



CHANTRY COMMUNITY NEWS



www.greenacreaacademytrust.co.uk

01474 350011

October 2018

Message from Mrs Duncan

I cannot believe that what seemed like an impossible task at the end of the Summer (moving the whole school out of a building and into a new building) has happened and we are all now enjoying our lovely new offices and classrooms.

I have to say a massive thank you to all of the staff, the children and of course you – the parents for making this happen so efficiently. There have been some minimal ‘teething’ problems but generally, things have gone well and we now have good routines in place. I thank you for your patience and understanding with changes to some procedures we have had to make. I know some of you have found it difficult to not have the same access to the office as you have previously had – this is due to the fact the lobby area is just so small.

I am delighted with our partnership with other schools in the trust who are providing experiences that our temporary accommodation won’t allow at the moment such as cooking and computing. Feedback from the children is good and they enjoy going to ‘big school’! Our sport sessions in Gravesend are also working well and Mr.Simmonds is confident that we will be able to start participating in competitions again.

Year 6 travel back to Victorian times on their visit to Kent Life













All the pupils in Year 6 were treated to a full day of History being brought to life, as they travelled back in time to the Victorian age. Together with Warren Wood and Hilltop Schools, they spent a day at the Kent Life Museum learning all about how life was different when Queen Victoria was on the throne. Saying hello to some goats, sheep and horses on the way to the chapel, they first met “Florence Nightingale”, who explained about the importance of hygiene and good food in hospitals. She also wanted to see their good bedside manners when bandaging wounds.

The children had the opportunity to tour a Victorian Cottage and see the differences that the discovery of electricity, and the introduction of plumbing, has made to life. Lots of them liked the idea of a 4-poster-bed, and they recognised another Victorian invention - the sewing machine. They enjoyed a break in the playground before meeting Ethel the Scullery Maid and learning about life as a domestic servant. Everyone had a go at using the dolly and the mangle, and some even managed to iron and fold the linen. They realised how much harder life would be, just to keep clothes clean. They then found out that, in Victorian times, there were no supermarkets. Instead, to buy all the food that they needed, people had to visit the Baker, the Butcher, the Grocer, the Greengrocer....and the money was confusing too.

Lunch was followed by a lesson in the Three Rs (Reading, Writing and Arithmetic) from a very strict Miss Fisher. Children had to write on slates, using chalk, and recite their alphabet and times tables. Fortunately, everyone was well behaved and no one ended up wearing the Dunce’s Cap – Miss Mills and Mrs. Caithness were relieved about this. When meeting an important cotton mill owner from Manchester, the children learnt about the different jobs they would have been expected to do if they were not lucky enough to go to school. None of them wanted to sweep animal dung in the streets. Not many were interested in life as a chimney sweep or cleaning under the dangerous machines in the factories. One or two thought that life as a domestic servant might be the best option after all!

The final activity of the day was to try making rag rugs. Although it was tricky, most of the children managed to use the “bodger” tool to make their own mini-rugs. It would have taken many, many hours to make enough rag rug to cover a whole room.

With many thanks to the staff at Kent Life Museum for helping us with our Victorian History topic.

Date	Attendance		Punctuality	
Week beginning 3rd September 2018	Seuss 99.1%		Carle, Potter, Browne, Seuss, Lewis, Ahlberg, Sachar, Dahl, Rowling, Morpurgo, Pullman	
Week beginning 10th September 2018	Sachar 99.3%		Morpurgo	
Week beginning 17th September 2018	Browne 98.2%		Pullman, Rowling, Dahl, Sachar Lewis, Seuss	
Week beginning 24 th September 2018	Morpurgo 100%		Pullman, Morpurgo, Dahl, Sachar, Seuss	
Week beginning 1st October 2018	Dahl 100%		Rowling Morpurgo Pullman	
Week beginning 8 th October 2018	Sachar 98.7%		Ahlberg Inkpen	

Lateness

We have noticed that a lot of children are still arriving late for school. Our gates open at 8:40am and close at 8:50am, any children coming through after this time are late and MUST go to the office to register as late. A pupil lateness will seriously disrupt their learning and can be embarrassing for them when they enter the classroom.

