



Friday 22nd November 2019

CHEVENING needs



Please see **URGENT** request on p2.

Dear Parents/Carers,

This Sunday, we are taking part in the 10.30am service at St Botolph's Church, with singing, prayers, readings and collections being led by the children. Please do try to join us—we need children smartly dressed in uniform to represent our school. As the Brownies and Guides will be parading their colours, we will need some children to present our St Botolph's school banner. Anna Graham, Chaplain at Trinity School and Anni Gale will be leading the service, so there will be a great focus on the children. This is a great opportunity to see our children put their school values into action by serving in the church, as well as to get to know Anna Graham.

I am delighted to announce that Mrs Robinson was spotted on the playground this week! We were thrilled to see and hear that her recovery from her hip procedure is going so well, that she can return to work next week! The plan is for Mrs Robinson to return to Class 4 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, with Mrs McLean leading on Mondays and Fridays. We are all incredibly grateful to Mrs Billing for all her care and hard work in Class 4. Mrs Billing will return to working in Class 5 and Class 6 on Thursdays.

Mrs Edwards will be leading a workshop on Reading for parents/carers **NEXT Thursday** at 9am. Good reading skills underpin academic success, with fluency and incisive comprehension following on from initial decoding skills. As well as academic success, there is much enjoyment, interest and personal development by being a voracious reader. We are keen for all our children to be confident and capable readers, so encourage all parents to attend the session, *especially if they have NOT attended a Reading Angels training session.*

There are a number of important features in this week's Newsletter, so please do make sure you absorb all the information.

With best wishes,
Miss Minnis

Christian Values

We have eight Christian Values to help children and adults develop good characteristics and personal qualities. Each week, staff recognise children—and adults—who they find have displayed a particular value in different ways.

Ben F RESPECT	1	For always listening carefully and following instructions without fuss
Emily D PERSEVERANCE	2	For always trying her very best
Leia W HONESTY	3	For demonstrating to others the importance of telling the truth
Sophie B PERSEVERANCE	4	For working hard <u>all</u> of the time
Matthew W COURAGE	5	For how he has tackled his first week at Chevening
Freddie H RESPECT	6	For being respectful and working hard for the supply teacher this week

A special word of thanks to Mrs Cole who has shown great **perseverance and love** by steadily re-organising our Library and stocks of pre-loved clothes. We are all very grateful to her!

Chevening PTA - Can you help?

Alone we can do little, TOGETHER we can do so much!

Did you know?

- Over the last three years, our PTA has been enormously successful. With the support of all the parents and children who have attended our events, we have raised over **£60,000!**

How is this money spent?

- Contributions to the fantastic refurbishment of our school pool enabling children of all abilities to develop and enhance their swimming skills!
- New smartboards for the classrooms.
- Christmas Pantomime tickets for the whole school.
- Maintaining the minibuses so that we can attend offsite events.
- Chevening branded gazebo for all sporting events.
- A potentially lifesaving defibrillator.
- School playground equipment...and much, much more!

What happens to the PTA if we don't have a Chair?

- Without a Chairperson, the PTA will struggle to maintain the momentum of the fabulous fundraising achievements for our children's school, we will be unable to make quick spending decisions and ultimately, it will affect the future of our PTA.

How can I help?

- You don't have to organise events! All fundraising efforts for 2020 have been allocated to the class reps!
- You don't have to do it alone! The role can be split between two people, taking on the Chair and Co-Chair, or Vice-Chair position.
- The position does not have to be for three years!

You won't be alone!

- Not only will you have the full support of the PTA Secretary & Treasurer, but we have a fabulous, willing and capable PTA committee, fantastic parents and staff who passionately care about our school and are dedicated to raising significant funds for our children's learning.
- A full PTA handbook will be at your disposal with a detailed "how to" for all events.

Tempted and want to know more?

Please contact Emma Parmley/Heidi Brooks for further information!

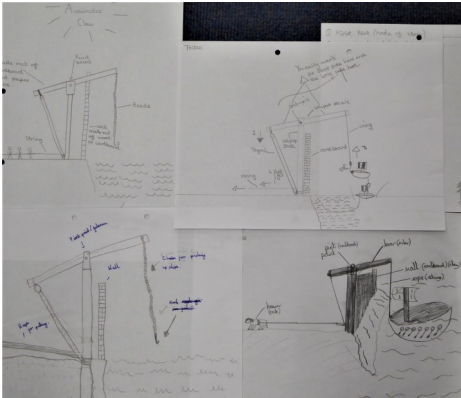
Class R

Class R have been exploring the fantastic picture book 'Stanley's Stick' by John Hegley. Like Stanley, the children went on their own stick adventures with their magical stick creations!



