

## **Charlton Mackrell Primary School**

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

### **Newsletter 07.10.2022**

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

##### **Wonderful Awards**

Readers of the week were: Zara, Lizzie, Morgan and Esme.

Stars of the week were: Edie, Fia, Liam, and Henry.

One very special Bee Kind award and badge went to Ali.

##### **Football winners and Cross Country**

Congratulations to our fantastic football team, who won the tournament on Monday. Thanks also to Mrs Carter-Rice who supported the team and attended the event.

Thank you also to our cross-country runners who represented the school at Hambridge yesterday. They all ran really well and as a team had brilliant collective results. Well done all!

##### **Google Classroom**

Please can we remind all parents to make sure they can log into Google Classroom. Please contact your class teacher if you are experiencing problems.

##### **Harvest Service**

On Tuesday the children celebrated Harvest in the church with some lovely singing, poems and reflections. Thank you for all the kind donations of food which are heading off to The Lord's Larder. Thank you also for the amazing turn out of parents and friends of the school and to Jenny Gollop that kindly lead the service for us. A parent made a very valid comment saying that it would be better if the children turned around to sing. As a church school it is expected that our religious services are not performances, but acts of worship, so this great suggestion goes against church guidance, however we will see if we can bend the rules in future!

##### **Magdalen Farm Trip**

Rainbow and Sunshine Classes will be going to Magdalen Farm on 4<sup>th</sup> November as part of their food and farming topic.

##### **Open Morning**

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October we are having an Open Morning. This is for both existing and prospective parents. Please spread the word.

##### **NSPCC**

All the children have seen the NSPCC assembly about speaking out to stay safe and what to do if they are worried. They discussed who their trusted adults were and learned about Childline. Year 5 and 6 will also have a workshop on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October from the NSPCC in school.

One way you can help your child is to monitor and filter what they are accessing online. All internet providers offer filters. Our school system is very heavily filtered and monitored, so we know all the searches the individual children make.

### **Preschool**

We have embraced autumn, admiring the changing environment and learning songs about the changing season, 'leaves are falling', '5 little leaves' and 'grey squirrel'. The children have loved playing with our British wildlife toys on the nature table and hiding out in the den to sort and count conkers.

At Forest School we provided the children with conkers, clay and chalk pens to make snails. Their wonderful creations showed great individuality, with some detailed mark making.

We have also read the book 'Zed's Bread' which inspired the children to make their own hedgehog shaped rolls to take home. This activity was very active and was a great way to build the children's strength and coordination in preparation for pencil control.

### **Chair of Governors update**

Celia Mycock has stepped down from the role of Chair of Governors but is remaining as a mentor governor until Easter 2023. Charlie Hull, who has governor experience in several different schools and is our district councillor, has taken over as Chair this term while Ian Cornish is remaining as Vice-Chair. We thank Celia for her time as Chair and her valuable contributions to the school so far.

### **Teaching and Learning visit by our School Improvement Advisor**

Our school improvement partner visited the school this week to assess our standards. They reported that the behaviour was good, the teaching in the lessons they saw was excellent and they felt that our children with special educational needs were well supported and making good progress, as were all the pupils in the school. The children were extremely positive about their school experiences. There were many positive comments, but an area to improve included the standard of presentation in books. The presentation in books did not reflect the excellent learning happening in the lessons. We are therefore considering introducing a weekly presentation certificate to encourage children to take more pride in their books.

*Some comments from the report:*

- The curriculum is clearly sequenced and has clear progression  
Strong progress has been made. Subjects are sequenced and well planned.  
Teachers are focused on a sequence of skills for pupils in all subjects*
- Staff were well trained, and pupils were highly engaged and enjoying the sessions. The pace of sessions was appropriate*
- The Phonics Lead is articulate and passionate about provision. She has a good depth of knowledge about the quality of provision and the progress of pupils across the school. The tracking of pupils is thorough*
- There has been consistent progress made since the last inspection. The effective and passionate leadership of the HT, well supported by staff, have impacted on the overall*

*quality of provision*

- *Good systems and schemes have been implemented to raise standards*
- *The expectations of all parts of school community have been raised over time*
- *However, recent changes of staff mean that there is now a need to re-affirm the high expectations and standards needed, with a greater degree of consistency being essential*
- *Governors continue to need to develop awareness of the strengths of the school and areas for improvement, and offer appropriate challenge and support*
- *The presentation of books remains variable. Handwriting is strong for some pupils, but not so for a significant number*
- *Marking by staff is not always addressing common, repeated spelling errors or misconceptions. Poor presentation is being accepted at times*
- *There were some examples of pupil response, but this was not consistent*

### **Young Voices**

It is not compulsory, but if you would like to purchase a t-shirt for the Young Voices then details have gone home this week.

There will be a further Parent Mail coming soon for parents to express an interest in buying a coach seat. Numbers will be limited for this, cost and availability to follow.

### **Scholastic Book Fair results**

Following our successful book fair in the summer we have now received over 50 books for the library with the book credit 'rewards' that were given back to the school. Purchases include books from Horrible Histories, David Walliams, Roald Dahl, Michael Morpurgo and most recently the full collection of the Treehouse adventures books. We hope the new additions are continuing to inspire the pupils to read and explore the library.

### **From the Friends Committee:**

#### **Halloween - 31<sup>st</sup> October (first Monday after half term)**

We will be holding our annual Pumpkin Parade once again, so please bring your carved / decorated pumpkins to line the school wall. Prizes up for grabs!

We will also be holding a Halloween themed cake sale and apple bobbing after school – so please drop off your spooky themed baked or donated goodies in the morning to the school office.

Children can also come to school in Halloween themed fancy dress for a small donation!

#### **Request for donations of beer!**

We are looking for donations of single bottles or cans of beer, lager, ale or cider (approx. 330ml) to fill a wheelbarrow! More details to follow... If you can spare the odd one or two, please leave at the school office before 30<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Christmas Raffle**

We are starting to plan our annual Christmas Raffle – if you have can source any impressive prizes or have any ideas of who to approach for prizes, please let a committee member know.

### **Clothes Bin**

Well done families of Charlton Mackrell School. The clothes bin in the car is so popular that Bags for Help who supply the bin will be giving us a second bin for a trial period.

### **Dates for next year!**

Year 5 and Year 6 residential has been booked for the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

### **Dates**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October – Open the Book in church at 9am, everyone welcome

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October – Open morning for prospective or existing families

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October – Cross country run at Long Sutton – 4pm

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Parents' Evening

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Parents' Evening

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Inset Day

Half term

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October – Pumpkin parade

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November – School Photos with Tempest

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November – Magdalen Farm trip for Rainbow and Sunshine Classes

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November – PFSA visit – the parent family support advisor will be at school from 2.30pm – drop in session

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity 2pm

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity 5.30pm

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Key Stage 2 CLP concert at Huish Academy 5.30pm

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Wear something Christmas related – it could be a jumper or just some tinsel

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Carol Concert in the church at 3pm

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Break up at 1pm for the Christmas holidays

Forthcoming trips – further information to follow

Hurricane – Stonehenge as part of their Stone Age topic