Request for absence

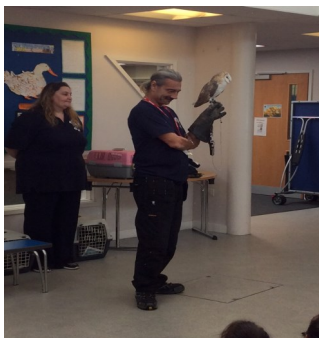
There has been an increase in the number of requests for absences during school time. Please can I remind you that, where possible, medical and dental appointments, plus any travels abroad etc. MUST be taken during school holidays (school holiday dates are on our school website <http://greenacresacademytrust.co.uk/chantry>). If you have to take your child out of school time, you must go to the office and complete a 'Request for Absence' form, at least one week before the requested absence date. Unauthorized absences could result in a Penalty Notice (this costs £60 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days or £120 per parents, per child, if paid within 28 days).

How good is your child's attendance?

365 DAYS IN EACH YEAR = 190 DAYS AT SCHOOL AND 175 NON SCHOOL DAYS

Reception visit Warren Wood to see Hartley Owls-Monday 8th October 2018

This term, Potter and Carle Class had an exciting educational visit to Warren Wood Primary Academy to visit the Hartley Owls. It has really helped them with their focus book 'Owl Babies'. The children were really engaged and learnt so much about them, what they eat and what they do. Afterwards, the children used this experience to create some amazing pictures and it created a great talking point for the children to improve their speaking, listening and understanding skills.



Dates for your diary

End of Term 1-Friday 19th October

Autumn break-Monday 22nd October-Friday 2nd November

Trust Day –Monday 5th November-no children in school

Start of Term 2-Tuesday 6th November-children to be in normal time

Wednesday 7th November-School photos being taken in school

Tuesday 13th November-3.30pm-7.00pm Parents evening. Please use the ramp access to sign in.

Thursday 15th November-3.30pm-5.30pm Parents evening. Please use the ramp access to sign in.

Wednesday 21st November-Reception & Year 6 weight & height checks in school by the School Nurses Team.

Wednesday 12th December– Flu immunisations Reception-Year 5 in school by the School Nurses Team.

Wednesday 19th December-Pantomime at The Woodville Halls. Reception –Year 6.

Thursday 20th December-Good to be Green treat.

Friday 21st December-End of Term 2.

Winter break-Monday 24th December 2018-Friday 4th January 2019.

Monday 7th January 2019-Start of Term 3-children to be in normal time.

RECIPE ambassadors meeting Graham McManus



Our RECIPE ambassadors and Mrs Duncan accepted a donation from Graham McManus from Honor Oak Lodge. Graham organized a charity cricket match to raise the money to buy pop up gazebo's for us to use at school. We are going to use the gazebo's for outdoor activities with the children.



Term one has been very busy here at Chantry! The RECIPE is displayed in all of our classes and the children and staff refer to it regularly with many children across the school already being awarded 'Star of the Week,' certificates for demonstrating aspects of the RECIPE. All classes have voted for their RECIPE ambassador showing respect and understanding of the process. The newly appointed RECIPE Ambassadors have all attended their first official meeting and demonstrated good cooperation when discussing matters.

The RECIPE is hugely important at Chantry, and across the trust. Below, you can see how different activities from across the school have demonstrated the RECIPE this term.

Respect – By donating an amazing amount of food for Harvest Festival, the children and their families have shown respect for others in the local community. Similarly, by wearing their jeans and making a donation on 'Jeans for genes,' day, they have shown respect for others.

Excellence – All of the visits out of school have led to some excellent work being produced. All of the classes have completed some great work this term and can be very proud of what they have achieved.

