



Term 4 Newsletter

Our vision is to be an exceptional school where children flourish

Dear Families,

We hope that you enjoy looking through the events that have taken place this term! I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff who make these opportunities possible, whether it's attending residential trips, which provide our children with valuable experiences and life skills, or leading after-school clubs that spark curiosity and passion. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a supportive and caring team.

Next term, we will be continuing to offer our Family Engagement Sessions (details on page 5)- we would love for you to join us to find out about how we teach certain skills and to see the school in action!

We would like to wish you all a wonderful break, and also to thank you for your continued partnership and support.

With very best wishes,
Sam Campbell and the Charlton Team

What's inside this term's newsletter?

- Personal development
- What's been going on in Early Years; Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
- PTA
- Attendance & Safeguarding

This term's attendance:
95.6%
School and Trust target:
96%



Follow us!



Charlton Primary School



Charlton_Primary

Personal Development Opportunities across School

Y2 Library Visit

At the beginning of term, Year 2 all visited Wantage Library. This visit was designed to give them a greater insight into the library after reading Little Red Reading Hood. Following their visit, they were able to write instructions on how to borrow a book and also a recount of their visit...and some continued reading throughout the day!



Y3 OAA

This term, Year 3 have been enjoying **Outdoor Adventurous Activities** with Miss Biles. They have been learning how to tie a range of knots, develop their orienteering skills and use tools to cut. They've also been busy maintaining the forest floor by adding chipping to the paths.



Y6 Maths in Motion

Every week, a group of Y6 children take part in Maths in Motion. This involves them working together in small teams to set up virtual racing cars and then compete against each other in a series of Grands Prix type races throughout the year in the hope of becoming World Champions. This activity involves a wide range of basic mathematical skills, some practical, being used and applied. The aim is to inspire our children and enable them to consider taking up careers in engineering.



World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day by coming to school ready for a bedtime story or dressing as a character. Each class was presented with a new set of dictionaries or thesauruses to help with their own writing skills, before enjoying The Dictionary Story by Oliver Jeffers in assembly. During the afternoon, there was buddy reading, our free pop up book shop, as well as our famous potato competition!



Basketball competition

Our basketball team took part in a competition on 1st April. This took place at Charlton, with 16 children representing our school. We are pleased to share with you that our teams were placed 4th and 5th overall!

Chance to Shine Cricket Coaching

We are incredibly fortunate to have benefitted from expert cricket coaching this term for Year 3 and 5. Nick, from Chance to Shine has shared his expertise, and has also been running an after school club. The sessions have been active, competitive and fun!



CHANCE TO SHINE
Inspiring young people through cricket



Williams F1 STEM visit

On 6th March, another 40 children from Key Stage 2 took part in a visit to Williams F1. This outreach programme, which is fully funded by Williams F1, is designed to promote STEM and encourage young people to learn about possible careers which use maths, science, computing and engineering skills.

Our children took part in a museum tour, used race car simulators and worked in small groups to design and make effective crumble zones for race cars which they then tested.

Netball competitions

This term, Miss Biles' and Mrs Oliver's netballers took part in some netball competitions.

On 18th March, two teams took part in a development competition. The A team were placed 5th and the B team, 7th.

On 25th, they also took part in a competition, and came 2nd! We are delighted with these results and are very proud of the children.

Scholastic Book Fair

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, the Scholastic Book Fair also came to school. Thank you so much for supporting this event. Each purchase that you make, generates money for us to purchase books for school. This time, the book fair generated £212 for us to spend!

Girls' football competition

On Wednesday 12th March, Mrs Goodman took a team of Year 5 and Year 6 girls to a football tournament at King Alfred's. The girls were incredible ambassadors for the school and played brilliantly. We are very proud of them for showing our school values throughout.



Cross Country Finals

The cross country finals took place on 26th March. Our team of Y4s entered and came 5th out of the entire county!

They returned to school jubilant about their success, but demonstrated an incredible sporting attitude throughout the competition.

Y5 Residential

Our Year 5 children took part in their residential at Youlbury this term. Meeting at Tilsley Park, Abingdon, Miss Biles and Miss Cackett led the expedition to Youlbury! Once at Youlbury, they took part in a wide range of outdoor activities, including climbing, go karting and donut eating!



Science Fair Final at R.A.L.

This year's annual Trust Science Fair culminated in the final being held at R.A.L on 2nd April. We are so proud of all of our children for their hard work towards their projects and were delighted when 7 pairs were selected by 3 judges to take part in the final round. Miss Biles accompanied our 14 finalists to R.A.L where they shared their projects, took part in workshops led by older children and saw a demonstration of liquid nitrogen!

Y3 Performances

Our Year 3 spring performances were just what we all needed to inject a spring time feeling into our step! The children have embraced their rehearsals, showing off their singing skills, and reciting some poetry to really get us into the season.



