



# Charleston Church of England Academy

Parent Updates Newsletter  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents,

This week we were visited by our Trust Lead Tracey Cleverly. She spent time chatting with staff and children around the school and met with the school council to hear their views about what being part of our school means to them and what they would like to do more of. The children had some very thoughtful ideas about being able to spend time together with other children in our Trust family of schools. On Monday Croft and Good Shelter classes were delighted to welcome Julius Caesar via zoom this week to inspire their learning about Roman Britain in History. A highlight of the week for me was spending time with our Reception children in the outdoor area. They took me on a train trip, sold me a ticket and made sure the line was clear and safe for all the passengers!

Have a great weekend,

Miss Coombe



## **Class Assemblies**

Over the Autumn Term we will be welcoming our parents to join us for class assemblies. Class assemblies are a great way for our children to share their learning with their families. We will be offering the assemblies virtually and in person so that parents can choose how they would like to attend.

Here are the dates and times for class assemblies;

Start Point- 26th November 2.00pm

Good Shelter - 19th November 2.00pm

Croft - 3rd December 2.00pm

Joining links will be sent on the day of the assembly to all parents.



## **Harvest Festival 2pm 22nd October 2021**

This year we are planning an outdoor Harvest Festival with songs and poems from the children. There will also be a chance for our parents and families to join in with our songs! We hope you will join us as this has been the first opportunity for a long time to gather our school family together in one place. Weather permitting we are also hoping to end our celebration with a Welly Walk to the foreshore. Our PTA will be serving refreshments and holding a cake sale to raise funds for the PTA.

Charleston Harvest Festival 2pm 22nd October 2021



## Reads for seeds

Thank you for working hard to get sponsors for our Reading for Seeds challenge. The children have started to record the books they've read on their special book marks and receive stickers for each book completed successfully. The charity Promise of Education Uganda provides access to support, education and training to very poor families in Uganda. Part of the life-skills include teaching planting and each family agrees to pass a portion of its seeds from its first crop along with an explanation of how to care for the plants to another poor family, who will benefit and then do the same. So, by taking part, your child will be helping to provide a gift that will multiply.



## Parent Teachers Association (PTA)

All parents are automatically members of our PTA. The contribution of time, energy and fund raising by the PTA has been a huge benefit to the children at Charleton over the years including providing an annual Christmas party with Father Christmas visiting, contributing to whole school treats such as Easter crafts and rebuilding our school garden so that our children can grow their own produce. This year we welcome parents old and new to join the work of our PTA.



How to stay up to date with the PTA

- School twitter and Facebook pages
- School newsletter PTA and PIP updates.
- PTA facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1202754896884294/?ref=share>

## Mystery Reader

Mystery Readers Wanted

Who?

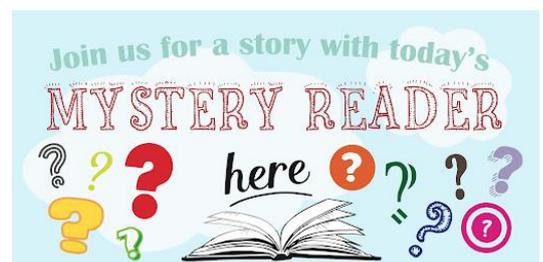
All parents, grandparents or other special people to surprise your child by being a Mystery Reader in their classroom.

Why?

Children love having their family and friends in their classroom sharing a favourite story by reading it aloud to the class. We will keep the identity of the reader a secret until the last minute!

What?

Mystery Readers can bring a book from home or read a teacher's chosen book from our class library.



## **FREE gardening equipment for our School**

For every £10 you spend (in store or online) at Morrisons, you'll get a Grow Token to help your school get everything they need to grow. Download the MyMorrisons app today to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose the school you'd like to donate them to.

Your chosen school will be able to exchange their Grow Tokens for FREE gardening equipment to get kids growing.



## **Nursery Sessions Available**

There are currently Nursery sessions available that you might wish your child to attend. In particular, additional Nursery sessions will be useful to support your child as they prepare to start school. Attendance at nursery school gives children a valuable introduction to school, helping them to develop positive attitudes to learning and to mix easily with other children, assisting the transition process. Beesands Nursery offers a safe, happy and stimulating environment where children can thrive, grow and learn whilst having fun.

- Term Time: Open from 9.00am until 3.00pm weekdays
- Free Childcare for 2 year olds
- Free Childcare for 3 and 4 year olds
- 30 hours free childcare for 3 and 4 year olds
- Childcare Choices
- Paid sessions available
- Accept Tax Free Childcare and Childcare Vouchers

## **Attendance**

It is really important that children are in school every day. We have noticed an increase in holiday requests and absences which are unauthorised. Excellent attendance really does make a difference to the progress your child makes - and improves their chances in life. If they aren't here, they can't learn!

