

Chevening (St Botolph's) CE Primary School

Newsletter 36 - 13th September 2018

www.chevening.kent.sch.uk

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HARVEST

As the summer season gently yields to autumn we look forward to the School Harvest Celebration at Chevening, St. Botolph's, Church on Thursday 4th October at 9:15. As usual we would request Y6 pupils and parents to stay behind for a short while after the service to display the items beautifully in the church. On the following Monday, Y6 pupils and parent volunteers will deliver the goods to people identified by the church. This is a great learning opportunity for the children and also helps us to see how the nature of the visit and conversations that take place often mean much more than the food itself. So often, the greater gift is compassion, company and care. (There will be more details about gifts and arrangements in the next newsletter.)

ANOTHER WARM WELCOME

We are very pleased to welcome our new Year R pupils to Chevening as well as some new additions to classes 3 and 1. We also extend a welcome to Mrs Holdak who will be joining the team as a new TA.

CLUBS

Thank you for signing your children up for the variety of clubs on offer. It has been noticeable how quickly places have been requested and we have been pleased to see a larger 'take-up' than we may have expected. The office is running a waiting list system as there are some children keen to join over-subscribed clubs. (Please note that attendance at a competitive club does not necessarily mean that a child will be selected for external competitions, as the team sizes are restricted. While attending the club is beneficial to team performance, if there are particular reasons why a child has not been able to join, it does not necessarily mean they can not be selected to play in a competition.)

Our apologies that the "O2 Choir" register was open to Y3 in error. Unfortunately, the performance at the O2 is not suitable for children of this age for both safety and health reasons. Mrs Robinson has kindly expanded the scope of her 'Little Voices' register to offer a place to any Y3s who requested an O2 place instead.

Go Green Club is a new initiative started by Mrs Roll and the children will enjoy being out and about attending to 'all things green' around the site. There are still spaces if your child would like to join.

Puzzle Club is being run by Mrs McLean and is ideal to get those brain cells working on all types of reasoning for KS2. (It's not playing with jigsaws – it's getting that grey matter fizzing with all sorts of puzzles, codes and reasoning; some visual, some language or maths based.) There are still spaces available so we would like to offer it to Year 4 as well as Year 5.

German Club is being run by one of our parents and is open to Years 2&3 on a Thursday lunch time; spaces are still available.

TRIPS & VISITS

Trips and visits often stick in the minds of children and make a great difference to their engagement with particular topics. Thank you to those who volunteer to help, contribute, and transport children. Y5 are fortunate to be finding out all about Issac Newton at Radnor House on Thursday, 20th Sept with a workshop to follow. Sadly, the Wide Horizons Trust is no longer able to offer residential trips and so the Office staff have done well to find an exciting alternative. Y4 have been booked to attend Carrotty Wood, a venue that we have really enjoyed attending in the past, for our residential trip this year.

Diary Dates

Term 1 2018/2019

Friday, 14th September 2:45

Meet the Teacher (Y1-Y6)

Monday, 17th September

Clubs Start

Friday, 20th September

Y5 Science Event

PTA Event - The Greatest Showman

Thursday, 27th September

New Entrants Open Morning

Thursday, 4th October 9:15

School Harvest Festival

Friday, 12th October

New Entrants Open Morning

Monday, 15th October

YR & Y6 Height & Weight Measure

Tuesday, 16th October

No violin lessons

Thursday, 18th October

Last day of clubs T1

Friday, 19th October

INSET DAY - No pupils in school

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN SINGALONG EVENT

Don't miss "The Greatest PTA Event" - 20th September, 7:30 pm Chevening School Hall.

CHEVENING PRAYER GROUP

There is a Chevening Parent & Staff Prayer Group that meets every Thursday for 20 minutes after morning drop off. Prayers are offered for the parents, staff and children of our community. For further information, please contact laura@wickhams.co.uk

READING LISTS

Reading for pleasure is a great way for children to improve their literacy skills but finding the right book can be a challenge. We have "Recommended Reading Lists" on the website under "Class Pages – Reading Lists". The National Literacy Trust (<http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk>) has lots of interesting features and activities.

SITE DEVELOPMENT

It's lovely to see the nursery up and running in a beautiful new building. There was a lot of work on site over the summer to make this happen, so thank you to all those who have supported it.

Mrs Thewlis, School Bursar, reports that our other major building project, the swimming pool, is well underway but has suffered delays from the contractor as their other projects have overrun. However, they anticipate starting with us in October. We look forward to working with the PTA to raise the remaining funds needed for the pool and the changing room refurbishment, which will ensure that all the swimming pool facilities are upgraded in time for the swimming season in Term 6. The total figure required is still being determined as we have not finalised the requirements for the changing rooms.

UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS, MRS PRUE BURRLOCK

- Mrs Lovatt-Young will be visiting Tanzania, representing Shoreham Village Primary School with the local church, from 19th Sept to 4th Oct. The Governors were aware of this and have therefore arranged for Headteacher advice and support to be available to our SLT during this time.
- **SITE MX49, FROGHOLE FARM, CHEVENING ROAD - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**
Further to my email of 5th September, I can confirm that the Governing Body have now met to discuss this proposal, after receiving an extension from Sevenoaks District Council to enable us to comment. The Governing Body were unanimous that the proposed development would bring no benefit to Chevening (St Botolph's) CE Primary School. The proposals may be viewed via the following Sevenoaks District Council website.

RIVERHEAD CARNIVAL REMINDER

Riverhead Carnival (organised by 3rd Sevenoaks Scouts) will be taking place on Chipstead Common on 16th September from 12 till 4pm. Admission is free. (See newsletter #35 for more detail.)

POPIES REMINDER FROM MRS MCLEAN

This November is the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. To mark this occasion we would like to create a ribbon of poppies around the playground made up of ***at least*** 100 knitted poppies - hopefully hundreds of knitted poppies! (See newsletter #35 for the pattern.)

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please may we remind all parents to ensure that your child's uniform is named; this makes it much easier to reunite lost property with the correct owners.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS – Is your child eligible for free school meals?

Free School Meals (FSM) is for all school age children, from Reception to Year 6, who meet certain criteria to do with family income. Children, who are eligible for these free school meals **and claim them**, also attract significant additional funding for the school. This enables us to plan and fund better provision for our children. FSM children can still choose daily whether or not they wish to order a school meal or bring a packed lunch if they wish. Making a free school meals claim is confidential, so your child will never be identified to other children or parents. As school budgets tighten and a greater proportion of funding is released through the FSM formula, **it is vital for our school that anyone eligible does claim their entitlement**, even if they are Key Stage One and get a free school lunch. If you think there is any chance you might be eligible, please have a look - www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals

Diary Dates cont.

22nd October – 26th October

HALF TERM

Monday, 29th October

First day Term 2

T2 Clubs Start

Wednesday, 31st October

Last day for secondary school applications

Friday, 30th November

Last day of clubs T2

Reminder of useful contact information for parents:

Attendance/sickness information -

Mrs Grobbelaar

reception@chevening.kent.sch.uk

EMC or Active8

bookings/cancellations -

Mrs Grobbelaar

reception@chevening.kent.sch.uk

EMC or Active8 bills - Mrs Thewlis

bursar@chevening.kent.sch.uk

Admissions - Mrs English

office@chevening.kent.sch.uk

School lunch

orders/changes/cancellations -

Mrs Grobbelaar

reception@chevening.kent.sch.uk

School lunch payments - Online at www.principals-catering.com or correct cash (no cheques) in a named envelope to the office or pay by debit/credit card via telephone on 07483 425779.