



Great Chart Primary School

Newsletter for Parents and Pupils

February 2019



MESSAGE FROM MRS PANG, HEADTEACHER

Fingers crossed that we don't have too much disruption due to bad weather. The Site Managers have been very busy making sure the site is safe every morning. As you are aware I try to make a decision as early as possible and to assess whether the school site is safe to open.

Throughout the year we continue to strive to make sure Great Chart Primary School constantly improves. We have priorities every year and our main priorities for this year are:

- Develop the partnership with the Wyvern School
- Senior leaders to increase the impact that Middle Leaders have on improving the quality of Teaching and Learning
- Ensure that all children have access to a whole school curriculum which challenges the most able whilst enabling pupils of all abilities to succeed and have positive learning outcomes
- Further develop a cohesive approach to communication and language across the school with specific focus on the progress made by EAL, SEN and disadvantaged children
- Improve children's access to quality IT provision to aid independent learning
- Support the emotional wellbeing of pupils and staff, meeting their social, mental health and emotional needs
- Further engender positive values-based behaviour within the school
- Achieve whole school attendance Target of 97.5 and arrive at school on time.
- Ensure that all pupils meet their targeted outcomes
- Raise the attainment and improve the progress of Pupil Premium children
- Ensure that higher ability pupils children are challenged and meet their targeted outcomes

The Governors ensure that these priorities are very carefully monitored and hold the School Leadership to account. Governors are a very important part of school life and ensure the school is meeting all its statutory duties.

One of our priorities is to ensure all pupils arrive on time for the start of the school day. Please could I ask those parents who arrive late with their children that every effort is made to ensure that their children arrive on time. Not only is this an important life skill, it also means that they can start the day with the rest of the class and not feel embarrassed by arriving late. Classes are rewarded for punctuality and so by arriving on time, they can contribute to the success of this.

Please remember, if you have any concerns or worries please make an appointment to see a member of staff. Before school is sometimes tricky but with prior notice an appointment can be arranged. After school is always easier. We can also communicate with parents via emails or phone calls. Please speak to Mrs Davies or Mrs Mason to arrange any appointments. I hope to

In this issue

- Page 1—Message from Mrs. Pang, Headteacher
- Page 2— Year 6 World War 2 Day
- Page 2— Mental Health and Well-being
- Page 3— Lateness
- Page 3— Census Day Lunch
- Page 4—Diary Dates



Year 6 World War 2 Day

On Wednesday, 28th November, 6G and half of 6GW had a WW2 day where we experienced being evacuees during the time of the Blitz. In the morning, when we came to school, we were introduced to: Corporal Stern (Mrs Holmes) , Rose Stott (Miss Medicott) and Doris (Mrs Pile) and Doris Day (Mrs Smith).

After a while, we baked some ration cookies! The ingredients were 3 tablespoons of sugar, 3 tablespoons of margarine, 3 tablespoons of self-raising flour, 3 tablespoons of oats and finally 1 tablespoon of golden syrup. YUM!

While they baked, we went to the small-hall and were given slips of paper showing where we were going to be evacuated to. Examples were 'You will be staying with Mrs Court. She is a widow who lost her husband at the start of the war. She sometimes gets very upset and sometimes gets annoyed that you are staying with her.' Some evacuee parents were kind and let us have as much fun as we wanted, though others made us do chores from about 5am to 8pm. While we were on the train, we saw lots of different things from in the countryside (which in the role play we'd never seen before). We were asked to describe the greenery, sheep, cows and many other things! When we were picked up at the station, we wrote postcards home to our parents. We included such detail about if we liked it there, what made us like it there if we did, if there were any other children staying with us and if the people who were staying with us were kind or nasty. Most of them were mean. You were lucky if you got someone kind that let you do what you want and treated you to things.

After, we went to the class that we hadn't been in yet and pretended to be codebreakers! We had something called the Caesar Shift Code and we had a sheet of some muddled letters. We used a special piece of card to find out the secret German codes! After that, we used the keyword 'maths' to work out the vigenere square codes!

After lunch, we went into the small hall and sung songs as we had an air-raid! When it was over, we had tea and scones with jam and butter. After, we had a tea dance and danced the waltz with a boy and whoever danced the best got an extra scone! Later on, it was home time and we all left school; we all enjoyed WW2 day lots! It was a great day we'll never forget. Thank you to the Year 6 staff!

By Isla and Anya, 6 Griffin



Mental Health and Well-being

As staff who work with and care for young people we are increasingly concerned with their mental health and well-being. If you have concerns about your child please feel free to talk to your child's class teacher or to Nicky Ostridge, our FLO. You can also access advice from the following websites:

<https://www.minded.org.uk/>

<http://www.headstartkent.org.uk/>

If you, your family and/or children have any worries or concerns Mrs Ostridge is 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 she is here to help you be aware and access that provision. If you want to contact Mrs Ostridge you can leave messages with Reception or email her through the website Contact page. Mrs Ostridge is available from Monday to Friday.

