please could I welcome the parents of all the new children. Hopefully as the year progresses we will be able to hold various events to welcome you fully into our community.



### Forest Class



### Woodland Class

It was great to see our Y6 pupils in their new blue sweatshirts and polo shirts. The children will be viewed as ambassadors and role models throughout the school. They have all been given important responsibilities and are certainly wearing their new uniform with pride.

### 6 Griffin

### 6 Toke



Thank you for all the donations we received for the Ashford Family Food Bank. It is a very worthwhile cause and will be much appreciated. We were able to put together a very colourful display of all the produce for our Harvest Service.

The children have all settled back into Great Chart School life really well. During our Induction days at the beginning of term we spent a lot of time reinforcing our values and behaviour expectations. The children fully understand our rules and subsequent rewards and consequences. We have also been discussing with the children Self Regulation as part of this which will be discussed later in this newsletter.



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# Message from Mrs Pang Cont'd

This term's value is respect: respect for each other and also respect for our beautiful school and its premises. We want our school to be enjoyed by us and many others in the future.

We have stressed with the children how hard everyone works in the school including our Site Managers. During our first 'Whole' School Assembly I spoke to the children about all the changes the Site Managers had to manage over the 6 weeks. They didn't have a break! It was lovely to hear how grateful the children and staff were of the efforts which had been made. Please could I thank the Site Managers and our cleaners for all their hard work over the holidays to ensure our school carries on being maintained to such a high standard. Well done Mr Roberts, Mr Beck and the cleaners.

Parent/teacher consultations will be happening during November. We are hoping to carry out these face to face so that teachers can meet parents. For our second set of consultations in March we will possibly hold these virtually, however all of this is subject to change. Information on how we will be doing this will be sent out later this month. Please could I remind parents that it is extremely important that you attend these meetings. Parental support is essential if children are to progress at school particularly. Teachers will inform you of progress which is being made and what help you can give to your child at home.

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## This Term's Value



Strong values are extremely important to everyone at Great Chart Primary School: pupils, staff, governors etc. A value is a principle that guides our thinking and behaviour. We will aim to promote an educational philosophy based on valuing self, others and the environment. Adults will model values and give children the time for reflection that will empower them to be effective learners and good citizens.



Our value for Term 1 will be Respect. This value is at the core of everything we do in school. It underpins learning through behaviour and one's attitude to the people and the world around them. We are extremely lucky that our school community (staff, children, parents, governors) is a very positive, supportive and respectful one.

Along with this value we will also be focusing on the following words and exploring what they mean to us:

Honesty  
Manners  
Equality  
Valuing people for who they are  
Loyalty  
Understanding  
Consideration

# Behaviour



This is our behaviour system within school. All the children understand our school rules and are now trying hard, with the support of staff, to remain on green, by making the right choices. This system works as follows:



All children start each session on green



If they fail to follow the rules they will be given a warning. Failing to follow the rules a second time will mean they move their name to amber and 5 minutes will be taken off their playtime.



Failing to follow the rules further will result in their name being moved to red. This will mean all their playtime will be missed (apart from a comfort break) and the teacher will inform parents.



If a child is violent, threatening to anyone or disrespectful to an adult they will go straight to purple. The teacher and a member of the Senior Leadership or Management Team will meet with parents to discuss a way forward to ensure the school rules are followed.

This is a very simple system to be used throughout the school which will be monitored very closely and now forms part of our behaviour policy which can be viewed on the website. We will of course reward those pupils who consistently follow the school rules and 'stay on green'.



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## Starting School Information Sessions



Children born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018 will start school in Autumn 2022. Come To Our Starting School Open Session on **Wednesday 24th November** or **Wednesday 15th December** between 3.30pm and 5.00pm. Please call the school reception on 01233 620040 to book a time slot for a guided tour of the school. Please let your friends and neighbours who have pre-school children know about this. There will be guided tours (**last tour being at 5.00pm**) of the school and lots of information about school life at Great Chart. Parents will have a chance to speak to our admissions team and senior members of staff and governors.

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## Family Liaison Officer

My name is Nicky Ostridge and I am the Family Liaison Officer (FLO) at Great Chart Primary School. If you, your family and/or children have any worries or concerns I am available to offer help, advice and support. This may be related to school or other aspects of family life. There is help for families within the Ashford area and I am here to help you be aware and access that provision.

I know that sometimes, all that is needed is a willing ear and I am here to just listen if you need to chat about something informally too. Within school there will be times when I will be available for the children to talk to.

If you want to contact me you can leave messages with Reception or email me through the website Contact page. I am available from Monday to Friday.

