



Term 1 Newsletter

Our vision is to be an exceptional school where children flourish

We have had much to celebrate this term and are excited to share as much of this as possible with you in our newsletter!

Over the term, our children have worked incredibly hard, taking part in a wide-range of activities to enhance their learning, compete in sports competitions and develop as positive citizens. We have loved hearing them speak with confidence and pride of their achievements and learning.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our recent Harvest donations. We are blown away by everyone's generosity.

We are pleased to share that Miss Joyce welcomed baby Ruby on 11th October

We hope you have a wonderful October break.

With very best wishes,

Sam Campbell and the Charlton Team



What's inside this term's newsletter?

- OAA- Beyond the Classroom
- Y6 Residential
- Character & Citizenship Awards
- What's been going on in Early Years; Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

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



Cross country success

On 1st October, our cross country teams competed against other Vale schools at Wantage Park.

Our teams were hugely successful with the following results: Y6 boys' team came 4th; Y6 girls' team came 1st; Y4 boys' team came 1st and our Y4 girls' team came 2nd!

Outdoor Adventurous Activities (OAA)

This term, we have further enhanced our curriculum through the addition of OAA! Outdoor Adventurous Activities is an essential part of the PE curriculum and our 'Beyond the classroom' offer. Our unique approach highlights and places extra emphasis on the need for children to explore the outdoors and develop a range of physical skills they might not be able to indoors. Whilst taking part in these OAA sessions, children will learn how to navigate around both a familiar and unfamiliar space, whilst developing basic map-reading skills. Sessions will also help them to develop skills such as knot tying and whittling, and then providing them with opportunities to apply these new skills. All sessions are planned and led by Miss Biles, along with the class teacher. This term, Year 5 have been the first year group to sample this exciting new addition to our curriculum.



Y6 IMPs

This term, Y6 took part in the Injury Minimisation Programme, facilitated by the NHS. This programme gives children the opportunity to learn emergency life skills, strengthening their confidence and their self-esteem. Our session leads were impressed with the children's understanding and application of the skills they learned.



Y5 Restart a Heart

Restart a Heart is an annual initiative led by Resuscitation Council UK which aims to increase the number of people surviving out-of-hospital cardiac arrests by helping more people learn CPR.

David Koch has kindly facilitated 12 sessions with Year 5 so that they know and can use CPR in an emergency.



This term has seen the start of iRock at Charlton. Currently, we have 6 bands, comprising of keyboards, drums, vocals and guitar. We are looking forward to their show stopping performances soon! To find out more, please visit <https://www.irockschool.com>



Year 1 local walk

On 14th and 16th October, as part of this term's Geography unit on 'Where I live', Year 1 took a walk around the local area of Charlton; developing their knowledge of the local area, by identifying local shops, buildings, housing and the environment.

PTA Disco

Thank you to everyone who came along and to the PTA, parents and staff who supported the event by helping before the day or on the night.

Pupil Leadership

This term, children from Year 1 - Year 6 have been invited to apply for pupil leadership roles in school. A number of years ago, we revised the application process for this following discussions with children from across the school about their preferred ways of applying. This term, children could write a letter to their class, present verbally or create a video. We have been thoroughly impressed by their hard work, and were thrilled to see so many of them come to drop in support sessions which were offered during lunchtime.

Our Head Pupils will be announced after half term, once they have completed the final part of their application.



Rights Champions

Our Rights Champions will work with Mrs Garbutt, ensuring that all children understand the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child, and in helping Charlton to maintain its silver status.

School Council

Our School Council will work with Mrs Campbell on a range of projects this year. The first will be launching Anti-bullying week in the first week back aft half term.



Charlton Character & Citizenship Awards

Our Character and Citizenship Awards encourage all children in Year 2 - Year 6 to engage with the full range of opportunities provided by the curriculum and our enrichment offer so that they leave as well-rounded individuals with the confidence, attitudes and values needed for their future roles in society.

Our awards have been designed with the following core principles at their heart:

- All children will be involved and supported to succeed
- The awards will support the personal development of all pupils
- The awards will be promoted in schools to raise aspiration and recognition of success across the Trust
- We will work in partnership with like-minded community organisations to make the awards highly prestigious

Children complete a number of school-specific targets in order to gain their awards: bronze, silver, gold and platinum and need to have achieved at least 4 from each of the different strands: Essential Me; Enthusiastic Me; Courageous Me and Responsible Me.

Each half term, time is allocated for staff to support children to identify any targets which they may have met and also to talk with them about how they might demonstrate further acts of citizenship. Please do talk with your children about the Character & Citizenship Awards as well.

Last year, 237 certificates were awarded and we would love to see so many of our children earn their awards again!