Lateness

Overall attendance has been maintained at around the 97% mark, however lateness has greatly increased and is becoming a real issue. Our School Attendance Officer is becoming increasingly concerned and continued lateness will result in a referral to the School Liaison Officer.

At Great Chart the pupils arriving after 8:40am must enter the school by the main entrance and report to reception, where their name and reason for lateness will be recorded. The pupil will be marked as late, before registration has closed (L). The register will close at 9:00am, pupils arriving after this time will be marked as U, and this will count as an unauthorised absence.

Frequent lateness will be discussed at parent/teacher consultations and may be referred to the Family Liaison Officer (FLO) or School Liaison Officer (SLO). Unauthorised absences are monitored and may lead to a referral to KCC for a Penalty Notice.

If your child is late more than 10 times we will be monitoring it and may refer to the SLO, as it may provide grounds for prosecution or a Penalty Notice.

Class	Number of Lates Term 1 (Sept-Dec)
Foundation Griffin	20
Foundation Toke	12
1 Griffin	8
1 Toke	20
2 Griffin	9
2 Toke	7
3 Griffin	1
3 Toke	6
4 Griffin	36
4 Toke	8
5 Griffin	6
5 Toke	9
5 Goldwell	54
6 Griffin	18
6 Toke	29
6 Goldwell	9

Census Day Lunch

Children enjoyed a special lunch on Thursday 17th January and had the chance to win a book or stationery item. Well done to all the children who won a prize.





Diary Dates

Friday 1st February 2.15pm—5 Goldwell Sharing Assembly
Wednesday 6th February 2.15pm—Year 1 Chinese Workshop Performance to Parents
Thursday 7th February— Quiz Night at The Barn
Friday 8th February 2.15pm Year 4 Sharing Assembly
Tuesday 12th February 7pm—Friends Association Meeting
Friday 15th February—Last Day of Term
Monday 25th February—First Day of Term
Friday 1st March 3pm-3.30pm—Year 1 and 2 Open Classroom
Monday 4th March 2pm—Year 2 Parents SATS Talk
Monday 4th March 6pm—Year 6 Parents SATS Talk
Wednesday 6th March—Year 6 Education Visit to see Warhorse
Friday 8th March 2.15pm—Year 3 Sharing Assembly
Monday 11th March 3.15pm-6pm—Year 3, 4 and 6 Parent Teacher Consultations
Tuesday 12th March 7pm—Friends Association Meeting
Wednesday 13th March 3.15pm-6pm—EYFS, Year 1 and 2 Parent Teacher Consultations
Friday 15th March 3pm-3.30pm—Year 5 and 6 Open Classroom Sessions
Monday 18th March 3.15pm-6pm—EYFS, Year 1 and 2 Parent Teacher Consultations
Thursday 21st March 3.15pm-6pm—Year 3, 4 and 6 Parent Teacher Consultations
Friday 22nd March 3pm-3.30pm—EYFS Open Classroom Session
Friday 29th March 3pm-3.30pm—Year 3 and 4 Open Classroom Session
Friday 5th April—Last Day of Term
Tuesday 23rd April—First Day of Term

Club Cancellations

6th Feb—No Coding or Young Authors
26th Feb—No Fit and Fun
28th Feb—No Come and Play
6th Mar—No Coding or Young Authors
26th Mar—No Fit and Fun

Up Coming Exciting Dates

4th and 5th February
Year 4 Bikeability
6th February
Year 1 Chinese Workshop
11th, 12th, 13th, 14th & 15th Feb
Year 6 Bikeability
15th February
Headteachers Tea Party
1st March
Charlotte's Web Production to KS2
7th March
Year 3 Living History Roman Workshop
13th March
Year 2 African Workshop
5th April
Headteachers Tea Party

Year 2 Keystage 1 SATS

INFORMATION MEETING ABOUT KEY STAGE 1 STATUTORY ASSESSMENT TASKS (SATS)

Monday 4th March 2pm - 3pm in the large hall

During Year 2 your child will be taking part in Teacher Assessments and Statutory Assessment Tasks (SATs). These results will be reported to you in July. We will be giving a presentation explaining the assessment process and also give you some idea of the types of activities and tasks your child will be involved in. This information meeting is for parents only of children in Year 2. The meeting will be very informative and we urge you to try to attend so you can gain more of an understanding of Key Stage 1 SATs.

We look forward to seeing you.

Year 6 Keystage 2 SATS

INFORMATION MEETING ABOUT KEY STAGE 2 STATUTORY ASSESSMENT TASKS (SATS)

Monday 4th March 6pm in the large hall

During Year 6 your child will be taking part in teacher Assessments and Statutory Assessment Tasks (SATs). Please try to come to this meeting with your Year 6 son/daughter. We will be able to explain what your child will do during test week and you will be able to look at past KS2 SATs papers. Year 6 will be doing lots of preparation and revision from now until the SATs tests. **KS2 SATs are every day from 13th-16th May.**

We look forward to seeing you.