## **Help at Home Focus**

“There are perhaps no days of our childhood we lived so fully as those we spent with a favorite book.” – Marcel Proust



### **Storytelling**

Retelling stories demonstrates understanding of the story itself. It helps children to understand key aspects of the story and also incorporate things such as the voices of the different characters. It is something you can do with props at home or children can draw and make the characters or they can just look at the illustrations in the book and retell what is happening.

Another fun way to retell stories at home is to make one yourselves with any phone/tablet device by taking small clips of key parts of the story and adding them together with a movie maker app. Take a photo after each small movement of each character – then put it together in an app such as iMovie and set time to 0.4 seconds. You can then add voices over the top if you wish.

The children love to watch these back and also they are great to share with family and friends.

Create an area that can be used as a pretend stage and take your child's favourite story and create a 'show' to retell the story. Create different voices for the different characters as you retell it. This is a great way to develop story language, boost children's confidence and aid crucial language development.

As part of retelling stories, children learn to order the events and they can gain a deeper understanding of what they have read.

### **Story maps**

Story maps are great to do with children to help them to retell the story. These help them to focus on the story sequence, study the theme, characters, settings, problems, plot events, and resolution-and on the relationship of characters.

<https://www.lapsw.co.uk/ilsham-english-hub/supporting-schools/>



### **School Governance**

## **HAVE YOU CONSIDERED BEING A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?**

Would you like to shape the future for the next generation?  
Do you have valuable / professional skills you can offer?  
Are you committed to contributing to your local community?

**If you answered YES to any of the above please get in touch: [clerk@lapsw.org](mailto:clerk@lapsw.org)**

We welcome anyone who is interested in school governance and full training and support will be provided.



### **Election for Parent Representative**

We are asking our parents to consider putting themselves forward for election as a Parent Representative to support local governance within the Trust, but sadly at the time no one stepped forward for the role. As we now come out of lockdown, I thought it was timely to re-open the election for this role in the hope that a parent may now be in the position to fill it.

The Parent Representative will play an important role in the development and life of the academy and across our family of schools; supporting the Trust through local governance as we work together for the benefit of all our children and our communities. There will be one Parent Representative for each academy.

For more information, please contact Mrs Brodie in the office who will be happy to share with you more information and provide a nomination form should you wish to stand for election. If you wish to stand as a Parent Representative, it is necessary for you to be elected as per the Terms of Reference if we have had more expressions of interest than one place per academy available.

Completed nomination forms should be sent in an envelope marked for the attention of Mrs Brodie (Clerk to the Local Governance Committee) to the academy office or electronically to [thurlestone@lapsw.org](mailto:thurlestone@lapsw.org). Completed nomination forms must be received by 12 noon on Friday 11th June. Each candidate is requested to submit a brief profile of up to 150 words which will be circulated with the election papers.



### **Volunteers**

Getting involved by volunteering is a great way to take a further interest in your child's education. Parent volunteers offer a huge resource and support base for the school community. Even if you haven't been involved in the past, it's never too late to start!

Under the current Department for Education guidance we are able to welcome back volunteers to school. Volunteering in school can take many forms and does not have to be a regular commitment. Here are some ideas of how you could volunteer to support our school;

- Reading with groups or individuals
- Book Club
- Forest School
- Gardening Club
- Arts, crafts and school display
- Cooking School trips and welly walks
- Sharing your professional skills (for example, if you're a doctor, you might go in to talk to a class whose topic is healthy living)

If you would like to volunteer in school please ask Mrs Jeffery in the school office.

### **Free Level 2 training for staff and parents**

Fully funded and accredited training for staff and parents of schools linked to the Diocese of Exeter is available through 'The Aim Group' for the remainder of 2021 (to be reassessed in 2022). There are over 40 courses available including: Children's Mental Health, Behaviour that Challenges, ADHD and ADD, Adverse Childhood Experiences, Mental Health First Aid, Equality and Diversity, and Safeguarding and Prevent. To be eligible individuals must be 19+ years and an EU/UK resident for 3+ years. Content is completed at the learner's own pace online over a six-week period. There are 500 fully funded spaces per month. In order to find out more, register and gain access, please contact Chris Greenfield by Friday 22 October on 0203 900 3091 (extension 213) or at [christopher.greenfield@theaimgroup.co.uk](mailto:christopher.greenfield@theaimgroup.co.uk).