



# CHANTRY COMMUNITY NEWS



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## Newsletter – February 2019

I am struggling to believe that we are now half way through the academic year. The children have been superb in the way they are dealing with the temporary accommodation. Hopefully, we are over the worst of the weather and we can look forward to sunnier days ahead and getting outside more. The new build is coming along nicely and is well on track.

Once again, it has been an eventful term. Our key stage 2 children are accessing Greenacre Academy and Walderslade Girls' School every week for additional learning opportunities such as cooking and dance. Children walk to the Gurdwara Sports Hall for PE once a week which is enjoyed by all and this is enabling the children to continue with high quality PE lessons delivered by Mr Simmonds. Swimming and recorder lessons are also being provided to Key Stage 2.

Our curriculum is highly creative and the children have had many opportunities for wow events and visits. Year 6 have learnt all about money with visitors from the Family Trust talking about money, saving and debt which are essential life skills. Year 2 had a photographer in school and they had the opportunity to take photos linking with their superhero topic – the poses were great. Year 1 travelled to Hilltop for a dinosaur workshop and even met a T Rex! Year 3 celebrated the Chinese New Year linking with their China topic- they made dragon masks and lanterns with Chinese writing.

Some of our RECIPE ambassadors took part in the General Gordon Memorial Service in Gravesend to honour General Gordon who was well respected in Gravesend for charity work. We really enjoyed having local visitors back for tea and cake after the service.



Our choir had an amazing visit to the O2 to sing with 8,000 other school children. I am sure this is something they will remember for the rest of their lives. The twitter pictures and videos were electric.





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Our children are very generous at supporting charity events and they show excellent respect. This term we had sign to sing to raise money for a deaf charity. Our children learnt how to sign to a song and hopefully they will continue to use some of their signing every day. Promoting life skills is something we are passionate about in our trust and we try our best to ensure our children have every opportunity to have new experiences. We participated in mental health week and had a speaker who linked the RECIPE values to the children's well-being. The children were taught some self-help strategies. The children also took part in Internet Safety Day and their knowledge of safe and not safe is very impressive – their quotes were very grown up.



## Help Required

As you are aware, the road outside school is extremely busy and dangerous and there have been incidents where we have found car debris as a result of crashes. I would like a couple of parents who would be willing to give a little time to support me with writing a travel plan and getting the council on board to make our road safer. If you are interested, please leave your name in the school office. Thank you.

A gentle reminder - we still need another parent governor. Our governing body meet usually nine times per year from 5.00pm on a Wednesday night to discuss the school and standards. It is an interesting role and we need someone to act as a challenging, supportive friend. If you are interested, please let the office know.

## Uniform

Please ensure your children are in correct school uniform which includes plain black school shoes. Hair bows and bands to be plain red. Thank you for your cooperation with this. We are proud of how smart our children look and we want to ensure that it remains like this.

## Reading and Homework

Please support homework and reading at home. Reading is so important and being able to read will help your child in all curriculum areas.

## End Of The School Day

The school day finishes at 3.10pm for KS1 children and 3.15pm for KS2. Can I kindly ask that you are on time to collect children. There are some days when staff are outside waiting for 10 or 15 minutes for children to be collected.



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## Chantry PE news Term 3

Term 3 meant the introduction of swimming for our year 3 pupils. For many of our children this was their first experience within a swimming pool. Our primary aim is to teach our pupils the key survival skills within the water that are so important considering our schools location on the banks of the river. Secondly we want to provide our children with fundamental skills that we can build on throughout their school lives with the desired outcome that when they reach year 6 they can confidently and capably swim the required 25 metres.

Our successful active stacking team from term 2 were back in action during term 3. Their hard work in the local active stacking competition qualified them for the county Change4Life competition. We had a team of 10 year 4 pupils who represented our Academy at the Kent School Games located at Medway Park. Our pupils demonstrated our RECIPE values all day with the clearest one being Excellence; this, matched with their perseverance, resulted in Chantry being awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place and we are now Kent School Games Change4Life Champions.

Chantry also welcomed our friends from Take Pride to our temporary sports hall where our lucky year 5 children were privileged enough to experience their own Dodgeball competition. Take Pride were very impressed with our RECIPE values that were explained fantastically by our RECIPE and Learning Ambassadors. Dahl Class team 2 were the successful team and won the overall competition. This has been fantastic preparation for our upcoming Level 2 Competition which will see our Chantry side compete against all other local schools.

At the start of term 3 many Chantry pupils were rewarded for all their hard work, and positive behaviour during term 2 with our GTBG reward. Our children had a fantastic time during their year group magic show. A massive well done to all those children who maintained their green status for all of term 2. We are very excited about our next GTBG reward which will be a year group disco/party.

