

Parents Newsletter

November 2016

November has been a busy month for us at Charnwood. Our staff and pupils have been working hard in lessons. We have also taken part in a number of events, trips and celebrations this month.

Foundation Stage – Hand washing and dental care assembly

The school nurse team delivered an assembly for our Foundation Stage children about health and hygiene. They talked about the importance of washing hands, and the importance of looking after their teeth. If you require information and advice please contact Mrs Norman.

Year One – Halloween models and poems

Year One children used Halloween as a theme to write some great poems in class and to make some 3D models as a homework project. The poetry recital for parents was very well attended. The children and staff appreciate all the effort that parents made in helping with the models and coming to watch the performance.

Year 2 Diwali assembly

The children in Year 2 have been learning about Hinduism and the festival of Diwali. During the Diwali assembly the children showcased what they have learnt as well demonstrating their acting, dancing and singing talent! Well done to all the pupils and staff for a fantastic performance. Thank you to all the parents/ carers for supporting the children with learning their script and for coming to watch the performance. We had a full house for both the morning and afternoon performances!

Year 6 – First aid training

The children in year 6 have had the opportunity to receive first aid training delivered by the British Red Cross. The sessions were interactive and fun, and designed to increase confidence to act in an emergency. They learnt first aid skills to deal with bleeds, burns, head injuries and choking, using role play and quizzes. The children were also taught age appropriate ways to help someone who is unresponsive.

Remembrance Day

We marked 'Remembrance Day' on Friday 11th November at 11.00am with a special assembly and a two minute silence. We discussed what wearing the poppy represents. Our World War One memorial in the school hall serves as a timely reminder of pupils and staff from Charnwood that served our country during World War One.

Anti-bullying Assembly

The whole school took part in anti-bullying week. The theme this year was 'power for good'. I am certain our children have embraced the key message of showing kindness through words and actions.

Parents' evenings

Thank you for attending our recent parents' evenings. I hope you found the appointment with your child's class teacher useful and informative. Your feedback, questions and queries are always welcome at these meetings. The next parents' evenings will now take place in the spring term. Meanwhile if you wish to meet with the class teacher or have any questions, you are more than welcome to arrange this by contacting the school office for an appointment.

Children in Need

Our school supported the BBC's National Children in Need campaign through a number of fundraising events in school. This year the theme was 'Spotacular'. Children had some amazing homemade costumes. The children were also challenged to run a marathon collectively (as a whole school, not individually!). The children collected sponsorship money for this event. I am thrilled to announce that with your help and kind donations we have raised **£2,019.96!** Thank you for supporting this worthy cause.

Christmas card competition

Once again our children have been creative and have made cards for Jon Ashworth's Christmas card competition. We wait in anticipation for the winners to be announced!

Reading diaries

Creating a love of reading in children is potentially one of the most powerful ways of improving academic standards in school. There can be few better ways to improve pupils' chances in school, or beyond in the wider world than to enable them to become truly independent readers. We want to encourage children to develop their reading skills by spending time reading books at home as well as at school.

It is for this reason that I would like to request for parents/carers to spend some time listening to children read at home, as well as reading to your children. Please write a comment and sign the reading diary weekly. This enables us to track if children are reading at home. The reading diaries have a section with tips for parents on listening to children read, as well as key vocabulary lists. Please use these when hearing your child read. If you require any further help or advice please speak to your child's class teacher.

Healthy Packed Lunch

In order for children to grow healthy and strong they need a balance of foods such as meat, cheese, egg, fish, fresh salad, fruits and vegetables. They need less fried food, burgers or pastries and even less treats such as crisps, cakes, sweets, chocolates or jam sandwiches. It is parent's/ carer's responsibility to ensure their

child brings in a healthy, well balanced packed lunch. I would also like to remind parents to send a piece of fruit with your child in KS2 for playtime.

Parent Governor Vacancies

We have **two parent governor** vacancies on our governing body. Parent governors are elected by the parents of pupils at this school to serve a four year term of office. Each parent will receive the relevant documents and forms in a sealed envelope. Please check your children's book bags for these letters.

If you would like to stand for election or wish to nominate someone else, you should complete the form that will be sent to you and return it to the school via your child. Completed nomination forms must be returned by the end of the school day on **Tuesday, 06 December**. If there are more nominations than vacant posts, a ballot will be held and one voting paper per parent will be sent to you via your child.

Please ensure you read all the information sent with the form as well as the eligibility criteria.

Winter is here!

During this period of very cold and wet weather please ensure that children come to school with appropriate warm clothes and black footwear and a good warm coat, hat and gloves.

Please put your child's name on every item of clothing! Our lost property pile of clothes seems to be growing!

If the school is unable to open we will inform families via a text message. There will also be a message on the website as soon as our website administrator is able to do so. We will contact BBC Radio Leicester to place a message on their website too.

Picking up and dropping children

Thank you to all the parents/ carers who are parking safely outside the school gates. It is only with your help and support that we can ensure our children's safety at the start of and at the end of the school day. The City Council have been monitoring parking at these times of the day. Please park safely and come into the school when dropping and picking up your children. I am certain that, with a collective effort as a school community we can model exemplary behaviour by ensuring we park sensibly and safely at all times. Thank you for your understanding.

Dates for Diary

Event	Date
Yr1 Trip to Post Office and Local Shops	Tuesday, 29 November 2016
FS2 & KS1 Pantomime - Peepul Centre	Tuesday, 06 December 2016
KS2 Pantomime – Peepul Centre	Wednesday, 07 December 2016
FS Nativity Play – Assembly for parents	Thursday, 08 December 2016
Yr5 Trip to Leicester Cathedral	Wednesday, 14 December 2016
Christmas Holidays	19 December 2016 – 03 January 2017
Yr4 Trip to East Park Road Gurdwara	Thursday, 12 January 2017
Y2 Trip to UKBAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir	Wednesday, 18 January 2017

Thank You ☺