



Charnwood Primary School

Parents Newsletter

October 2018

We have had a very busy month here at Charnwood with lots going on. The children have settled in really well and we are very proud of their great attitude towards school and their learning.

Reading at Charnwood

Reading remains a key focus for this year.

Reading is one of the most important skills that children need to learn in order to be successful. Good reading skills are vital for children so they can succeed academically in all areas of the curriculum. In order for children to become great readers, they need to enjoy reading when they are young so that they develop good reading habits that they can then use throughout their lives. We know from research all over the world that children who read widely and often, and who have plenty of books or magazines to read, do better in their education than children who don't have books and magazines.

We need your help to encourage our children to enjoy reading. There are a number of ways you can do this:

1. Read to and with your child every day. You can read them a story or they can read to you. Children will bring home books from the school library for you to read together.
2. Be a role model! If children see their parents reading then they are more likely to read for pleasure themselves.
3. Try to encourage your child to read a range of different books by different authors. If your child is reluctant to read at home, please speak to the class teacher who can suggest some appropriate books or games you can play to encourage your child to read more. Libraries are also very good at suggesting great books for different ages.
4. Interactive books are very good for younger readers and will often engage them in the story with pull out flaps or sound buttons.
5. Try to develop a home library – you can get books, magazines or comics from a local library, local shops, catalogues or online. It is really important that the children see books around them and that reading books at home becomes an everyday thing to do.
6. Limit screen time – children often find it easier to watch TV or play electronic games. However, these activities are not as beneficial for the children as reading is.
7. Remember that children can read non-fiction books as well as fiction – some children prefer to read 'fact books', like encyclopaedias or biographies rather than fiction stories.

Here are some places in our local area where you can access books:

Highfields Library, Melbourne Road, Leicester – where you can take out 12 books on one ticket!

Charity shops (LOROS, MIND, etc) - you can find some very good books at charity shops at a very low cost.

Highcross shopping centre - where they sell books and magazines and comics

Book catalogues for children online - they offer some every good deals on books.

Reading record diary

Please sign your children's reading diaries every week. This record is very important and helps us to track how much children are reading at home. Your comments also help us to check how children are getting on as independent readers at home.

Secondary School applications for Year 6 pupils

As you may know secondary school applications close on **Wednesday, 31 October 2018**. Please can all parents of Year 6 children make their applications to Leicester City Council admissions before the deadline, if you are having issues with the online system, please call admissions for support on **0116 454 1009 (option 1)**.

Parents Evening

Thank you for your attendance at Parents Evening. We hope you found this time with your child's teacher useful and that you had a chance to pop into the studio to view the wonderful work the children produced on our Global Day theme.

The following organisations were present in the school hall – we hope that you were able to talk to the representatives and that their advice was helpful.

- City Catering came with their delicious samples of food for you to try
- Education Welfare Officer was available to discuss any questions/ queries about attendance/ leave of absence
- School nursing team were available to discuss any questions involving diet and health
- Governors were present to talk to parents about being a governor and to listen to any questions or concerns.

If you would like to talk to any of these organisations, please ask for their contact details in the school office.

The following events occurred took place this month

- NHS Flu Vaccination
- F2-Year 6 Parents Curriculum Meetings
- F1-Year 6 Parents Evenings

The following trips took place this month:

- Year 2 BAPS Hindu Temple trip – linked to Religious Education learning about Hinduism
- Year 1 and Year 2 KTC Phonics trip to Leicester Tigers – showing other schools how phonics is taught at Charnwood
- Year 4 Virtual Orchestra Workshop trip
- FS2 Highfields Library trip
- Year 4 World War Walking Trail trip - link to history learning about World War One in Leicester

School Uniform

At Charnwood we want our pupils to take pride in their appearance - this shows respect not only for themselves but for the school. Please ensure that the uniform worn complies with the school policy; details of the uniform can be found on the school website. We aim to ensure standards are kept high throughout the school so class teachers will send letters home if your child is not wearing the correct uniform. Please note that children must wear black shoes - trainers should only be worn for PE.

To celebrate their birthday pupils may have a 'non uniform' day. Please ensure the clothing will still allow them to continue with their class activities and footwear is sensible. Children may bring in a small book or similar to share with the class if they wish, or a fresh or dried fruit snack. We ask that children do not bring in sweets, chocolates or cakes to share.

Boys' uniform

White shirt/polo shirt, plain **navy** trousers, plain **navy** jumper/sweatshirt/jabab.
Sensible plain **BLACK** shoes that have a closed back.
Pupils may wear a **navy** hat.

Girls' uniform

White blouse/polo shirt with a **navy** trousers, plain navy jumper/sweatshirt/jabab.
Or plain navy pinafore dress with a white blouse/polo shirt and plain **navy** jumper/sweatshirt.

Pupils may wear a **navy** scarf - pins and brooches must not be used to fix head scarves.
Sensible plain **BLACK** shoes that have a closed back.

Gingham dresses or dresses with patterns are not part of the agreed uniform policy.

It is essential that all children wear **black** flat heeled, well-fitted shoes for their own safety, as they have to go up and down stairs frequently during the school day. Your child may bring a pair of trainers into school for playtimes and lunchtimes.

Please make sure all items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Physical Education (P.E) and Swimming Sessions

Please send your child's kit into school one day before their session takes place.

P.E Kit

Children must have **black** plimsolls/trainers, a change of clothing and a bag to keep them in for P.E. and games. All jewellery and scarves must be removed for P.E. lessons.

Please make sure all items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Children are not to wear jewellery, except for very small studs. They **must** be removed for safety reasons during P.E./swimming lessons. The school cannot accept any responsibility for the safekeeping of these items. Please remove studs before your child comes into school. Parents will be called to remove studs. Staff are not allowed to remove studs.

Attendance

The whole school attendance for this year to date is: **97%**

Our school attendance target figure is **95.2 %**

This month the following class has had the highest attendance: **5 Sycamore**

Please visit our school website for further information about attendance:-

<http://charnwood.leicester.sch.uk>

Please could parents inform the office if your child has an appointment and will be absent or arriving late.

You may phone the school office on **0116 251 6574**

Teachers 2 Parents Texting Service

If you wish to send a text message to the school please use the following number:-

07786 208 889

Future trips/events

| Date | Trip/Event |
|---------------------------|--|
| Monday, 17 December 2018 | FS2, Year 1 and Year 2 Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs Pantomime trip |
| Tuesday, 18 December 2018 | Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs Pantomime trip |

Office

It is vital that the school is kept informed of any changes to contact phone numbers and medical needs. These details are very important in any case of emergency. Please note calls made to and from the school may be recorded and used for monitoring and training purposes.

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/>