

Term 6

Be happy **Be kind**
Be responsible



A termly insight into School Life

Charlton Primary Newsletter



Attendance Matters

Please don't let your child be disadvantaged by poor attendance.

When arranging holiday dates it is worth remembering that much research has been undertaken around the importance of high levels of attendance; clearly there is a solid link between academic attainment and good attendance.

Illness to one side, the target should be for each pupil not to miss any of the 190 days in a school year.

If you are experiencing any difficulties with your child's attendance and would like further support please do not hesitate to contact either myself, Mrs Rooke or our attendance lead, Mrs Batten.

Dear Parents and Carers,

It would appear the old adage is true – time does fly when you're having fun! After an enjoyably filled and busy year this will be the last newsletter of the school year.

On behalf of the whole school, I would like to say an enormous Thank You to the PTA team and everyone that has attended or supported the many various events throughout the year raising much needed funds. With an ever decreasing school budget this fundraising is absolutely vital to the school.

On that note, it is fair to say that continuing to offer the provision we do is becoming ever more challenging. All schools across the country are facing the same challenge as a result of receiving smaller budgets whilst facing ever increasing costs.

Simply put, with less money schools have little choice but to employ less staff, have fewer resources and reduce the wider enrichment opportunities. Charlton is no different, and although we work hard to try to overcome these financial difficulties, there are aspects that are in jeopardy. Questions and real decisions, such as: How do we maintain a school library? Should we ration paper towels? Is Forest School sustainable? Should we cancel school trips if costs aren't covered by voluntary donations, and how do we continue to attract the best staff to support our pupils?

Continues below...

Recently, Charlton has been very fortunate to have received some one off donations that have helped us to continue with school improvements. I have also had an enquiry from a family who wish to make a monthly contribution to school. We are of course extremely grateful for this. If you would like to find out how to make a donation then please go to our donation information page on our school website.

<https://charltonprimary.com/2017/12/06/make-a-donation/>

Every little helps

A review of school expenditure has highlighted the growing cost of consumables. As a means of helping with this we are launching a ‘**Donate a Consumable Day**’. On the first Friday of the new term (7th September) we are inviting parents to donate (only if they wish to) an item from the list below. These will be collected in the Art Studio, sorted and distributed across the school. We are looking for a team of 3-4 volunteers to help run this operation. If you would like to help, please let the office team know.

Items needed in school

- Glue sticks
- Pencils
- Colouring pencils
- A4 white paper (suitable for printing and photocopying)
- Card (all shapes, sizes and colours please)
- Scrap paper/scrap card
- Tennis balls (lots and lots)
- Footballs (size 3 & 4)
- Small cardboard boxes for craft activities
- Boxes of tissues
- Packets of blu tac
- Sellotape/masking tape

Other ways to support the school

We are very grateful to all of the people who volunteer in their spare time to support our school. Currently we have volunteer vacancies for:

- Supporting Forest School (morning or afternoons on Monday or Tuesday)
- Volunteers with a particular interest in books and reading to help run and support the main school library
- 1:1 reading with pupils (any age group)

If you are able to volunteer on a regular basis please contact the school office.

Newsletter continues below...

Sports and PE in school - GOLD !!!!

I am very pleased and proud to announce that for the third year running Charlton Primary School has been awarded the GOLD accreditation. The School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school. Schools in England are assessed against bronze, silver and gold levels. The Mark is a retrospective award validating our success over the past 12 months.

My thanks go to all the staff for getting behind Sport and PE in school with special thanks to Mrs Goodman and Mrs Rose for co-ordinating this area and keeping us on track.

New classes

We have completed the transition schedule preparing the children for their classes in September. Teachers have met a number of times to discuss their new classes and exchange information. Wherever possible, staff appointments for September have been included in these visits so that all children will have met with any new staff before the end of this school year. As outlined in a previous letter, we welcome three teachers to Charlton in September – Mr Sam Conway, Miss Nicola Smith and Mr Rob Beavan.

A fond farewell

As the term at Charlton Primary School comes to an end, and as is often the case we say a fond farewell to pupils and members of staff. Mr Williams, Mrs Gill and Miss Phippen are all leaving Charlton and we wish them well in their new adventures.

We also wish our Year 6's well as they move on to Year 7. I have been impressed with the hard work they have shown this year and I feel very confident they are all well prepared for secondary school. I look forward to hearing about future successes and achievements.

I feel a special mention is needed in the case of Mrs Witney. Many of you will know already but after 30 years at Charlton Mrs Witney is retiring. Mrs Witney is well-known among many families whose children have attended the school and have fond memories of her as a teacher. This doesn't surprise me. To put it simply, Mrs Witney is a truly excellent teacher and will be hugely missed by us all.

I recently asked Mrs Witney what her advice would be to those thinking of teaching as a career - "If you would like to help children become confident individuals who aim to reach their potential whatever their ability, then this could be the job for you. It is especially satisfying to see quiet children come out of their shell and gain confidence - your reward is the knowledge that you are helping to develop responsible and curious adults of the future".

With this in mind I would like to thank all the staff at Charlton for their hard work and dedication in making Charlton a great school. A thank you also to everyone for all the support we receive – it is much appreciated.

Enjoy the summer. Fingers crossed the sunshine will continue.

Steven Rose
Headteacher

Please do take a moment to look at our website and see what has been going on across our school.

<https://charltonprimary.com/>