

## **Charlton Mackrell Primary School**

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

### **Newsletter 04.02.2022**

#### **Our Christian Value this term is Courage**

Thank you to Wildfire Class for leading our Thursday Collective Worship. We also enjoyed Open the Book on Tuesday in church. On Friday it was the **NSPCC's Number Day**. The children enjoyed number treasure hunts, number games and Monty and Arlo managed to complete a very tricky challenge that they had been working on since last term. No other Charlton Mackrell mathematicians have ever managed to complete the task. Top marks to those two boys.

#### **Wonderful Awards**

Jonjo was the Rainbow Reader of the Week.

Immy was the Rainbow Star of the Week.

William was the Hurricane Star of the Week.

Caiden was the Hurricane Reader of the Week.

Leigh was the Tornado Reader of the Week.

Ottie was the Tornado Star of the Week.

Betty was the Wildfire Reader of the Week.

Olly was the Wildfire Star of the Week.

#### **Staffing**

After much deliberation Mrs Thompson has taken the decision to step down as a teacher at the school from Easter. She is an amazing teacher, who has contributed so much to our school. A well liked member of the team and firm favourite with the children. We will miss her very much and thank her for all her efforts. We hope that Mrs Thompson will continue to be fully involved with the school in other ways.

Fortunately, we have been able to secure Mrs McDonnell to take up the post in Tornado class. Mrs McDonnell currently works at Baltonsborough Primary School full time and has only agreed to join us as she wants to work part-time, so the circumstances suit us all brilliantly. Mrs McDonnell is a highly experienced teacher, who is very well thought of by her previous schools. We look forward to her joining the team.

#### **Year 6 Huish transition**

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February Mr Madge from Huish Academy is coming into school to meet the Year 6 pupils who are going there in September.

#### **Clubs for after half term – details in a separate Parentmail**

Mondays – Little Troopers (Mrs Marklew)  
Tuesdays – Possibly Cricket (waiting to see if this will be before or after Easter)  
Wednesday – TLE sports club  
Thursday – Saints South West Football  
Friday – Fun Sports (Mrs Carter-Rice)  
Friday – Choir (Miss Rose)

### **PE Days**

Rainbow – Wednesdays (TLE sports coach) (This will be replaced with swimming on a Monday three weeks after half term) and Fridays (Gymnastics)  
Hurricane – Mondays (Swimming) until two weeks after half term then will change to TLE sports on a Wednesday and Tuesdays (Rugby Coach – this changes after half term)  
Wildfire – Tuesdays (Rugby coach – this changes to a different sport after half term) and Wednesdays (TLE sports coach)

### **Preschool**

This week's tremendous tree leaf award goes to Rafe for coming in to preschool with a confident smile and going straight to wash his hands.

We have been celebrating Chinese New Year this week, with a delicious snack of noodles and a dragon dance in the woods. We explored Chinese cookery books and discussed the year of the tiger. Our books this week were 'The Tiger who came to Tea' and 'I am a tiger'. The children really engaged with these, we continued with the animal theme listening to animal sounds and describing their own animal characters with the children guessing which animal they were.

### **Music**

Since Miss Botterill's departure to Scotland, we have been missing her musical inspiration. Somerset Music have not been as supportive as we had hoped, therefore, our guitar teacher, Luke Belcher, has agreed to teach music to Wildfire Class. Mr Belcher is a fully qualified music teacher, so will bring both his teaching and musical knowledge to the role.

For individual lessons, Luke will continue with guitar, Nicky Tanner teaches clarinet and Richard Jenkins will take the cello group, violin lessons and piano. However, we still have a significant waiting list, so you will have seen a parentmail linked to Huish Academy. Huish are hoping to provide music teachers to enable all pupils, who want to learn an instrument, to have lessons, providing we have the space to accommodate this. We see this as a very positive step to enriching the opportunities open to our pupils.

### **Sport**

Tom Stokes, one of our governors, works at Millfield School and is keen for our CM pupils to benefit from their fantastic sporting facilities. Watch this space as we figure out the logistics!

CLP fixtures – This week we heard that the CLP sports fixtures are starting again. These can be found on the Charlton Mackrell School website in the diary.

## Service Pupil Premium

A parent asked if the spending of the Service Pupil Premium could be discussed at the governor's meeting last Monday. Following a healthy discussion, with input from Kimball and Neil, both governors and military parents, it was decided to review the ways in which this money is spent. Currently, the £8,190 is largely spent on pastoral support for pupils, with our school ELSA, Miss Chugg. Budget setting takes place in March, **so now is the time to share your views on how this money should be best spent.** The government have guidelines, so there are restrictions.

***The SPP is there for schools to provide mainly pastoral support for service children, whereas the pupil premium (PP) was introduced to raise attainment and accelerate progress within disadvantaged groups.***

***SPP should not be used to subsidise routine school activity (trips, music lessons etc). Schools may choose to fund school trips just for service children, to help them enjoy their time at school and build a sense of a wider community and understanding of the role their service parent plays (e.g. with military specific trips).***

## COVID

We currently have one teacher and no pupils isolating due to Covid.

**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.**

## The Friends

 ***Valentine's Day Cake Sale*** 

On **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February**, the Friends Committee will be hosting a Valentine's Day Cake Sale, from **15:15** in the school playground.

*We are looking for donations from families (homemade or bought) of Valentine / red coloured / love / heart themed cakes and treats to sell.*

*All proceeds raised will benefit all the children of the school and preschool.*

***Please bring your donations to the school office, on the morning of Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February.***

*If your child/ren are attending an afterschool club or Late Birds on this date and you would like them to have the opportunity to buy something; please ensure they have money in a named envelope on the day.*

*Love from the Friends Committee*

## Meeting

Please join us remotely on Tuesday 8th February at 18.30-19.30 for the first Friends meeting of 2022. All are welcome to attend, ask questions, volunteer and vote on how funds are spent on the children.

MS Teams link below:

### Friends Committee Meeting

<https://teams.live.com/meet/94403854127053>

Tap on the link or paste it in a browser to join.

### Parent Advice Evenings

The next meetings that we have coming up are:

#### **Dyslexia Awareness**

**With Mark Long, SCC Lead Advisory Teacher**

**Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> 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**

**14<sup>th</sup> 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**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Huish Academy visit the Year 6 pupils.

Tuesday 8th February – The Friends meeting ALL WELCOME 18.30-19.30. Use this MS Teams link:  
<https://teams.live.com/meet/94403854127053>

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February – Online safety day – activities happening in school.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Cross Country at King Ina – 4pm

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Break up for half term  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February – Inset Day  
Half Term  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5/6 Tag Rugby  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5/6 Football and Netball at Huish.  
Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' Evening  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' Evening  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Cross Country at Curry Mallet – 4pm  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day  
Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Year 3/4 Tag Rugby  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Magdalen Farm Hurricane Trip  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April – Inset  
Easter Holidays





