



Chilton Foliat Primary School Newsletter

October 11th 2019

www.chiltonfoliatprimary.org.uk
01488 682630

'With thankfulness, courage and love,
we strive to improve heart and mind'

Dear Parents and Carers

Now that the autumn season is with us and we have said goodbye to summer, we still have a great deal to be thankful for. Chilton Club Childcare is fully up and running in the new club house, SIKa class have settled into their new home and our school hall is freshly painted, light, bright and more spacious. Furthermore, the children are fully engaged with their learning environments, enjoying a knowledge rich and exciting curriculum. The letter sent out by Mrs Wolcough on behalf of the governing body and school team, (04.10.2019) sums up the huge successes that have been achieved by the whole school community in relatively short time span. If you have not yet had a chance to read it, please look on our website – it really is heart-warming to know that everybody's contribution to our most recent school improvements have had such a positive impact and are much valued.

Autumn thoughts...

"In October, a maple tree before your window lights up your room like a great lamp. Even on cloudy days, its presence helps to dispel the gloom." – [John Burroughs](#)
I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

– [L. M. Montgomery](#), [Anne of Green Gables](#)



Harvest Service – Friday 18th October 2019, St. Mary's Church, Chilton Foliat

The children are preparing for their harvest service, which is going to take place on Friday 18th October 2019 at 2.00pm at St Mary's Church, Chilton Foliat. **All are welcome.** Songs, prayers and readings will be shared to celebrate the wonder of autumn, one of God's amazing creations. As we are all becoming more aware of the human impact on the environment, the children are keen to show as part of their harvest celebration, their thankfulness for all that is good in our lives and the concerns they have about the many pressures facing our natural world.

Trussell Trust Swindon Food Bank

Another way of showing our thanks is to invite the children to bring in donations for the Trussell Trust Swindon Food Bank. The Trust works to support people, who, for various reasons, experience hunger, by providing three days emergency food made up of dried and tinned goods. Donations can be brought into school from the week beginning Monday 14th October and they will be collected and delivered to the Food Bank, on or around the time of the Harvest Service.

Wellies and outdoor shoes

Our Welly Trolleys are looking a bit empty at the moment so now is the time to bring in an old pair of outdoor shoes or a pair of wellies that can be changed into at lunchtime break, to allow children to go onto the field.

Parent Forum

With my apologies, I had not arranged a date this term for a Parent Forum. I hope I am forgiven, especially considering the hive of "extra" activity this school has been over the recent weeks. The next date for a Parent Forum will be Friday 22nd November 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Please let the office know if you would like to attend with any suggestions as to what you like to be discussed. Many thanks. Mrs Turner.

Inter-House Football Tournament – A report from Mr Hughes

On Tuesday 8th October, we ran our first inter-house competition of the year - a football tournament! The 5-minute matches were played in Houses and the teams included children from Year 3 to Year 6. It was a great success and seeing the children help and support each other while both on and off the pitch was wonderful. There was wonderful sportsmanship all around with many of the older children assisting the younger ones. Overall, 44 of our junior children decided to take part in at least one match! That's an incredible number but one that we can still try to top next year.

Special thanks to all school House Captains for both their help on the day and beforehand when organising the teams.

There had to be a winner of course although it was very close. Both Kennet and Littlecote scored the same number of points, but because of scoring more goals, it meant that this year the football champions were **Littlecote**.



Attendance

We are pleased to say that our attendance figures for the beginning of this academic are at 97.27% and that we are receiving less requests for absences which unfortunately cannot be authorised. This is good news and we are grateful for all your support and forward planning. We do know, that extended absence has a well evidenced negative impact on learning and achievement and this is something, as a whole school community, we work towards avoiding. The Local Authority have sent reminders out to all schools that their Educational Welfare Officers will be conducting regular register checks and questioning whether, in the event of 10 or more sessions of unauthorised absence, a penalty notice has been issued. For further information, about attendance expectations and why attendance at school is so important please follow this link: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-attendance-behaviour.

Reading

As I'm sure you all know, reading at home is probably the single most important thing a parent can do to support their child's education. It is proven to make a real difference to educational outcomes.

We are extremely proud of the importance our families place on reading with their children, from reception all the way up to Year 6, on a regular basis. We are grateful to all our families who read both with and to their child (ren) every day, ask questions about what is being read and then sign reading records so that we can keep track of reading achievement in school. We love to celebrate reading achievements in class and as part of Celebration Assembly.

I am therefore delighted to tell you that reading is going to form a central part of our school development plan over the coming year. As English Lead, Mrs Pinnegar is driving new initiatives to continue to promote our love of reading: from suggesting recommended, high quality reading books, relevant to age and stage which build up vocabulary and writing ability; making links with our local Hungerford Book Shop (more information to follow); inviting guest authors to school, to project managing a new library facility in school. Mrs Gibson and Mrs Jepson are developing a refreshed phonics programme of learning and we have invested in a new stock of fully decodable phonics reading books and guided reading for our younger children. More information will be sent out over the next few weeks and months which will describe in more detail the implementation and impact of our reading initiatives, however, on behalf of the whole school team, I would like to thank you for your continued reading support at home.

Messy Church

Now that we have our wonderful new club house, we are keen to promote its use for the benefit of the whole community. There are several ideas in the pipeline and one of which is to launch a regular Messy Church event, more than likely on a Saturday afternoon once every half term. Messy Church is an opportunity for families to gather who perhaps have not found other forms of church engaging or who don't yet belong to a church. It is really child friendly and child engaging. It explores a biblical theme through hands-on creative experiences, a celebration and refreshments. The Messy Church organisers, parent, Mrs Bleasdale and our very own MDSA and Chilton Child Club Leader, Mrs Stewart-Smythe are looking for volunteers to help support this initiative and would like to hold a "get to know more about meeting" in the club house on Saturday 30th November at 2.00pm.

The Friends

A huge thank you to all those who baked, helped and came along to our Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 27th September. We raised a fantastic £157.80 for Macmillan Cancer Support!

Remember, remember, the 5th of November! Look out for updates coming soon from the Friends about our Bonfire and Fireworks Evening on Tuesday 5th November from 5.30pm. If you are able to volunteer on the night, please contact friendsatchiltonfoliat@gmail.com

Limited spaces are available for our Christmas wreath making workshop on Monday 25th November from 7pm. The cost is £45pp and includes all materials and a glass of wine. Book now if you would to come along to this special festive evening!

Unfortunately our Barn Dance and Hog Roast has been cancelled due to low ticket sales. As always, Friends can only run events if there is sufficient interest and sometimes we have to make the difficult decision to cancel. We are grateful to parents and children for the continued support of Friends events throughout the year.

Drumming

To complement our programme of clubs and extra-curricular activities, we are looking into the possibility of reintroducing drumming as part of our music offer. As with guitar and piano, drumming classes would need to be paid for independently. Please let the office know if you interested in signing up your child(ren) for drumming lessons by **Friday 18th October**. Many thanks.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

October

- 17th Harvest Lunch for Children and Community Harvest Lunch
- 18th Harvest Service at St Marys
- 21st Parents Meetings 3.30 pm— 5.00pm
- 22nd Parents Meetings 4.30pm —6.00pm
- 23rd Muntjac Visit to Chedworth Roman Villa
End of Term

November

- 4th Back to School
Skip to be Fit Workshop and Special assembly
- 5th Visiting Author KS2
Bonfire Lunch
Bonfire and Firework Display 5.30pm
- 8th Individual Photos
- 15th Children in Need
- 21st M & M Pantomime production
- 27th Year 5/6 Netball Cluster event
- 29th TD Day

December

- 5th Flu Clinic
- 6th Christmas Fair and non uniform day
- 10th Christmas Community Lunch
- 11th KS1 Nativity Matinee 2pm
- 12th KS1 Nativity Evening performance 6pm
- 14th Choir singing at TESCO (tbc)
- 17th Christmas Surprise Room
- 19th Christmas Lunch for Children
- 20th Christmas Service at Church
- 20th End of Term

This weeks Golden Table Guests



This term's Christian value is:

Thankfulness