$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$



We'd love you to
join us at our



PARENT/CARER ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS




- *Learn up to date methods and strategies with us
- *Gain an insight into school life
- *Develop your own skills



LIMITED
OFFER

Places are limited. Scan here to
sign up via PARENT PAY and
avoid missing out.



$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

Sessions are for all -
regardless of your child's
age!



Sign up for as many sessions as you like!

Mastering Number Facts - Understand the power of number bonds, times tables, and key number facts to build fluency and confidence across all year groups. **Thursday 8th May @9am**



Multiply and Divide with Confidence - Explore mental and written methods for multiplication and division, focusing on the Charlton approach to solving these operations effectively. **Thursday 22nd May @9am**

Master Addition and Subtraction - Discover strategies for mastering mental and written addition and subtraction, with a dive into the Charlton method for problem-solving. **Thursday 19th June @9am**

Perfecting punctuation - Learn the secrets of punctuation from full stops to semi-colons. **Tuesday 29th April @9am**

Sentence Sense - Explore sentence structure and how to craft well-formed sentences. **Tuesday 25th March @9am**

From Stories to Reports - Discover the different types of writing children tackle at Charlton and how you can support their creativity and skills. **Tuesday 17th June @9am**

Exploring the Power of Reading Aloud - Discover how reading aloud with your child can enhance their literacy, creativity, and comprehension whilst gaining practical tips for supporting your child's communication skills, imagination, and love of learning. **Thursday 20th March @9am**

LIMITED
OFFER

Places are limited. Scan here to
sign up via PARENT PAY to avoid
missing out.



Early Years

Acorns: This term, we have enjoyed the wonderful weather and have had a very busy garden, which means much more outdoor learning. The water tray has been very popular amongst the children, with lots of pouring and filling. We have planted some flowers, enjoyed the newly donated beanbags in the reading area outside and even had an Easter egg hunt this week! At Forest Fun, the weather has given us more opportunities to explore the pond area and observe the frog spawn, which has supported next term's theme of Life Cycles. We have continued our visits to The Sanctuary Care Home, where the children have engaged with the community, built their confidence and social skills. The children also showed off their wonderful singing skills! We have been learning about Ramadan and Eid and have been fortunate to have a family join us to tell us about the celebration, and the children received a gift of a chocolate coin!

Reception: Reception have been very busy this term exploring the changing world around them and we have been encouraging the children to ask questions about why things happen and how they work. The children have been looking for signs of spring, watching our donated bulbs grow and flower, observing germinating beans, growing sunflower plants and learning about different animals that lay eggs. It has been wonderful spending even more time outside in our garden and making the most of all the learning opportunities that opens up for the children. They have been fascinated by the emerging 'minibeasts' and exploring the natural world by digging in the mud and playing in the mud kitchen. We have also been thinking about how we change as we grow and what we can do now that we couldn't do when we were babies and this week we will be exploring changing states by melting some chocolate and making some Easter nests - delicious!

-

Key Stage 1

Year 1: In Year 1 this term, we had a message in a bottle wash up and give a mysterious map and instructions! As a result, we have had lots of 'pirate-y' fun and got creative with 'Billy and the Pirates' book by Nadia Shireen. We have worked hard on our use of adjectives to describe different sea creatures, asked questions to Billy and learnt all about using -er and -est. In maths, we finished off our Place Value unit within 50 and then moved on to looking at length & height. We compared lengths and then learnt how to measure in cm. Currently, we're exploring mass & volume, looking at weighing using balance scales and cubes. We have been enjoying measuring and comparing capacity and volume with containers and water. In art, we have been inspired by Piet Mondrian's use of primary colours, squares and rectangles and learnt how to mix secondary colours and use different brush strokes. In history, we have loved finding out about schools in the past and had such a great session hearing from Mrs Clark and Miss Clark about their experiences at Charlton as children!

Year 2: This term, we enjoyed our trip to Wantage Library to kickstart our writing unit. We got to hear about how the library works, all of the different services and even got to choose a book to bring back to school. The children have written a brilliant recount of this trip, as well as writing wonderful riddles in the past couple of weeks. We've been really getting stuck into money and fractions this term, something that lends itself well to talking about chocolate and pizza! Please keep encouraging children to handle money and have experience with making amounts in shops (at home or in real life!). We've ended the term with a fantastic match of Beech vs Willow in a game of rounders, an event which was made even sweeter by the sunshine!

Key Stage 2

Year 3: This term has been a super one for Year 3. We are all so proud of their fantastic performances, especially their amazing and enthusiastic singing. Our writing this term has been based on "Fantastically Great Women who Changed the World". The children wrote about themselves in biographical form based on what they want their careers to be in the future. Here is one of the beautiful endings to this piece of writing: "So, that's how Poppie became an amazing footballer. Poppie showed the World how you can do anything when you put your mind to it".

