



Chevening (St Botolph's) CE Primary School Newsletter No 9

Autumn Term 2: Friday 9th November 2018

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your helpful feedback to the changes in our weekly newsletter. We will be continuing to look at school communication in the weeks ahead.

It has been lovely for me to greet parents/carers at the start and end of the school day. In order to have a little more time to get to know you, Prue Burrlock (our Chair of Governors) and I would like to invite you to stay on for informal coffee and chat on 16th November at 9am in our School Library. We look forward to seeing you then!

Next week sees our Parent Consultation appointments for this term. We are trialling a different approach, with all teachers being based in the Hall. This means we will not have space for children, but the PTA and Governors will be serving refreshments while you wait to see your child's teacher.

This week, the children's focus has been on Remembrance activities and learning. Thank you so much to everyone who has supported with photos, poppies, memories, butterflies and family research. This is an incredibly moving centenary and we are very proud of the way our children have participated.

With very best wishes, Miss Minnis

200 years celebration

We have received some amazing artefacts and photos depicting school life in yesteryear. We have arranged for an aerial photo of the school to be taken, to help the children see how the site has changed over time. A big thank-you to Mr Whitehead for volunteering.

We are delighted that some past staff, Governors and pupils will be attending our School Service at St Botolph's on 18.11.18. Sir Michael Fallon will be joining us too, so please do try to attend! There will be special music, readings, interviews, songs and photo opportunities to enjoy.

On Mon 19.11.18, the children can come to school dressed up to represent different eras of school life, to support their learning:

Class 1-1945	Class 2-Victorians	Class 3-The Future
Class 4-WWII	Class 5-Georgian	Class 6-pre-WWI/WWI

Swimming Pool Refurbishment

Our Governor, David Lewis, writes: "One of our children's overriding memories of their time at Chevening is the fun they had in the school swimming pool whilst learning to swim. This is highlighted every year by our school leavers. However the pool's current poor state, and that of the changing rooms, has meant we have had to start a major project to refurbish both. We aim to complete this by early next year. Then we will have an amazing facility, with the pool's life extended for another 20-30 years (the pool dates back to 1930). Re-opening the pool will ensure our children's memories continue!

The overall cost of this project is expected to be a little over £200,000. Already, donations from our local community and from fundraising (thank you PTA!) have provided about 60% of the funds needed but we still need to raise up to £80,000. So we need your fundraising support. If you would like to get involved or make a donation then please do contact our PTA at cheveningpta@gmail.com or bursar@chevening.kent.sch.uk. As part of the wider fundraising effort there will be invitations to fundraising events, so do look out for them.

Next year we will need your support as part of the swimming pool team, including help with lifeguarding. There will be more information on this, including training, nearer to when the children start swimming. Meanwhile, thank you in advance for what you are able to do in support of the fundraising effort."

Class News

Class 2: Finlay has made this amazing Autumnal scene as his homework.



Class 4 have created mixed-media pictures to accompany Remembrance-themed poems written in class.



Anti-Bullying Week

Don't forget the children can wear 'odd socks' on Monday! This is a great practical reminder for everyone that it is good to be different. Each class will be learning about friendship and anti-bullying throughout next week.

Sports News

The girls' football team was nothing short of phenomenal in the tournament on Thursday. They won 2 games, drew 2 games and lost 1. Goals scored by Tess and Thea! Their team spirit and determination was a joy to see and they smiled throughout. Barnaby was a fantastic coach and we also had support from Cy. We ended up coming second! Thank you to all the parents (and Mrs McLean) who braved the cold to come and support.



Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our 'wall of love' with beautifully wrapped Christmas shoeboxes. We are half-way towards our target of 100. Collection continues until Monday 12th November— so there's just a little more time to bring completed boxes in before the deadline, when they will be taken to the Collection Point for packaging and distribution.

School Contacts:		
Attendance/sickness messages; EMC/Activ8 bookings/cancellations; School lunch orders/changes/cancellations	Mrs Grobelaar	reception@chevening.kent.sch.uk
Admissions	Mrs English	office@chevening.kent.sch.uk
EMC/Activ8 bills	Mrs Thewlis	bursar@chevening.kent.sch.uk
School lunch payments	www.principals-catering.com	Pay by debit/credit card via phone 07483 425779

Class Attendance

This week's attendance is 96.3%, a slight increase from last week. Six out of seven classes attendance percentage has improved from last week. 54% of pupils have 100% attendance so far this year. We know regular and punctual attendance is vital to helping the children develop socially, emotionally and academically. Please remember to let the school know if your child is absent from school.

Class R	98.7%
Class 1	98.3%
Class 2	97%
Class 3	98%
Class 4	95.7%
Class 5	98.1%
Class 6	95%
Whole school	96.3%
Key	
Excellent	>97%: celebration of excellent attendance
Good	95-97%: note of good attendance
Poor	<95%: alert to poor & worrying attendance

PTA News

Donations Fortnight - 12.11.18-23.11.18

**Christmas Pudding Making - Wed 21.11.18
7.30 - 9.30pm**

Following last year's successful event, we are looking forward to another evening of sipping mulled wine, eating mince pies and listening to festive tunes, while making Christmas Puddings. Ticket numbers are restricted, so book in early!

Christmas Jumper Day (and bring a bottle for the tombola) - 23.11.18

Cake Collection Day - 30.11.18

Christmas Fair - Sat 01.12.18: 12:00 - 3.00pm

Our Christmas Fair date must be in your diary! One feature will be a shopping haven for children to secretly buy gifts for family members ranging in price from 50p to £3, then wrap them (with a little help from the teachers). If you have any unwanted gifts or unused items (candles, toiletries, jewellery, gadgets, etc), please put them in the donations box in the office.

Any questions? Contact-cheveningpta@gmail.com

Dates Ahead

Date	Event
12-16.11.18	Anti-bullying Week
12.11.18	Odd Socks Day
12.11.18	Deadline for Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal
13.11.18 3.30-6.00pm	Parent-Teacher Consultations
15.11.18 5.00-8.00pm	Parent-Teacher Consultations
16.11.18 9am	Coffee Morning with Prue Burrlock & Karen Minnis
18.11.18 10.30am	Church Service @ St Botolph's: 200th years of school in Chevening
21.11.18 7.30-9.30pm	Christmas Pudding Making
01.12.18 12-3.00pm	Chevening Primary School Christmas Fair
05.12.18 2.00 pm TBC	Christmas Carols at Leonard Cheshire Home
11.12.18 10am & 2pm	KS1 Nativity
12.12.18	Christmas Lunch for children
13.12.18 5.30pm	KS2 Carol Service @ St Botolph's Church
19.12.18 2pm	End of term Service @ St Botolph's Church

Please check carefully for additions & amendments!

Act of Worship News

Last week, one of the children's prayers stated, *"Dear Lord, Thank you for our wonderful world and that we can share it with our friends. We also thank you for today and we hope that tomorrow will be just as good. Amen"*

What a beautiful thanksgiving reflection and request, as we all prepare for Remembrance Services and Parades this weekend.