



# Chevening (St Botolph's) CE Primary School Newsletter No 03

**Autumn Term**

**Friday 20th September 2019**

## School Council 2019-2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are busy preparing for our school **Harvest Service** at St Botolph's Church on 3rd October, starting at 9am for children and families in Classes 1—6. This is a school community event and we are looking forward to Matt Taylor, Curate at St Nicholas' Church, Sevenoaks leading the service, with the children contributing their Harvest gifts, songs, Bible readings and prayers. A letter with more details will be sent out shortly.

Please consider if you could donate a small gift of non-perishable food (dried food, tins, sealed jars, etc) for your child to bring to our Harvest Service. These are used, along with other gifts from St Botolph's Church, to share compassion, love and faith with members of the local community. Class 6 take time to prepare the gifts and support the distribution process—a great opportunity to demonstrate our Christian Values to others.

We are asking our children and families to NOT bring card collections to school, whatever the type. Collecting and trading are lovely activities outside of school, but cards can easily be lost, damaged and exchanged, which can lead to confusion, upsets and arguments. Please enjoy these activities and cards out of school.

This week a number of our children have been showing their independence and responsibility, by joining School Council, training as a Sports Leader, planning updates for our website and preparing to welcome prospective families to visit the school. We are really proud to see them showing wisdom and pride in these ways—well done!

*With best wishes for the weekend,  
Miss Minnis*

School council have presented to their classes a charity that they would like to support; the charity is called 'The Hygiene Bank'. The School Council was given a lovely presentation by Charlotte and Grace, both in year 6, about the charity at our first meeting.

The charity is a collection bank for hygiene products which is then distributed to families in need. The councillors asked their fellow pupils if they would be able to donate any new, unused, unopened hygiene products such as: shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, soap, body lotion, toothpaste and toothbrushes, razors, deodorant, hair brushes, wipes, cotton wool etc. There will be collection bags in the office for all donations.

Thanking you in advance for your kind generosity. Please visit [www.https://www.thehygienebank.com/](https://www.thehygienebank.com/)

## Christian Values

James P <b>PERSEVERANCE</b>	<b>1</b>	For continuing to work hard even when the work was a bit tricky
Elsie B <b>RESPECT</b>	<b>2</b>	For always showing respect and doing the right thing
Jacob C <b>COMPASSION</b>	<b>3</b>	For always helping and thinking of others around him
Eloise J <b>PERSEVERANCE</b>	<b>4</b>	For her work on rounding to improve her understanding
Ana B <b>PERSEVERANCE</b>	<b>5</b>	For an amazing list of summer reading books and effort with homework
Austin B <b>COURAGE</b>	<b>6</b>	For using his initiative and having the courage to take his ideas to Miss Minnis

## Class News

### Class R

Class R had their first full week and really enjoyed it! They have been learning the rules and routines and have been having fun exploring the exciting Class R environment!



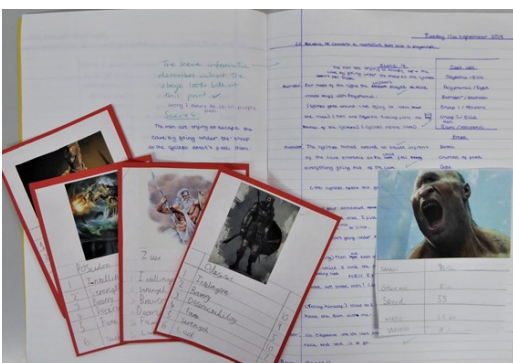
### Class 1

Class 1 have been learning about the body in Science this week. They made use of a bright afternoon to draw outlines, in chalk, of each other on the playground and then label each body part.



### Class 5

Class 5 have been honing their play-writing and acting skills following Homer's great example. The classroom has been the scene of a curious and cunning battle of wits between Polyphemus and Odysseus! Can you tell which part of the Odyssey we have been studying?



### Class 3

Class 3 have taken on the challenge of becoming petrologists (rock detectives) in Science! We made use of the glorious sunshine and were able to take our investigations outside.

Our observation skills were certainly put to the test as we tried to determine how hard and permeable (waterproof) the different rock types were, and whether or not they reacted to acid.



### Class 4

Class 4 were inspired by our beautiful class book 'Belonging' by Jeannie Baker. We have been busy all week finding areas of the school grounds that Class 4 feel need improving.

On Monday, each group then bravely stood in front of the class and shared their thoughts and ideas about their chosen area. This led to some great persuasive writing. As a class they voted on which project they felt they should start with. And the winner is: Mini Playground Restoration Project!

Next week, Class 4 will begin their mini renovation project. They hope to create a space that will be enjoyed by the whole school community and evolve over time.