Early Years

Acorns: This term, the children and staff have been spending lots of time getting to know each other and forming positive relationships through play. The children have enjoyed learning about space, where they explored the topic through stories and play. They have also been chopping vegetables with adults and exploring pumpkins by scooping out the insides and using it for pretend play. The children have also been developing their skills to help them become independent e.g. taking off and putting on shoes and coats and choosing and eating a healthy snack.

Reception: Both Birch and Cherry classes have made a brilliant start to their year in Reception. Our topic this term is 'Me in my world' and we have been thinking about what we look like, who is in our family and what we like to do. We have also been focusing on learning our routines and expectations and getting to know each other. We have started learning phonics, and already know lots of sounds and graphemes.

The children were very excited to start Forest School and PE and to start our Drawing Club journey. In Drawing Club, the children explore a book that has been shared and draw their own ideas about endings, characters or settings. It is a brilliant opportunity to develop spoken story language and vocabulary. We have also chopped apple to make apple crumble, used fruit to print repeating patterns and spent lots of time outside looking at the seasonal changes all around us. This week are looking forward to cooking soup from a giant squash that Ms Kensit has brought in and planting bulbs provided by the families of both classes.

Key Stage 1

Year 1: Children in Year 1 have had a great start to the term and are settling in well to Year 1 routines. They have shown us some great writing skills this term when they wrote fabulous character descriptions of their favourite character from Little Red Riding Hood. They are using their phonics skills to help spell words correctly and are beginning to think hard about what makes a good sentence.

In maths, we have been learning place value up to 10. We have been grouping, sorting, counting, and using a number line. We have now started our new learning journey, which focuses on addition and subtraction. We linked our grouping and sorting in maths to science, where we have learnt about different materials and their properties.

This term, we were fortunate enough to take our geography learning outside, where we explored our local area. We looked at the church, school, shop, and park as some of the landmarks. Many thanks to the parent volunteers who came with us; your support is much appreciated.

Year 2: Children in Year 2 have gotten stuck into learning well, and have particularly enjoyed the writing focus this term. We have been looking at the text 'Toys in Space' and they have created some missing posters for lost toys. We have also enjoyed our Design and Technology this term, all about making a healthy snack - a salad! The children showcased their chopping, grating and creative skills within this unit. They really enjoyed the eating part too! Within R.E we have been thinking about religious and non-religious views, focusing on what makes a good leader and how to be one. This has given the children some time to think about how they would want to possibly take on a leadership role within school such as School Council or Rights Champion.

Key Stage 2

Year 3: We are incredibly proud of how well Year 3 have settled into the new term. They've adapted brilliantly to the new routines and expectations, producing some wonderful work along the way. In English, the children have been captivated by the book *Strong* by Rob Kearney, using it as inspiration for amazing character descriptions and a persuasive letter to Mrs. Campbell about the importance of having two PE lessons each week. Their use of expanded noun phrases and time adverbials has been particularly impressive!

In maths, we've wrapped up our place value unit, focusing on numbers up to 1,000. The children used place value grids, part-whole models, bar models, and physical resources to strengthen their understanding. We've now moved on to exploring different methods for addition and subtraction.

In science, we've been learning about rocks and fossils, even creating our own fossil record to excavate! The hands-on approach to this topic has been a big hit, with many children proudly bringing in their fossil and rock collections from home.

Another exciting development is that the children have started their French learning journey, enthusiastically picking up new words. Why not try greeting them in French with 'Bonjour, comment ça va?'

Year 4: The children all looked amazing in their costumes for Greek Day and really embraced the fun activities we had set up for them. We had the chance to taste some Greek food, practice authentic Greek dancing with Mrs Melidis and take part in some Greek Olympic style activities with Coach Owen. What a fun day!

In science, we have had a lot of fun learning about electricity. We've looked at what makes a circuit and investigated materials that are either conductors or insulators of electricity. We have built our own circuits using bulbs, wires, batteries and switches. In Design and Technology, the children have used their circuit knowledge learnt from science to build their own classroom alarm systems where a buzzer will sound if the door is opened.

Year 5: The children have had a great start to the school year and have settled well into the Year 5 routines. They have enjoyed reading the story *Beowulf* and have been able to write an engaging and imaginative first person narrative from *Beowulf's* perspective using the new grammar skills they have been taught. The children have thrown themselves into their OAA sessions and have thoroughly enjoyed a wide variety of exciting activities: lighting and maintaining a fire, forest maintenance, orienteering and knife skills. Throughout these sessions, they have all shown how responsible and safe they can be and how well they can collaborate with each other. The children have also learnt about the Vikings, Anglo-Saxons and Scots this term, discovering why they came to Britain and using drama to recreate the first recorded Viking invasions. They conducted independent research on Viking life, which they presented through posters, leaflets, and spider diagrams. In Design Technology (DT), the children extended their learning by researching Viking homes, designing their own, and building models using sawing, measuring, cutting, and gluing skills.