In maths, the children have been homing in on their length and perimeter knowledge. They have been measuring perimeter and converting different lengths. We have also started our fractions unit and they have been doing such a super job with this! We have been lucky enough to be doing OAA this term down in the forest with Miss Biles. The children have been showing off their knot, fire, orienteering and cutting skills. When they finish the task at hand, they are given some free time and it has been wholesome to watch the children take part in such imaginative play. We have also been extremely lucky to have Nick, from Chance to Shine, share his cricket skills with us. The children have been thoroughly enjoying these lessons and we can definitely see some cricketers of the future!

Year 4: We have had a fabulous term! Both classes have been lucky enough to have a cricket session with Nick Holroyd who works for the charity, Chance to Shine. After the Easter holidays, we will be having another session with Nick. In science, the children have been working hard on their shoebox dioramas. These will be coming home soon. They have used the new school laptops to research animals found in their chosen underwater habitat. In art, the children have been studying the artist Andy Warhol. They have been using ink and printing rollers and have chosen contrasting colours to print with.

Year 5: We have had a fantastic term filled with exciting experiences and learning opportunities! A highlight was our residential trip to Youldbury Scout Camp, where children showed incredible teamwork, resilience and bravery while taking on zip lines, archery, Jacob's ladder, pedal go-karts and crate stacking. Back in the classroom, we've been busy rehearsing for our play, which we can't wait to perform next term! In maths, we explored different strategies for multiplying and dividing larger numbers, while in science, hands-on investigations helped us learn how to separate materials. Our art lessons were equally inspiring as we studied the incredible work of Stephen Wiltshire, using pencils to create detailed landscape drawings in his style.

Year 6: This half term, Year 6 have had an exciting and action-packed few weeks! They visited King Alfred's School to watch a fantastic production, which was a brilliant opportunity to experience live theatre. In Design and Technology, the children got creative as they made their own pizzas, learning all about the design and cooking process as well as the origin of pizza, and food hygiene. They've also enjoyed a term of TA Sports, taking part in fun activities and challenges, alongside their teacher-led PE lessons. In these PE lessons, they've been trying out a new sport each week, giving them a great variety of activities to enjoy and develop their skills. We would like to wish all families an enjoyable Easter break

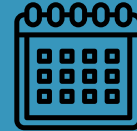


Our new website- <https://www.charltonpta.org>



We are delighted with our new look website! All your PTA needs are now in one place. This means you can buy disco tickets, raffle tickets, view our events calendar and even offer to volunteer!

Dates for your diaries!



3rd April

Step into Spring Non-uniform Day
After school flowers and bake sale



17th May

Our exciting annual whole school event is taking place on Saturday 17th May – pop it in your diary now! Every year we strive to make our School Fayre a time of fun for all the family, with things to do for people of all ages, at the same time as making it a fantastic way of raising funds for our children at Charlton School. This year's event is shaping up nicely, with all your favourite stalls and activities. There will be face painting, a bouncy castle, tombolas and more. As well as lots of great food from our cake sale and BBQ, along with soft and alcoholic drinks from the bar.



Do you need wrap around care?



Our Breakfast and After School Club currently has some sessions available! Please call our school office or email to book sessions:

officech@cha.cambrianlt.org

Tel: 01235 762861

Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am (£6.25 per child- this includes a breakfast)
After School Club runs until 6pm (£14.50 per child, and includes an evening meal)

Attendance

Attendance Letters

Each term, we look at whole school attendance, including all the reasons for absence, and we will contact, by letter, those parents whose child has an attendance level below 90% which is classed as Persistent Absence.

We aim to work with parents/carers to help improve a child's attendance so that all children can benefit from being in school regularly and achieving their full potential. If you would like any support or advice on attendance or punctuality, please speak to Heidi Thorne (Assistant Head, Inclusion Lead and SENDCo).

Punctuality

A polite reminder that the school gate opens at 8.40am and closes at 8.55am. Early morning learning starts at 8.40am. Please ensure your child(ren) are in school on time. Please do contact us for a chat if you feel there are barriers to your child(ren) arriving on time.

Holidays during term time

Absence will not be authorised during term time except in exceptional circumstances. It is very important that all parents and carers understand that children with unauthorised absences, including holidays, and unexplained absences are at risk of receiving a Fixed Penalty Notice from Oxfordshire County Council.

Medical and dental appointments

We politely request that, where possible, routine medical and dental appointments are arranged outside of school hours as these appointments will affect your child's percentage attendance. We do understand that some appointments, such as hospital consultations are not always possible to arrange outside of school hours.

Safeguarding

Please be aware of the age restrictions placed on the apps below. If we become aware of children using apps which are not suitable for their age, we have a duty to follow this up.

