



Chilham St. Mary's Church Of England Primary School

Newsletter

6th January 2017

Happy New Year! And what an exciting year we have ahead of us at Chilham St Mary's!

New Staff

As you know, we now have Mr Geeves working alongside Mrs Sole as our second Assistant Headteacher. Mr Geeves is also teaching our Year 5 and 6 children in Peacock class and they are off to a great start! Mrs Pantaney, who is currently completing her teaching degree will also be supporting in this class this term, alongside Mrs Harris and Mrs Emery.

After three years, we finally have a new Caretaker, Mr Linkins, and look forward to him doing lots of odd jobs around the school!

School Improvement

We would like to thank those of you that kindly returned your parent questionnaires. Your feedback was extremely valuable and was discussed at length at our School Vision Day on Tuesday 3rd January. The views of all parents, children, staff and Governors are vital to school improvement planning and we are now in a position to complete our School Plan. Once this is finalised, we will share the main areas for improvement with you.

We are trying very hard to make the school environment better for the children. Since November, we have redecorated the library, the Headteacher's office, the junior corridor, Wren's classroom and the dining hall. We are hoping to repaint Heron's classroom this term, followed by the junior classrooms by the end of this academic year.

The children have started new work books this week and we are thrilled with the pride they are taking in them.

As you know, we have changed our Behaviour system and the children seem to be thoroughly enjoying their enrichment activities every Friday afternoon. We had our first '100% Event' at the end of Term 2 linked to our positive behaviour points, which was great fun. We are in the midst of planning this term's event – so encourage your children to keep all of their points!

Once again, thanks for all your kind words of encouragement, we are ever appreciative of your help and support.

Best wishes,
Mrs Sweet



September 2017 – Reception Year Admissions & Honeypots

If your child is due to start school in September 2017, please remember that the closing date for admissions is 16th January. You must apply via Kent County Council, please go to their website or click on this link for more information:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places>

We offer all pre-school children due to start Year R in September an hour session on Wednesday afternoons between 2.00pm and 3.00pm during term time. You do not need to pre-book for these sessions, but we ask that you arrive promptly as staff will collect the children from the school gate nearest to the Square at 2.00pm and bring them back to the gate for collection at 3.00pm. These sessions help the children to become familiar with the school and each other before they begin their school life with us. It is extremely popular and the children really benefit if they later join the school, from this transitional experience.

The dates for Honeypots up to the Easter break are: 11th, 18th, 25th January, 1st, 8th, 22nd February, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd March.

Cross Country

Kent College Junior School cross countries on the 14th January, 4th February and 4th March. These are all Saturday mornings and letters will come out next week for the first one.

Reminders

☺ May we just take this opportunity to remind you that P.E kits should remain in school at all times, and are sent home at the end of term for washing. As it is so cold, please can children also keep in school plain dark coloured jogging bottoms to wear when walking to and from the sports hall.

☺ There are an increasing number of children arriving late in the morning or who are collected late at the end of the school day. Children must be in school by 8.50am please as the gates close for registration at 8.55. The gates open at 3.05pm ready for dismissal at the end of the day at 3.15pm.