Year 6: This term, our writing has been based on the book 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. This particular book centres on the story of a man who has to leave his home because his homeland is no longer safe to live in. As part of this learning, we discussed and learnt about the experience of migrants and refugees and focussed on the reasons why they may have to leave their home country. We also learnt how to use effective expanded noun phrases to help us add fantastic description to different parts of the book. Our final piece was to create a narrative about a section of the story, using all we had learnt to add words to the existing pictures in the book.

We are part way through a study of the country of Peru (which we will continue after half term). We have identified where South America is on a map, looked at what countries border Peru and identified certain facts about this particular nation.

In D&T, have been researching different door stop products as part of our textiles unit. This has included us looking at how and why door stops are made, deconstructing one to see the different parts that make up the completed product and then moving on to the different skills required to actually make one. We have practised different sewing techniques and now understand the importance of a template! We also researched different sewing patterns to really look into the entire design process relating to a textiles product. We have just completed designing our own door stops and will be making these after half term.

Y6 Residential

This week, our Year 6 children embarked on their residential to Condover Hall on 21st October. During the 4 day residential, children have the chance to take part in numerous adventurous activities, designed to build confidence, resilience and teamwork. This week's activities included wet 'n' wacky, tunnelling, initiative exercises, abseiling, rocket launch, buggy building, dance mania, zip wire, climbing and archery.

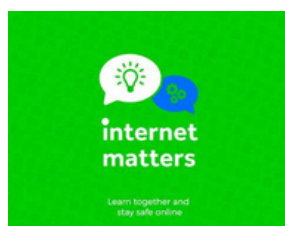
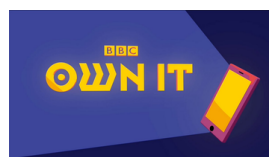
We look forward to sharing with you more from their experiences away!



Are there any useful websites that I can access to help me talk about online safety with my child?



PROJECT
EVOLVE



Attendance

At Charlton we recognise the importance of attendance and punctuality in enabling pupils to achieve their maximum educational potential. We aim for an environment of belonging, where pupils can feel welcomed and safe at school, and which enables and encourages all members of the community to reach out for excellence. For pupils to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and your child should be at school, on time, every day the school is open unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable.

You can support your child by:

- Promoting positive sleep
- Helping with homework
- Having uniform and equipment prepared the night before
- Providing a healthy breakfast
- Reporting any academic or social concerns promptly
- Retaining open & honest communication with your child's school
- Being positive about school (even if your own experience was less than positive)

Pupil Attendance	Time in School Lost	
	Days	Weeks
95%	9.5	1 week, 4 ½ days
90%	19.5	3 weeks, 4 ½ days
85%	28.5	5 weeks, 3 ½ days
75%	47.5	9 weeks, 1 ½ days



0-19 years Children and Young People Public Health Service Information



Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust

Contact details for Single Point of Access (SPA):

Phoneline: **01865 903800** or Email: cyp0-19@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Website: www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/cyp-0-19/



CYP website

For support and advice use our messaging service for Health Visiting / School Health Nursing



ParentLine 0-4 years. Text: **07312263081**

ParentLine 5-11 years. Text: **07312263227**

ChatHealth 11-19 years. Text: **07312263084**



HV Feedback

Did you get great care today? Please leave us a review using the QR code.

Good or bad, your comments are really important and will help improve the service for you and others.

Working together to help children, young people and families to thrive

Our privacy notice is designed to explain how and why information about you will be used and stored by us. It can be found at: <https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/privacy-notice>

Community help and support

Advice can make all the difference when struggling with the cost of living & budgeting the household income and expenditure.

That's why we're supporting the

@AdviceUK #Advisesaves campaign launching in #AdviceWeek

Monday October 21st - Friday October 25th.

Let's raise awareness of the crucial support advice services provide.

SUPPORT



Vale Community Impact



For help and support within the Vale, please contact:

01235 765348

help@vci.org.uk

the national sleep helpline

Does your child suffer with sleep issues?

Do you struggle with your child's bedtime?

Will your child not sleep in their own bed?

WE CAN HELP

03303 530 541

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am

As the weather changes...



If you are in need of children's clothes for any reason, please email: w.g.clothesbank@gmail.com

We'd love to help.

Wantage & Grove Children's Clothes Bank