Class 4 would like to raise some funds to buy some key items. They will be hosting a cake sale on Tuesday the 24th September at 2:30pm. Each class (accompanied by their class teacher) will be invited to our 'Bake Off' tent (classroom) where they will be able to purchase 3 cakes for £1. (There will be an egg free option). All profits made will go to the Kent Wildlife Trust. I do hope you are able to support Class 4 with this exciting project.





## World Mental Health Day Thursday, 10th October



Chevening Primary School is pleased to support World Mental Health Day on Thursday, 10th October. We invite everyone (staff, pupils, parents) to raise awareness of the importance of good mental health by wearing a yellow accessory (socks, hairband, tie) with their regular school uniform. We ask for a donation of £1 with all proceeds donated to the Young Minds charity.

### Free School Meals

If you receive certain benefits, the school can also get some additional money to support your child's learning. It's easy to apply for your child's free school meals online. Your eligibility will be checked and your application processed straight away. If your application is successful the school will be notified by email immediately and your child should start receiving their free school meal within 24 hours.

#### Who is eligible for free school meals?

Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on

## Play Leaders

Seven Class 5 pupils went to Sevenoaks School on Monday afternoon to learn how to become sports leaders. They were taught how to apply 'STEP' (space, time, equipment, people) to different games in order to adapt them as required. Our sports leaders will be running intra-school competitions at lunchtimes. They will also be reporting our results to the Sevenoaks Sports Partnership for the inter school competitions.



## Parent Governor



We are starting the process of seeking a new Parent Governor. If you are interested in considering this vital role, please speak with Mrs Prue Burrlock, Miss Minnis or ask at the School Office.

A letter has now gone out to all parents/carers this week; you can learn more about the role at <https://www.nga.org.uk/Governance-Recruitment/Be-a-school-governor-or-trustee.aspx>

## Class Attendance

On Wednesday we achieved the amazing feat of all children being in school! Fantastic attendance like this ensures that everyone benefits from all that is on offer in school—socially, emotionally and academically, now and into the future.

As a school, our minimum YTD attendance target is 96%. Attendance monitoring takes place every week and you will be informed of your child's attendance routinely.

	Weekly attendance
<b>Class R</b>	99.3%
<b>Class 1</b>	99.3%
<b>Class 2</b>	98.1%
<b>Class 3</b>	100%
<b>Class 4</b>	98%
<b>Class 5</b>	98%
<b>Class 6</b>	95.9%
<b>School YTD</b>	98.3%
Excellent	>97%: celebration of excellent attendance
Good	95-97%: note of good attendance
Poor	<95%: alert to poor & worrying attendance

## PTA News

Our PTA play a vital part in supporting school life in many ways, including lovely learning opportunities for children, social events for our families and a wealth of new resources that the school could not afford without their generous support. Over the summer holiday more brand new Interactive Whiteboards were installed, which will help keep your child's learning engaging and relevant. However, without key people, the plethora of events and fund-raising activities would not happen.

We are looking for someone to take on the PTA Chairperson role. If you are interested in finding out what the role entails, please feel free to speak with Heidi Brooks or ask at the School Office.

We hope lots of parents/carers joined the Welcome Coffee Morning today at the Bricklayers Arms. This is just one opportunity for parents, old and new, to meet informally, make new friends and offer support to each other and the school. The PTA AGM will take place on Tuesday, 8th October. Time and location TBC.

## Dates Ahead

Date	Event
24th September 3:45 - 5:00 pm	Y1 - 6 Meet the Teacher—drop in for Q&As
26th September	BBC Music Day
27th September	MacMillan Coffee Morning Y6
2nd October	New entrants Reception 2020 Open Morning
3rd October 9-10:30 am	School Harvest Service @ Chevening St Botolph's
3rd October	National School Census Day
3rd - 8th October	Travelling Book Show
6th October 10:30 - 11:30 am	Chevening St Botolph's Harvest Service
8th October	PTA AGM - Time & location TBC
10th October	World Mental Health Day
11th October	New entrants Reception 2020 Open Morning
17th October	National Child Measurement Program
18th October	Staff Inset Day - No children in school

## Prayer Group: Fridays 9am

All parents/carers are welcome to join the group that meets each week to pray for the school. This term, we will meet on Fridays. If you have requests for prayers of thanksgiving, healing, support, etc. please let us know. All prayers are welcome said, silent & sung!

## Act of Worship

This week's Bible hero is Ruth—a loyal friend to Naomi, whose faith was honoured by God. Ruth is a real contrast to Joshua—his faith influenced many of God's people immediately; Ruth's faith influenced many through the lineage of Jesus.

How might our faith impact our friends, our class, our school, our community, our country and our world?

*One way we can demonstrate our faith is by giving thanks for all that we have—running water, food, shelter, loving friends and families. As we prepare for Harvest, can we find ways to share our belongings, time, energy, smiles and loves with those who do not have so much?*