

# Parents Newsletter

## May 2016

The summer term has been a busy time with many exciting activities, as well as a time for hard work as pupils work towards their end of year tests and statutory examinations.

### **Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs)**

Our Year 2 and Year 6 pupils have now completed the SATs tests. I am very proud of all the pupils for their resilience and hard work during this academic year. The support from parents and staff during this time is a testament to the strong partnership that we have here at Charnwood. Thank you.

### **Poetry at Charnwood**

Year 4 Pine have had the privilege of working with a poet, Joseph Coelho. Joseph is an outstanding artist and inspiring communicator with children and young people, and has been shortlisted for the Leicester City Council 'Our Best Book' award this year for 'Werewolf Club Rules'. His time at Charnwood has been spent working with our pupils and teachers 'inspiring them to write their own material' which has now been collated to create a booklet of poems. The poems are based around the theme 'Being and Belonging in Leicester, My City'. The poetry booklets have now been published and Year 4 Pine pupils have been given their own copy to keep! Well done to the poets in Year 4 Pine. The Lord Mayor of Leicester, Ted Cassidy, visited Charnwood on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016. He spent time with the class and listened to pupils reading the poems selected for the poetry booklet. The Lord Mayor commented on how much he enjoyed his visit to the school. Mrs Metcalfe, two pupils and their parents were invited to a special event at the Leicester Cathedral to read and perform for the Lord Mayor on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

### **Art at Charnwood**

To raise the profile of art at Charnwood we are working towards attaining the 'Artsmark' which is awarded by the Arts Council of England. Mrs Vaghela has organised a number of art competitions. Recently pupils produced art work for the Leicester Art Zone artist competition, and we submitted three pieces of art work. One of our pupils from Year 4 Pine received the 'Gadsby Junior Prize'. All three pieces of art work are displayed in the art exhibition at the Holy Cross Centre on Wellington Street. We have some very talented artists at Charnwood!

We have entered ten more pieces of art work for the summer competition.

### **Queen's Birthday**

To celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday the pupils made birthday cards for her Majesty. Mrs Vaghela selected the best cards and has posted these to the Queen!

### **Cooking at Charnwood**

Pupils have been enjoying their regular cooking sessions across all year groups. Mrs Nagi and Mrs Metcalfe (Geography Coordinator) organised a Fair Trade week. All year groups learnt about fair trade and made delicious dishes using Fair Trade ingredients.

We received a donation of free cupcake baking trays from 'Giving World Online'. Each family in the school has been given two baking trays each to encourage cooking at home. We hope you will enjoy baking with your children at home.

### **Music at Charnwood**

This term we are taking part in the 'Young People's Music Club Residency', as part of the Spark and Leicestershire Music Education Hub. The Brazilian percussionist Adriano Adewale is working with a group of 30 Year 5 pupils introducing worldwide music, looking at making instruments from recycled materials and creating a composition that the children will perform with Adriano's band at a special performance in a music club in Leicester.

### **Festival Assemblies**

We had fantastic attendance from parents for our Vaisakhi and Eid assemblies this term. Glebelands Primary School requested us to perform the Eid assembly for their pupils. Year 5 visited Glebelands Primary on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May to perform. The pupils and staff at Glebelands Primary organised games and activities for our pupils. The pupils spent some time getting to know each other and sharing experiences. This was a very positive experience for pupils in both schools. We will continue to build on developing links with schools in the city.

### **Replacing Lost or Damaged Books**

As you know, books are very expensive and all the children know that we expect them to look after the books they borrow. However, if your child loses or damages a book they have borrowed, then we would ask you to pay for a replacement. This will allow the library to maintain a healthy stock of reading material. Children with overdue books will not be able to borrow more books until they have returned the overdue book.

### **Attendance and punctuality**

As a parent/carer you have the legal responsibility to ensure that your child attends school regularly and arrives on time. When you arrange an appointment for your child, e.g. dentist, optician, etc. you should try to make the appointment outside of school time. If your child has an appointment during school time you will be requested to show a proof of appointment before you take your child out of school.

### **School Dinners**

We would like to make all parents/carers aware that school meals must be paid for in **advance** of meals being taken.

### **Dates for your diary:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Activity/Trips/ workshops</b>
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	All	School closed for half-term
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	All	School re-opens after half-term
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 9:00am	F1	Meeting for parents of pupils who will be staying at Charnwood in F2 in September
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Foundation & Key Stage 1	Sports Day
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6	Leavers Assembly
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Key Stage 2	Sports Day
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	All	Last day of term
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	All	School re-opens after summer holiday

### **ESOL Classes**

This term we invited Leicester Adult Skills and Learning Service to meet with parents who were interested in attending classes to learn English. I am pleased to say that many of our parents were very keen to attend. As a result we are running ESOL sessions every Thursday at

Charnwood. If parents are interested in attending these sessions please see Mrs Ahmad in the school office.

### **Keeping children safe**

Please find the updated **Safeguarding Policy** on the school website. You will receive an information leaflet '**Keeping Children Safe in Education – Information for Parents / Carers**' with this newsletter. Please familiarise yourselves with the policy and the information in the leaflet.

The school and parents/carers have a legal responsibility to ensure that arrangements are in place to ensure that children are collected promptly and get home safely at the appropriate time. At Charnwood we take the need to keep the children safe very seriously. It is important that parents/carers keep school informed about who is collecting children and any changes to regular arrangements. Anyone collecting pupils from school must be older than 16. Young adults collecting children may be asked for a proof of identity and age. We discourage primary aged siblings collecting younger siblings and walking home without an adult.

At school we teach pupils about keeping themselves safe and what to do if and when they are approached by strangers. The pupils are taught to remember the following mantra:-  
**NO, GO, YELL, TELL.**

During this holiday period may I request parents/carers to:-

- Talk to children about staying safe on the streets.
- Ensure, as parents / carers, you know where your children are going and how long they will be.
- Remind children never to talk to strangers and always tell a known adult if they are approached by any strangers.

### **Parent View**

Parent View gives you the chance to tell us what you think about our school. Please have a look at this website and give your view: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

### **Office**

It is vital that the school is kept informed of any changes to contact phone numbers, new home address, medical needs and changes to family circumstances. These details are very important in any case of emergency as well as ensuring we keep all parties with parental responsibilities informed about their child's development.

Please note calls made to and from the school may be recorded and used for monitoring and training purposes.

If your child is absent please ensure you ring the school office every day that your child remains absent. May I take this opportunity to remind you that term time holiday requests **will not be authorised**. Please visit the school website to read the attendance information and policies.

**The school will be closed from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016  
to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2016.**

**The school will re-open on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016.**