Throughout the year I am hoping to create opportunities for parents to come in and get more involved in our school. If you have any suggestions yourself please email me at [flo@great-chart.kent.sch.uk](mailto:flo@great-chart.kent.sch.uk).



# Congratulations

A huge congratulations to our epic walkers: Mrs Shevlin, Mrs Barker and Mrs Menzies for walking 57km in just 12 hours in the South Coast Challenge which took them along the Seven Sisters. They raised over £1,600.00 for Children with Cancer UK. Well done to all of you and for supporting such a worthy cause too.



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Congratulations also go to Mr Byrne for coming second in the regional finals of the **LACA School Chef of the Year Award**. The dish he cooked and presented was a burrito recipe inspired by the children of Great Chart Primary School. Well done Mr Byrne, we are all really proud of you.



# Bikeability Years 5 & 6



Well, it has been an exciting start to the year for years 5 and 6 with pupils having the opportunity to develop their cycling through Bikeability training delivered by Cycle Circle.

The year 5 pupils covered Level 1 skills on the playground. This included starting and stopping under control, turning, sharing the space, signalling, using gears and awareness of conditions and others. They all made progress and we hope to offer them the opportunity to take the Level 2 training in term 6.

Year 6 pupils participated in the Level 2 training that started on the playground and progressed onto the roads. This also included junctions, signalling, road position, control and observation.

Year 6 pupils who have completed Level 2 training are now able to cycle to school if they wish and use the new cycle storage on the KS2 playground.

As well as the training, pupils were also invited to join an after school guided ride with the instructors. A group of pupils were out for around an hour and a half putting their skills into practise and had a great time exploring local routes.

Cycle Circle also offer family Bikeability training and some of our families have taken this opportunity to arrange some training as a family so they can enjoy cycling together. There will be further cycle training later this school year so watch this space!



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## Attendance Monitoring

Attendance is of high priority at Great Chart Primary School and as part of our attendance monitoring, we have noticed an increase in children being late for registration. **Children need to arrive 5 minutes before their registration time to ensure they are in school ready to learn.**

### Foundation Classes

Start of school and register taken at 8.50am

### Key Stage 1

**Year 2** start of school and register taken - 8.30 am

**Year 1** start of school and register taken - 8.40 am

### Key Stage 2

**Year 6 & 3** start of school and register taken - 8.30am

**Year 4 & 5** start of school and register taken - 8.40am



Any children that arrive after their registration time will be marked as late.



# Diary Dates

Friday 1st October—Harvest Service  
Thursday 7th October—Year 2 Forest School  
Thursday 7th October—Mr Nourish's Birthday Lunch  
Friday 8th October—Hello Yellow Day  
Thursday 14th October—Year 1 Forest School  
Tuesday 19th October 7pm —Friends' Committee Meeting  
Thursday 21st October—EYFS Forest School  
Thursday 21st October—School Photos  
**Friday 22nd October—Last day of term**  
**Monday 1st November—First Day of term**  
Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd November—EYFS Pedal Ready  
Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th November—Year 1 Bikeability  
Thursday 4th November—Year 6 Forest School  
Friday 5th November—Year 2 Bikeability  
Sunday 7th November—Friends' Fireworks Night  
Tuesday 9th November—Year 5 Victorian Day  
Thursday 11th November—Year 5 Forest School  
Thursday 11th November—Remembrance Service  
Wednesday 17th November—Flu Vaccinations  
Thursday 18th November—Year 4 Forest School  
Thursday 25th November Year 3 Forest School  
Thursday 2nd December—Year 2 Forest School  
Thursday 9th December—Year 1 Forest School

## Upcoming Exciting Dates

### 8th October

Year 1 Dinosaur Workshop

### 22nd October

Headteacher's Tea Party

### 11th November

Year 6 World War Workshops

### 15th November

Anti-Bullying Week

### 24th November 3.30-5.30

New Parents Open Session

parents must book

### 10th December

Christmas Jumper Day

### 13th December

KS2 Carol Concert

### 15th December

Christmas Dinner

### 15th December 3.30-5.30

New Parents Open Session

Parents must book

### 17th December

Pantomime—King Arthur

## Club Cancellations

Monday 18th October—NO Gymnastics Club with Mrs Burton  
Monday 8th November—NO Gymnastics Club with Mrs Burton  
Monday 15th November—NO Gymnastics Club with Mrs Burton  
Tuesday 7th December—NO Tag Rugby with Mrs Bispham and Mrs Booth



It has been brought to our attention that some parents are parking in Askes Court at drop off and pick up times, can we politely remind parents that this is not permitted. Parents can use either the car park at Singleton shops or at the Singleton Barn.



As we are sure you are aware the speed limit in Hoxton Close and the surrounding areas has now been reduced to 20mph. This has been implemented for the safety of our whole community.