

Charlton Mackrell Primary School

'The one who gets wisdom loves life.' Proverbs 19:8

Newsletter 07.01.2022

Our Christian Value this term is Courage

Welcome back to the Spring Term and a special welcome to Isabella, who joined us for the last week of term and to Lily who joined this week. We hope you and your families will enjoy being part of our community.

It is so lovely to see the children back in school and feeling refreshed and enthusiastic about the new term.

What is my child learning this term?

This will be uploaded to the website under 'Children and Learning' over the next week.

There are termly plans under the class tabs and then our full rolling programme under the curriculum tab.

Plans for the future

The school has invested heavily in time, effort and finances to develop the Read, Write, Inc. learning to read and write programme. The impact on the standards in English has been wonderful, as a result of this initiative. We will continue to embed this work into our teaching and receive support from the English Hub. Our outdoor learning areas were also transformed for the younger children, but we need to look forward to the next area for development.

This is where we have some exciting news. In the week before Christmas, 60 brand new ipads, with cases and charging trolleys were donated to the school by a very generous local resident. We have also replaced all the interactive white boards over the Christmas holidays.

We have all the equipment and must now ensure we make the maximum use of it. There are 30 EdTech specialist schools in the country, who provide support to improve learning using IT. They work in a similar way to the English Hub and will be working with us to upskill the teaching staff and children to make the best of this fantastic technology. We are so overwhelmed by this gift, but are determined to make the most of the fantastic learning opportunity.

Clubs

Tuesdays – Rugby

Wednesday – TLE sports club

Thursday – Craft Club and Saints South West Football

Friday – Gymnastics

PE Days

Rainbow – Wednesdays (TLE sports coach) and Fridays (Gymnastics)

Hurricane – Mondays (Swimming) and Tuesdays (Rugby Coach)

Wildfire – Tuesdays (Rugby coach) and Wednesdays (TLE sports coach)

Swimming

Hurricane will be swimming on Mondays at Goldenstones Swimming Pool in Yeovil. Please can the children wear their swimming things to school under their uniform, as we leave shortly after 9. Full school uniform (NOT PE kit) – it is easier to round up lost property!

Preschool

We have had a lovely first week back at preschool. The children have shared their Christmas experiences and made a Christmas memory book. The Christmas Robin book has been our focus this week with the children discussing how Christmas is celebrated around the world and different traditions.

Preschool Pringle Tubes

Kim is still collecting her tubes ready for a fun raising idea later this term.

COVID

We currently have two pupils and one member of staff off with COVID. They all knew they were positive before the start of term, so will return when their isolation period is complete.

If your child is at home isolating, it is very important that they continue to keep up with their learning. Whilst we appreciate that some children feel quite unwell for a few days, most are well enough to continue their studies. Children are expected to complete the work on Google Classroom and hand this into their teacher for marking.

Parent Advice Evenings

These evenings are excellent, but few CM parents seem to attend, so I thought it might be useful to share some feedback from one of our parents:

‘I just wanted to let you know what an informative evening the Children's Well-being and Mental Health talk was last Monday (6/12/21).

Very well presented, lots of easily absorbed information and suitable from primary to secondary children. I can highly recommend for all parents, to improve general well-being or if they are struggling with Mental Health issues. The presenter mentioned that her team, the NHS Somerset Mental Health Support group, are planning on visiting schools so more people can hear the information.

Thank you for letting us know about the information evenings.’

The next meetings that we have coming up are:

Behaviour Management Techniques

With Family Solutions Somerset

Monday, 24th January at 6:30pm, estimated end time 8pm

A whistle stop tour of some parenting techniques and strategies to use with your children aged 2-18.

We will be looking at the following principles that underpin all areas of parenting (and relationships) whatever the age.

- Emotion Coaching, being able to label our emotions- CBT/Behaviour Curve
- Showing empathy not sympathy
- Attention – children will seek any kind of attention – good or bad
- Ignoring behaviours we want to see less of
- Specific praise... labelled
- Social Learning Theory – new behaviours can be learnt by observing and imitating others (bandura)
- Use of rewards – after the event (bribes come before), smart and cheap

The session will be fully collaborative, and we will be open to conversations and listening to your own techniques which have been successful.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/9jR8M5hDZNnQnvTm8>

Growth Mindset

SCC Educational Psychologist

31st January 2022 at 6:30pm, estimated end time 8pm

The beliefs children have about intelligence, effort, and struggle impact the choices they make about learning. Children with a fixed mindset believe that intelligence is fixed at birth and doesn't change with practice. They see school as a place where abilities are evaluated and they interpret mistakes as a sign that they lack talent.

This session will help you help your child/ren to develop a **growth mindset** believing that intelligence can be developed. These students see school as a place to develop their abilities and think of challenges as opportunities to grow.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/9cvon4GwrC3ChTaaA>

Dyslexia Awareness

With Mark Long, SCC Lead Advisory Teacher

Monday, 28th February 2022

Starting at 6:30pm, estimated end time 8pm

Dyslexia is a learning difference that affects 1 in 10 people. Individuals with dyslexia often find it challenging to develop reading and spelling fluency and can also have difficulty with remembering verbal instructions and learning sequences such as the alphabet, days of the week and times table facts.

This session provides an introduction to dyslexia. It explains why children with dyslexia can find reading, spelling and writing so challenging and describes strategies that can be used to help children improve in these areas.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/ewtp83j8RhP53MLU7>

Online Safety & Social Media

With Amy Brittan, SCC Education Technology Advisor

14th March 2022 at 6:30pm, estimated end time 8pm

New technologies inspire children to be creative, communicate and learn. But with the digital world changing all the time, how can you make sure your child's staying safe?

This session will provide parents/guardians/carers with information to support their children to enjoy technology safely and responsibly. You will have the opportunity to think about what you want to do to protect your family and to equip them for their future.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/Qt4Dxmbjb4KVME377>

Dates for the diaries

Tuesday 12th January – Open the Book Collective Worship in church (Everyone welcome)

Tuesday 1st February - Open the Book Collective Worship in church (Everyone welcome)

Thursday 17th February – Break up for half term

Friday 18th February – Inset Day

Half Term



Games from the end of last term.

