



# Chilton Foliat Primary School Newsletter

Friday 15th October 2021

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

Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst". John 4:13

Dear Parents and Carers

With the leaves turning and the apples falling, the autumn season is well and truly upon us. The children are making the most of enjoying the beautiful weather outside of the classroom both playing and learning. As we head towards our October half-term break we can look back at a successful and happy first term, which has been enriched by visits and visitors. We look forward to more of the same when we return to school on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021.

## Services and Celebrations – large group gatherings at school

A number of Covid-19 related factors have coincided over the last few days. They have compelled us to think carefully about whether we are able to invite our parents and members from the wider school community to our future services and celebrations – especially as we head towards winter. They are the:



- renewed guidance and recommendations from the LA and Public Health Wiltshire
- increase in numbers of positive test results - adults and children becoming ill and needing to self-isolate
- current local reliability of testing
- the potential of having to return to teaching and learning in bubbles, and;
- the amount of "normal" cough, cold and sickness bugs that are circulating.

Very sadly, due to these factors, we have to prioritise the health and safety of our children and staff and limit the amount of large group gatherings. Although it goes against our "open-door, welcome-in ethos", we will not be able to invite parents to our Harvest or Christmas services. Our popular Celebration Assembly open invitation is on hold until at least after the Christmas break. These steps, along with our continued Covid-19 preventative measures in school, will give us the best possible chance to maintain our so far, un-interrupted educational provision where children are learning in school and not at home.

Harvest Service will be held in church on Wednesday for our children and members of staff only. Whilst, not as we would like, we do have plans for a Christmas service and nativity in school which will be filmed and we are postponing the traditional EYFS/KS1 performance to the Easter when I sincerely hope our doors will be wide open! Many thanks for your continued support.

## Parent Meetings – 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Understandably, you will be wanting to know how your child (ren) is/are getting on at school, both academically and socially. Parent meetings to discuss how your child (ren) have settled into school and how well they are getting on with their learning will be offered via SchoolCloud on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021. The feedback we received from parents regarding SchoolCloud following parents' meetings in May, was overwhelmingly positive. Given our continued cautionary approach to managing potential Covid transmissions, we believe that on-line meeting opportunities for large groups of adults are the safest option for all concerned for the moment.

If you have not managed to book an appointment please ring the office as the online booking system has now closed.

## Happy Birthday to Chilton Foliat Primary School

As part of our 250<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations, we were honoured to welcome The Right Reverend Dr Andrew Rumsey, The Bishop of Ramsbury to our Service of Celebration on 14<sup>th</sup> October. Led by Bishop Andrew, Rev Beth Hutton, members of our Collective Worship Committee and School Council, our children, staff and governors enjoyed a special service that included a short history of the school and words from Bishop Andrew on the importance of laying solid foundations for future generations. The choir sang like angels and the service linked so beautifully with our vision and values. No birthday would be complete without singing 'happy birthday', which we did and the cutting of a wonderful 250<sup>th</sup> birthday cake made by Mrs Dobson and Mrs Ody with miniature cupcake versions for the children to enjoy too.

Many happy returns Chilton Foliat Primary School and here's to the next 250 years!

PS. We received a message from Bishop Andrew thanking us for his lovely morning at school and thanking the whole school community for our dedication in helping the school remain such a special place for our children to enjoy, now and in the future.



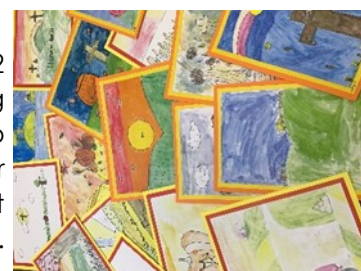
## Chilton Chicks

Chilton Chicks Baby and Toddler Group runs every Monday morning 09.30—11.00am, in term time, in the Club House on the school site.

We would like to thank everybody who has kindly donated toys, books and bay equipment to the group it is very much appreciated.

## Community contact

Cards with harvest best wishes have been prepared by our Key Stage 2 children to be sent out to senior village residents. These are instead of offering our traditional community get together, where our neighbours would come to school to enjoy a freshly prepared harvest lunch, enjoy listening to our choir sing and having a good old natter. Whilst restrictions have eased since last year, we do miss not being able to welcome to school our wider community. Not to be down-hearted, we have plans for the spring!



## The Trussell Trust

At this time of year, we invite all our families to bring donations of dried and other non-perishable food items for the Swindon Food Bank/Trussell Trust. Looking at the Trussell Trust website, it is clear that asking for food donations needs to be an all year round activity, as they say: "Between April 2019 and March 2020, food banks in our network provided a record 1.9 million food supplies to people in crisis, an 18% increase on the previous year and during the coronavirus pandemic food banks have seen need rise even further."



We would like to set up a food bank donation point, just outside the office door, for the whole of Autumn Term 2 and warmly encourage our families to make donations not just for harvest time but for the weeks running up to the Christmas break, at least.

## The Friends

### Raisin money!

The Friends will be running a FUNDRAISIN challenge over half term. Your child will be bringing home a box of raisins next week. The idea is that they enjoy their healthy snack and then fill the raisin boxes with loose change. The class that raises the most money will earn themselves a treat (to be decided by their class teacher). So get looking down the back of the sofa for coins and fill up those boxes! Boxes are to be returned to school on Tuesday 2nd November.

### Christmas card designs

Don't forget to get those creative juices flowing over half term with our Christmas card design project. Order forms and payment need to be returned to school by Tuesday 2nd November (apologies for the error in the letter that said Monday 1st November which is incorrect as that is a TD day).

There are lots of exciting announcements to come from the Friends over the next few weeks so do keep an eye on our Facebook page (whispers...get ready for a fireworks announcement!)

## Healthy Snacks

As we head towards the colder season and the season of (normal) coughs and colds, it is really important that we up our intake of healthy foods packed full of immune boosting vitamins and minerals. We have noticed an increase of snacks being brought to school that wouldn't fit this description. Chocolate and crisps are great for the occasional treat, but we urge all our families to provide fruit or vegetable based snacks for their children at school which will go a long way to providing their essential healthy five-a-day

## Anglo Saxon Day at Oxenwood Outdoor Education Centre



Sika Class had an amazing day at Oxenwood, learning about the life of the Anglo Saxon King, Alfred the Great. They even had the chance to participate in a role play battle, dressed in Anglo Saxon clothing and held real weapons!

Sika also had the opportunity to make wrist rings (metal bracelets to everyone else!), by twisting metal strands around a wooden jig. However, the story woven through the day about King Alfred, enthralled both the adults and pupils and Mrs Davies was very impatient to know what would happen next!

What a fantastic day and we cannot wait to return next May for our Residential trip! Well done Sika Class for being amazing ambassadors for the school, the staff were very impressed!

## Farm to Fork and a Tractor visit

With thanks to Josh Plank from Yorke Farming based at Chilton Farm Estates and Jan Murray, Educational Development Officer from Newbury and District Agricultural Association, our EYFS/KS1 children have enjoyed some first-hand experiences of their curriculum theme, "Down on the Farm". No better way to learn how important our farmers and what they produce for us are.



## Project Touchline

Project Touchline has come to an end. The children's feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. The ability to enjoy learning about how to play a sport and learning how to use our school values, **thankfulness**, **courage** and **love** through sport has been a joy to watch. The positive attitude "can do" attitude demonstrated throughout the project by our children has been truly uplifting. At a final Collective Worship, we were able to come together to be thankful for our Project Touchline opportunity where we have had to be brave and courageous in play and to show kindness and love to our team mates. We have also established a prayer and mindfulness club which we will keep going. A big thank you to Chris Andrew, Director of Project Touchline for his enthusiasm and passion for both sport and prayer.

From everybody at Chilton Foliat Church of England Primary School, we wish you a very happy half-term break and look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021.



## Dates and Events

Wednesday 20th October	Harvest and end of half term service, St Mary's Church Chilton Foliat 10.00am <b>(School Only)</b>
Thursday 21st –	
Friday 29th October	Half Term
Saturday 30th October	In association with the church. A Pumpkin Trail around the village with prizes for those who correctly solve the clues. 3-5pm
Monday 1st November	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 2nd November	Christmas card return deadline
Wednesday 3rd November	Sika trip to Houses of Parliament
Thursday 4th November	Muntjac 'Trip to the Moon' Marlborough College
Friday 12th November	Children in Need – Activities being organised by School Council and to include "Break the Rules Day"
Saturday 20th November	Open Morning at school for prospective parents 09.00am—12.00 noon
Monday 22nd November	Christmas Pantomime – Snow White
Monday 29th November	Travelling Book Fair will be in school all week and at the Christmas Market
Wednesday 1st December	Christmas Wreath Making Workshop to be held in the Clubhouse 6-10pm
Friday 3rd December	Outdoor Christmas Market (further details to follow)
Friday 3rd December	Christmas Tree Sale
Friday 10th December	Sika trip to see The Nutcracker Royal Opera House
Wednesday 15th December	Christmas Jumpers and Christmas Lunch Day
Wednesday 15th December	Christmas Surprise Room
Friday 17th December	Last Day of Term 2
Tuesday 4th January	Term 3 starts

This term's Christian value is:

# Thankfulness