Cooperation – We see cooperation every day at Chantry. We particularly see it on the field at lunchtime when the newly appointed play leaders support the younger children and organise games for them.

Independence – The children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 have shown developing independence when travelling over to Greenacre Academy and Walderslade Girls School each week. The children have needed to look after and be responsible for their own equipment.

Perseverance – Our Key stage 2 classes are showing real perseverance at the moment working on their entries for the 'Superbugs' competition. The children have half term to work on this and create the best possible entry. All entries to the competition should be returned after half term.

Enjoyment - The children have enjoyed watching the old building be demolished and have been excited to learn about the different jobs involved in building a school. Many year groups have been on educational visits outside of school this term which they have very much enjoyed. Years 2 and 5 travelled to Warren Wood to experience the Astrodome. Reception also visited Warren Wood to meet the owls, linked to their learning about 'The Owl Babies.' Year 6 children from across the trust visited Kent life to experience a Victorian Day. Year 1 walked over to the Prom and the park to experience spending time in the park. Most recently, a group of children went to Woodville Halls to take part in filming the Gravesend Christmas promotional video. Look out for it in the coming weeks.

As you can see, the RECIPE features in so much that we do across the school. If you would like to keep up to date with school activities and get a glimpse of how 'Skills for Life,' is developed through our school curriculum follow us, @ChantryAcademy, on twitter where we regularly tweet snapshots of the children's learning.

Breakfast Club

Please can I remind parents and carers that breakfast club starts at 8.00am. We have noticed that some children wait outside unaccompanied quite early. This is a concern for us and we would ask that if your child is using breakfast club, they are dropped off at 8.00am by an adult.

Clothing

Please can I once again remind parents/carers that our school uniform consists of **plain black school shoes** (this means no other colour or markings on them). Now that children are going off site and the weather is changing, please can you ensure that your child has a jumper or sweatshirt and a coat.

We do apologise that some of your children are coming home in muddy clothing. As we go through the new build, we only have the field for play space and we are letting the children out as long as it isn't raining. We are purchasing wellies for each child in Reception to Year 6 (a lot of wellies).

Earrings

We have quite a few children who are wearing dangly earrings. These are not part of our school uniform and if children are wearing these kinds of earrings, they will be asked to remove them as they are a health and safety risk particularly when playing. Plain studs are perfectly acceptable.

Health and Safety

Please ensure your children wait at the bottom of the main staircase in the morning before school as we don't want any accidents with falls or children getting squashed! Many thanks for your understanding with this.

Please can we kindly ask that parents don't stand around the school gate smoking. It isn't nice or healthy for children to have to walk through this and we do have some asthmatic children.



On Thursday 27th September 2018 we went to Warren Wood school to visit the Astrodome. The man showed us lava from the moon before we went inside the dome and it was not hot. Inside we saw lots of things like the colourful Northern Lights. My favourite part was when we watched the video of the astronauts being a little bit silly on the moon and seeing the stars and the Milky Way. The astronauts' names were Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin. They were jumping and falling and having fun. We also looked at the planets and the Sun. It was a great day!

By Jannat, Seuss Class



Harvest

The children have been learning all about harvest and what it means. In classrooms, there have been many different activities going on such as fruit and vegetable printing, harvest poems and prayers.

Once again, our school community have been so generous bringing in massive amounts of food and other produce for those less fortunate. Some of our RECIPE ambassadors went on the minibus and took the food to the Gravesham Food Bank. The Food Bank were extremely grateful for the generous donation from Chantry Community Academy as it weighed a total of 147.50kg and said this will help lots of people in need in the community. A big thank you to Miss.Hassell and Miss.Moore for organising this and of course a big thank you to our parents and carers for showing such generosity.



Parent Governor

There is a vacancy for a parent governor. At Chantry we have a strong governing body who meet 9 times a year from 5pm for a couple of hours to challenge aspects of the school in a supportive manner. If you think this is something you are interested in, please contact Mrs.Duncan via the school office.