



Chilham St Mary's CEP School Newsletter

Friday 6th September 2019

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Dear Parents and Carers

It's been really lovely to welcome all the children back this week and hear their summer holiday news! I do hope everyone managed to have a good break and enjoy plenty of family time to refresh and recharge.

Some exciting projects have been completed over the summer holidays and my sincere thanks go to the volunteer parents and members of staff who gave their time and expertise during the holidays to ensure the school is an amazing place of learning for our children.

- We now have a fantastic growing area at the far end of the school garden with four raised beds, new fencing and seating to enable classes to enjoy gardening, learn about plants, food and sustainability. We are now embarking on the RHS School Garden Award Scheme!
- Our library has been relocated to the school hall and I would like to welcome you in with your child to enjoy some shared reading time – look out for the 'Library Open' sign at the bottom of the hall steps on certain days between 8:15 to 8:45am and 3:15 to 3:45pm when I will be up there to greet you!
- Our 'old' library has now been re-painted and really freshened up to create an office for Mrs McQuillan, our SENCO, who will be working at Chilham on Mondays and Thursdays this year. The room will also be used as a teaching and learning space for small groups of children from Martins and Peacocks.
- Wrens Classroom has wonderful new furniture, giving a far more spacious feel as well as a brand new interactive whiteboard.
- We have really smartened up our ICT Suite with all computers now upgraded to Windows 10 and a new learning space created for groups of children to use from Wrens and Herons classes.
- Every teacher has worked so hard to make their classrooms look amazing and be the best they can be for the children.

Our whole school topic for Terms 1 and 2 will be a focus on the environment – '**Challenge Chilham – how can WE make a difference?**' Class newsletters and topic maps will be sent out on Monday so you can see how teachers plan to embrace this within their curriculum. We will be involved with a range of whole school initiatives as well including: Walk on Wednesday; Plastic Free Lunchboxes; Thousand Hours 2019. More details for all of these will follow in separate letters. We really do plan to make a difference!



National Online Safety Accreditation

This year we are showing our commitment to protecting our children online by taking a proactive whole school community approach to internet safety and we are now working towards achieving National Online Safety Certified Community accreditation. More details of this and how you can get involved to support your child will follow in due course.

Wild Reading

This year, we would really like to promote reading for pleasure and ignite the children's love of books. We would like to create a beautiful display in our new library which incorporates our ongoing

theme of the environment and the great outdoors. To do this, simply send in a photo of your child reading outside surrounded by nature - the wilder the better! How about reading a fairy tale in the forest, a riddle on the riverbank, a comic at the coast, a fable in a field, a novel in a nature reserve or even a poem in a puddle! Anything goes as long as it is combining our love of two great things: nature and reading!

Jeans for Genes Day - Wednesday 18th September

Jeans for Genes Day is the annual fundraising campaign for Genetic Disorders UK, the national charity that supports individuals and families affected by a genetic disorder. Monies raised on Jeans for Genes Day fund the work of the charity and provide grants to organisations for projects that aim to transform the lives of children with genetic disorders.

We are inviting the staff and children to wear their jeans or denim for the day on Wednesday 18th September and donate £1.00 to this charity.



I am very much looking forward to the year ahead!

Best wishes
Delia Cooper



Dates for your Diary 2019/20

<u>TERM 1</u>	<u>TERM 2</u>	<u>TERM 3</u>
<p><u>Wednesday 4th September</u> Children return to school</p> <p><u>Thursday 12th September</u> Year 6 PESE (11+) Tests</p> <p><u>Tuesday 17th September</u> KM Photographs – Year R</p> <p><u>Monday 14th October</u> Harvest Celebration at Chilham Church, 2.00pm</p> <p><u>Thursday 17th October</u> Whole School Group Photographs</p> <p><u>Friday 18th October</u> END OF TERM 1</p>	<p><u>Monday 28th October</u> Children return to school</p> <p><u>Wednesday 30th October</u> Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6.00pm</p> <p><u>Thursday 31st October</u> Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6.00pm</p> <p><u>Sunday 1st December (TBC)</u> Carols in the Square, 6.00pm</p> <p><u>Thursday 12th December</u> Chilham Nativity at Chilham Church, 2.00pm</p> <p><u>Friday 13th December</u> Christmas Fair</p> <p><u>Wednesday 18th December</u> END OF TERM 2</p>	<p><u>Monday 6th January</u> Children return to school</p> <p><u>Thursday 13th February</u> END OF TERM 3</p>
<u>TERM 4</u>	<u>TERM 5</u>	<u>TERM 6</u>
<p><u>Monday 24th February</u> Children return to school</p> <p><u>Wednesday 26th February</u> Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6.00pm</p> <p><u>Thursday 27th February</u> Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6.00pm</p> <p><u>Friday 27th March</u> Easter Service at Chilham Church, 2.00pm</p> <p><u>Tuesday 31st March</u> END OF TERM 4</p>	<p><u>Thursday 16th April</u> Children return to school</p> <p><u>KS1 SATS</u> Throughout May</p> <p><u>KS2 SATS</u> 11th – 14th May</p> <p><u>Friday 22nd May</u> END OF TERM 5</p>	<p><u>Tuesday 2nd June</u> Children return to school</p> <p><u>Friday 5th June</u> Y5 Parent Consultations (PESE- 11+)</p> <p><u>8th – 12th June</u> Phonics Check Week</p> <p><u>8th – 19th June</u> Multiplication Times Tables Check – Year 4</p> <p><u>Wednesday 17th – Friday 19th June</u> Year 6 Residential Visit</p> <p><u>Friday 26th June</u> Sports Day (pm)</p> <p><u>Friday 3rd July</u> Back-up Sports Day (pm)</p> <p><u>Tuesday 21st July</u> Leavers' Assembly, Church 2pm</p> <p><u>Tuesday 22nd July</u> END OF TERM 6</p>
<p>INSET Days 2019/2020 (Teacher Training Days) Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd September, Friday 14th February, Wednesday 1st April, Monday 1st June</p> <p><i>All dates are subject to change</i></p>		