



Charleston Church of England Academy

Parent Updates Newsletter

Friday 1st July 2022

Dear Families

This week at Charleston, we have had another busy week packed full of learning and wonderful adventures. School trips broaden horizons for our children, enabling them to flourish and be prepared for the next stage in their education. This week's letter has lots of useful information on the exciting last few weeks of term!

Have a great weekend,
Miss Coombe



Forest and Beach Residential

Our Forest and Beach residential trip at the start of the week was a great success! Children from Charleston were joined by their friends from West Alvington and Thurlestone for a two-day adventure. The weather was perfect for fish and chips on the beach, archery, den building and even a successful bat watching walk where the children were able to capture the echo waves on bat detectors at 70 hz and watch them swoop around the forest. It is always so rewarding to hear how much the children have learnt and how much fun they've had.



Costumes for the school play

There is much excitement in school about our school play, children and adults are busily painting scenery, singing and acting (sometimes doing all of these at once!) Please could costumes for the school play be in school by next Friday (8.7.22) in a named carrier bag? If you are having any issues with sourcing a costume, please let us know and we will be happy to help!



Parents Evening - Monday 11th & Wednesday 13th July



This will be an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their reports which will be sent out next week.

We are pleased to be able to return to holding these appointments in person and there will be an opportunity for you to look at your child's books and learning. Invites to book your parents evening will be sent out on Monday.

Summer Term Dates

<p><u>Mon 4.7.22</u> Good Shelter Kents Cavern Trip</p>	<p><u>Tues 5.7.22</u></p>	<p><u>Weds 6.7.22</u> Whole School Beach Trip – Beesands</p> <p>Parent Volunteers Welcome</p> <p>Please meet at Beesands at 9am. Bring a packed lunch, drink and snacks. Please join us from 2.30 or you can collect your child at 3.15</p>	<p><u>Thurs 7.7.22</u> Sports Day</p> <p>Please come to school in PE Kit</p> <p>Parents welcome from 1.15pm</p>	<p><u>Fri 8.7.22</u></p>
<p><u>Mon 11.7.22</u> Year 6 Aquarium Visit</p> <p>Parent Consultations</p> <p>Appointments available from 3.30 to 6pm. Please book online or contact the Academy Office</p>	<p><u>Tues 12.7.22</u></p>	<p><u>Weds 12.7.22</u> Year 6 Beach Day – letter out next week</p> <p>Parent Consultations</p> <p>Appointments available from 3.30 to 6pm. Please book online or contact the Academy Office</p>	<p><u>Thurs 14.7.22</u></p>	<p><u>Fri 15.7.22</u> Forest School – Croft and Goodshelter</p>
<p><u>Mon 18.7.22</u> Year 6 Leavers Service 2pm at St Mary's Church Charleton</p>	<p><u>Tues 19.7.22</u> Year 6 Canoeing Bowcombe Bridge – details to follow</p>	<p><u>Weds 20.7.22</u></p>	<p><u>Thurs 21.7.22</u> School Play</p> <p>Parents welcome at dress rehearsal at 2pm and evening performance starting at 6.30pm in the village hall.</p>	<p><u>Fri 22.7.22</u> Last Day of Term</p>

Parent survey

Feedback, whether positive or negative is an essential part of academy life, surveys are a great way of us receiving feedback and valuable information, giving everyone a chance for their voice to be heard. Your children completed an annual survey at the start of last term, now it is your turn!



Once completed, the questionnaires will be collated, results will be published, and planned actions resulting from the survey will be shared in our regular newsletters. In order that we capture as many views as possible we are asking for your support in completing the survey.

In anticipation, thank you for your time, we look forward to reading your response. Please follow the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/GEPVfyK87f>

New Reception Children

Mrs Carter and Mrs Sanders were excited to welcome our new Reception children and parents to a special Forest School session this week. We made bird houses, created wooden spoon people and enjoyed some time with our new teacher.



New Parent App

Over the next couple of weeks we will be introducing our new Parent App – My Child at School.

There's a few teething troubles at the moment, but please bear with us! Through the app you will be able to order and pay for school lunches, trips and visits. See important notifications and documents.



Grants and donations

Over the last year we have successfully applied for several grants including resources for Religious Education, Outdoor Learning Resources, Book Grants and nature-based resources from the RSPB. Most recently we had a grant for £400 to restock books that support the teaching of Religious Education. We are always keen to benefit the children through these opportunities and would welcome any suggestions or support from parents with the application process for grants.



Information for Parents

Healthy Start Scheme



If you're more than ten weeks pregnant or have a child under four years old, and receive certain benefits, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk.

If you're eligible, you'll be sent a Healthy Start card with money added every four weeks that you can use in some UK shops.

You can use your card to buy cow's milk; fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables; fresh, dried, and tinned pulses and infant formula milk based on cow's milk.

You can also use your card to collect Healthy Start vitamins to support you during pregnancy and breastfeeding, and vitamin drops for babies and young children - suitable from birth to four years old.

[Find out more, including how to apply, on the NHS Healthy Start website.](#) - [How to apply – Get help to buy food and milk \(Healthy Start\)](#)

Has your income changed?

If your family income has changed and you are struggling to pay food bills, we encourage you to [check your eligibility and apply for free school meals.](#)

(<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals/>)

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. From year 3 onwards, children whose parents are receiving any of a range of benefits are entitled to free school meals during term time.

Support with meals during the school holidays

Families eligible for benefits-related free school meals will also [receive supermarket vouchers](#) to help pay for their food shopping at a range of supermarkets for six weeks over the summer holidays.

Parents and carers of children currently receiving benefits-related free school meals have been sent a letter or email with information about how to access their vouchers.

Please get in touch with our free school meals team if you're are expecting to receive one but don't. You can email them at freeschoolmeals@devon.gov.uk or call our education helpline on 0345 155 1019.

Free holiday activities and meals this Summer

Children aged five to 16 years old who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals are also invited to take up an action-packed summer holiday this year, as part of our [Holiday Activities and Food programme](https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/document/haf-providers-summer-2022/). (<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/document/haf-providers-summer-2022/>)

It's to provide free physical activities and healthy, nutritional, hot meals during the school holidays.

We have 40,000 places available over four weeks during the summer holidays, including a range of sports and coaching opportunities, indoor and outdoor play activities; outings to local parks and beaches; magic and circus skills; film making; arts and crafts; music; cooking; theatre workshops; yoga and mindfulness; and a lot more!

For a list of the activities available, where and when, please [visit our Holiday Activities and Food programme website](#).

Helping you save on household energy bills

If you have a household income of less than £30,000 a year, you may be eligible for free energy efficiency improvements to your home worth thousands of pounds, which is better for the environment and your pocket.

You can [find out more on the Cosy Devon website](https://www.cosydevon.com/). (<https://www.cosydevon.com/>)