Class 5

Class 5's investigations about levers in Science and Ancient Greece in history, have led to a question about Archimedes' Claw. In the pictures you can see a lever mechanism to attack ships. Our work on pivots makes us think that too much force would be required to lift a ship. However, there is something else in the picture that might compensate. Can you spot it? That system is what we will investigate next.



Class 1

Class 1 have been making their own flash cards this week. We have written down new phase 5 phonemes and tricky words, to help us remember them when we are writing.



Class 6

Class 6 have been learning about Katsushika Hokusai; a Japanese artist who painted landscapes centred on Mount Fuji. We then produced our own work in his style of different mountains from around the world.



News from Year 7

We were delighted to welcome Emily back last week! Now firmly ensconced in Year 7, she took time to reflect on her first days/weeks in her Secondary School. We thought parents/carers and Class 6 might be interested in her report:

"When about to start Year 7, it may seem daunting finding your way round, making new friends and coping with homework, but it is really not! I go to Tonbridge Grammar Schools and was nervous that I wouldn't know anyone, or find a group of friends; however I was wrong. On the day before I started, TGS held a picnic for all the Year 7s. At the picnic I made several friends. Once I knew some girls, it suddenly made me less nervous and I became very excited to see my new-found friends the next day.

Once I arrived at school I soon settled in. On the first few days we played lots of games to get to know everyone in our form. The first full day of lessons took some getting used to, moving from class to class and building to building, but all the teachers and my classmates were really nice and, fortunately, we weren't allowed to get any homework for the first two weeks! After a while, I began to find my way around more easily. When we were first allowed to have homework we just got about 20 minutes a day. Every piece of homework was put on an app called Edulink. Edulink is an app that helps you keep organised. Gradually, I started to form a routine; every lunchtime I meet with my friends and have a chat with them, then we go to the Library to read or do homework, or sometimes go to a club.

I am really enjoying school and I have never once found myself stressed over the amount of homework. All the teachers are really encouraging and don't mind explaining something again. Overall, I am enjoying every aspect of secondary school life."

Class Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance ensures that everyone benefits from all that is on offer in school—socially, emotionally and academically, now and into the future.

	Weekly attendance
Class R	96.5%
Class 1	96.3%
Class 2	95.4%
Class 3	100%
Class 4	97.6%
Class 5	96.1%
Class 6	98.1%
School YTD	97.7%
Excellent	>97%: celebration of excellent attendance
Good	95-97%: note of good attendance
Poor	<95%: alert to poor & worrying attendance

PTA News



DONATIONS FORTNIGHT STARTS Monday, 25th November!

Please bring in your donations for the Christmas Fair, including:

- Items for the secrets room (unwanted gifts, candles, unused smellies etc) and brown wrapping paper
- Mince pies
- Chocolate coins, or other foil wrapped chocolate sweets (like Santa's, snowballs etc- usually in little net pouches at the supermarket)
- Teddies (preferably washed and fluffed!)

There will be a box in the office reception area.

Raffle tickets and colouring competition should be back by 2nd December, which is also Christmas Jumper Day (also known as, bring a bottle day)!

Cake donations welcomed on 6th December.

Christmas Compassion

In previous years, the school have collected different items to form a wall of love made from Christmas Gift boxes. These have been sent to other countries to share a little Christmas joy with strangers who have little cause to be joyful.

This year, we are keen to support a local charity -Their Voice - who focus on supporting refugees and victims of Modern Slavery. Their request is for individual items for different age children, or a rucksack containing a range of items—perhaps collected as a family, or group of friends.

If you are interested in knowing more, please see the attached information or visit <https://theirvoicemodernslavery.org.uk>

Thank you to Mr Qureshi for suggesting this charity—and offering to transport items and rucksacks!



Empowering Survivors of Modern Slavery

The Giving Back Christmas Advent.

Dates Ahead

Date	Event
24th November	St Botolph's Church School service: 10.30am
28th November	Reading Workshop for Parents: 9am
2nd December	Christmas Jumper Day
4th December	Whole school Christmas Lunch
6th December	Cake donations day
7th December	PTA Christmas Fair - 12:00- 3:00 pm
10th December	KS1 Nativity - 10 am & 2 pm
12th December	KS2 Carol Service @ St Botolph's Church 1:30 pm
16th December	"Once Upon a Bus" with special festive guest sponsored by the PTA
17th December	Whole School visit to "Aladdin" at the Stag Theatre Sevenoaks - No Actv8
18th December	End of term service @ St Botolph's 2:00 pm
6th January	First day of Term 3 - Inset Day - No children in school
7th January	First day back for children Term 3

www.chevening.kent.sch.uk

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