Social Media Age Restrictions

Under 13 (with parental consent)	13 +	16+	18+	18 (13 with parental permission)
 GoBubble	 Facebook	 WhatsApp	 Meow Chat	 flickr
 PopJam	 Instagram	 Telegram	 Meet Me	 YouTube
 GRAM SOCIAL	 Twitter		 Tinder	 Spotify
	 Skype			
	 iTunes			
	 Pinterest			
	 MyLOL			
	 Wink			
	 Snapchat			
	 TikTok			
	 reddit			
	 ASK.fm			
		17+		

JOIN THE FUN

There are spaces in bands at your school



iRock

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Get ready for Summer term: spaces are available for your child to join an iRock band at their school!

What is iRock? At iRock, children experience the thrill of being in a band! Led by our passionate and professional Band Coaches, our weekly in-school band sessions are open to all pupils from Reception to Year 6.

Music for all. iRock aims to create a welcoming and inclusive environment where every child feels they belong. Each week, children develop their musical skills, confidence, and teamwork as they work towards exam-free music qualifications — celebrating progress without the pressure of formal exams.

Feel like a rockstar! The excitement culminates every term in a live concert where children perform as a band for their families and peers. These performances are more than just a showcase—they're an opportunity for children to build self-esteem, enhance their confidence, and experience the joy of accomplishment.

iRock isn't just about music; it's about helping children thrive cognitively, socially, and academically through the power of music.

Key information:

- **No experience needed** and all instruments are provided
- Parents/guardians can access our **online portal** for updates, pictures and videos
- Hassle-free **monthly subscription** that can be cancelled at any time with a **first lesson money-back guarantee**.

Head to <https://www.irockschool.com/enrol> to check availability and start your child's iRock journey!

Joshua Franklin
Founder
iRock School of Music

CLICK HERE

ENROL NOW

Choose from..



GUITAR



VOCALS



KEYS



DRUMS

Enrol Online

www.irockschool.com/enrol

We're here to help!

Call Us: 0330 174 2655

Email Us: info@irockschool.com

Community help and support

Worried about a child or young person?

If you think a child or young person is at risk or being abused or neglected, contact the children's social care team at their local council.

If you do not know where they live, contact your local council's team, the NSPCC or the Police for advice.

Local children social care: <https://www.gov.uk/report-child-abuse-to-local-council>.



Online parenting courses

Our free online parenting courses are a great way to get advice and learn new skills in the comfort of your own home and at times to suit you. All of our courses are filled with helpful techniques and ideas developed by our experienced parenting professionals to help you become a confident and happy parent. Crucially, you can do our course whenever and wherever suits you and work through it at our own pace.

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/online-parenting-courses>



For advice and support with children's mental health, please visit the PPlace2be website: <https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/supporting-your-child-s-mental-health/>

Community help and support



Health & Wellbeing Event



Keeping Well in 2025 and Beyond

**Saturday 26th April 2025
at The Beacon 12 - 4pm**

Come and join us to find out more about what exciting activities are available in and around the area to enable you to enjoy a healthier and more fulfilled lifestyle. There will be informative talks and demonstrations from local groups and health care professionals.

For more details, see our website
<https://wellbeing.ox12.org>



Our sponsors include:



Abingdon & Witney College

Oxfordshire Adult Learning
A FACULTY OF ABINGDON & WITNEY COLLEGE



Family Learning Online Workshops June 2025

Workshops are held online using Teams.

These workshops aim to help you feel empowered at managing those tricky situations knowing you are doing the best for your child and yourself. You will gain insight into how to strengthen your family's self-esteem and resilience; and practise strategies to encourage positive behaviour.

CODE	COURSE TITLE	START DATE	TIME
TCZV214P	Emotional Regulation	Mon, 9/6/25	13:00 - 14:30
TCZV208P	Developing Resilience	Mon, 16/6/25	13:00 - 14:30
TCZV210P	Positive Discipline	Mon, 23/6/25	13:00 - 14:30
TCZV212P	Setting Expectations and Routines	Mon, 30/6/25	13:00 - 14:30

Mystified by maths? Homework a nightmare?
These workshops explain the current teaching methods used to help you feel more confident in supporting your child.

TCZV216P	Year 5 and 6 Maths - Multiples and Factors	Mon, 9/6/25	19:00 - 20:30
TCZV217P	Year 5 and 6 Maths Long Multiplication	Mon, 16/6/25	19:00 - 20:30
TCZV219P	Year 5 and 6 Maths Long Division	Mon, 23/6/25	19:00 - 20:30
TCZV221P	Year 5 and 6 Maths - Division with remainders expressed as a fraction or a decimal	Mon, 19/5/25	19:00 - 20:30

To enroll, contact Oxfordshire Adult Learning by phone.

01235 216 278

Visit the website and search 'Family Learning'

www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk

