



# CHARLTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

17/12/2019

**"Be happy,  
Be kind,  
Be responsible"**



**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** –  
Years 4, 5 & 6 – Christmas  
Celebration at St Peter &  
St Paul's Church 1.30pm  
**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**  
Christmas lunch & PTA 5p  
challenge winners  
announced  
**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December** –  
End of term - 12pm  
(Foundation 11.50am)  
**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January** –  
Term begins  
**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January** –  
Year 2 - Bright Sparks  
Workshop  
**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January** -  
Year 4 – Swimming begins  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January** -  
PTA – Film Night  
**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** -  
Safer Internet Day  
**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February** -  
Year 3 – Performance  
1.30pm  
**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February** -  
Year 3 – Performance  
6.15pm  
**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** -  
End of term  
PTA – Valentine Disco

<https://charltonprimary.co.uk/2017/12/08/calendar/>



Dear Parents,

As we near the end of Term 2, and look forward to the excitement that the Christmas festivities have to offer, I am looking back over what has been a busy and enjoyable few weeks.

During the final week of Term 1, the children completed their annual sponsored walk. Whilst the younger children completed laps of the school field, our older pupils trudged their way to the Millennium Stones in Ardington. The event raised £1079.50 and we would like to thank you for your contributions. The funds will be put to good use to enhance the children's experiences in school. We also raised a whopping £847.36 during Children in Need and this money will be shared between this charity and Type 1 Diabetes.

We have also started the exciting process of transforming our 'sound garden' area into a 'story telling garden'. This will take some time but, once again, we owe our thanks to our PTA who continue to support us with improving the school environment.

We now have a full complement of Junior Leadership Team members. The children were keen to apply, and we received many applications from our Year 6 classes. Each of them have now been given a role, enabling them to contribute to the effective running of the school. These roles include the counting and sharing of the Merit totals, looking after the ICT equipment, being a helper in the lunch hall by supporting our younger pupils, and supporting play by initiating games on the playground.

We have also appointed Charlton's Head Boy and Head Girl for this academic year. We are very excited and proud that Harvey and Ava will be representing the school at events and continuing to model our values in and around the school. Their first appearance will be at the Christmas church service on the Tuesday 17th December.

In recent weeks, we have had a number of exciting events in school, which included welcoming the Wonder Dome to our hall. The Year 5 children enjoyed this as part of their 'Is There Anybody Out There?' topic. Year 6 have enjoyed their Evacuation Day, Year 4 entertained parents with a French Café, Year 3 have enjoyed a fabulous trip to Milestones Museum and Year 1 have performed brilliantly in the Nativity! It has also been confirmed that our Year 5 classes, having taken part in 'restart the heart' sessions, contributed to the grand total of 29,265 people who have been trained in CPR techniques.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very enjoyable festive period. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2020!

**Mrs Rooke – Head of School**

# Foundation

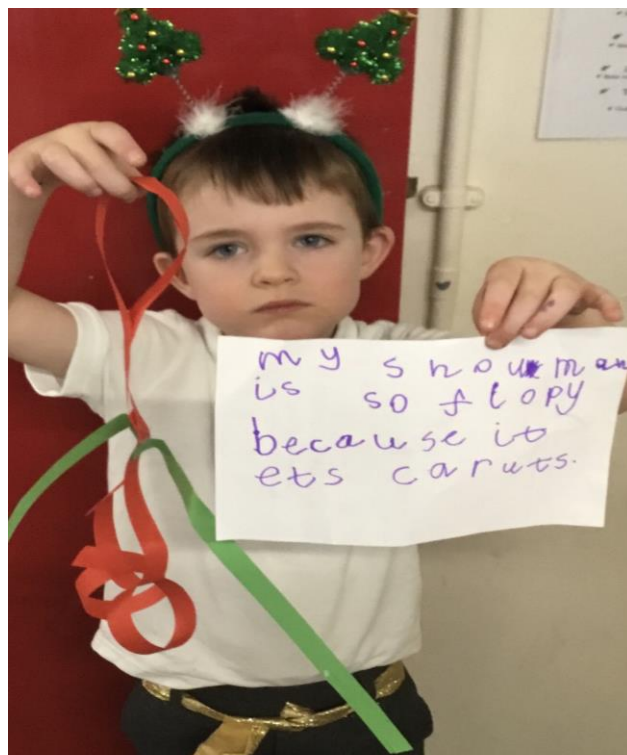
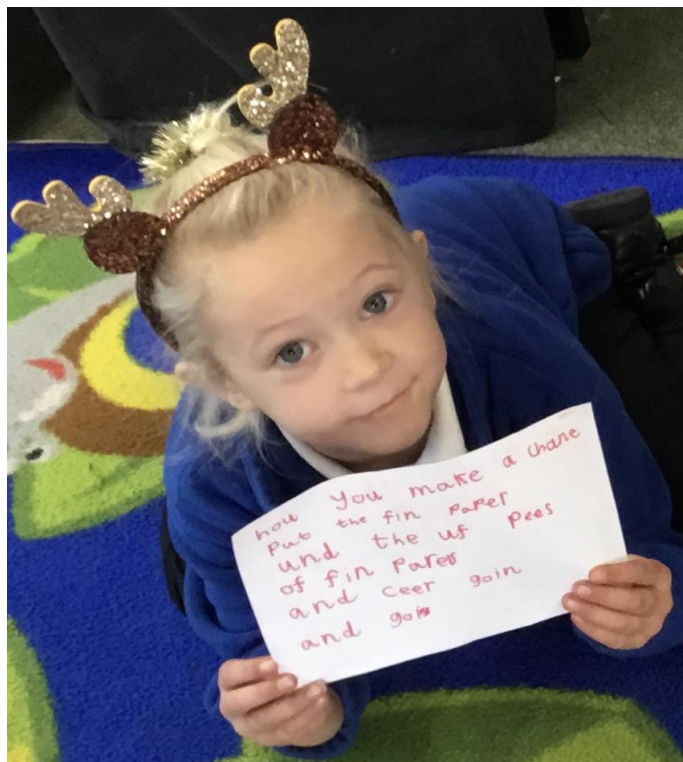


Foundation have been learning all about different celebrations this term. Bonfire night, Remembrance, Diwali, St. Nicholas day and of course, Christmas. We have found out what all celebrations have in common; special food, clothes, decorations, music and dancing and the stories behind why they are celebrated.

Last week we put on a wonderful Christmas sing song, for all our parents and relatives. It was amazing! This week we are looking forward to having our own celebration with lots of singing and dancing, following our school Christmas lunch on Wednesday.

The photographs above show our dress rehearsal in front of Year 1s and Acorns children, and one of our pupils who told us all about his family's St. Nicholas Day celebrations.

# Year 1



This term, our topic was 'Journeys'. We have been learning all about the Nativity story by reading different versions, watching videos of how others performed the story and then re-enacting it ourselves. Pupils also made the playhouse into a stable and created tickets to sell to each other.

We also had an exciting letter arrive in the post from Santa! Pupils have been very helpful doing little jobs for him such as making Christmas wrapping paper and have been designing new outfits for Santa so that he isn't cold! We hope you all enjoyed sharing our wonderful 'Wiggly Nativity' performance, a lovely way to end the term!





## Year 2



This term, our topic was 'Fire Fire'. It is a history based topic based on The Great Fire of London in 1666. We started the term with a visit from the Firemen on the 5th November where children tried on the protective clothing, sat in the truck and learnt the importance of fire safety. The children then went on to learn the events of the Great Fire and how this has changed the layout of London today. To go with this, they have written dramatic fire poetry, learnt instructions on how Jack the baker's boy made bread and wrote their very own recount of the Great Fire. In Art and Design, the children have made their very own fire pictures with moving parts and have made Tudor houses. Furthermore in P.E, the children have recreated the Great Fire in an exciting and expressive dance. To end the topic, the children attended a Forest School Party, where they sang some songs learnt in class, as well as having a fun Christmassy time!





## Year 3



This term, Year 3 had a very exciting trip to the Milestone Museum as part of their 'Save our Sweep' topic. Pupils have been focussing on the history and experiences of Victorian children, enjoying old-fashioned playground games, writing diaries from the point of view of a chimney sweep and using charcoal to depict scenes of Victorian life.





## Year 4



This term, Mr Amos came in to talk to all of Year 4 about electricity. Mr Amos is an engineer at Rutherford and he brought in some equipment which showed how lasers and circuits are used in real life. He really brought the subject alive for the children, especially as there was a disco ball involved.

In French, pupils organised a French café. They worked in groups to prepare menus, make quiches and practise a song called 'Moi j'ai soif' to perform to parents. During the café, pupils took food orders and served food and drink to parents, a very enjoyable afternoon!

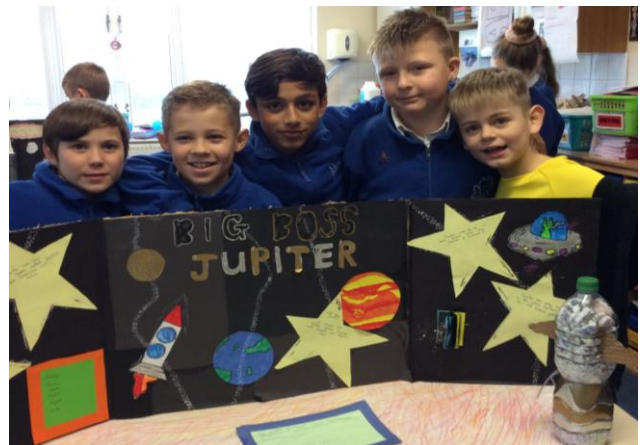
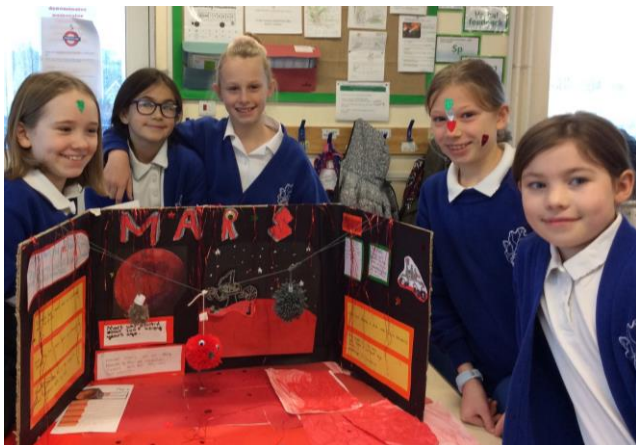


## Year 5



This term, Year 5 had a very exciting Space Dome experience as part of their 'Is There Anybody Out There?' topic. Pupils have been busy learning about the planets in the solar system, the history of the first moon landing, as well as studying the lives of astronauts such as Yuri Gagarin and Tim Peake.

Here are some examples of the fantastic work produced by pupils.





## Year 6



At the beginning of December, Miss Biles' Year 6 class had fun preparing for and showing a fantastic French assembly. They had been learning how to talk about their hobbies in French, using time phrases and opinions and they also enjoyed sharing some of those hobbies to the rest of the children. These included singing, playing netball and football and dancing. Well done Year 6! *Mrs Kent*

In class, pupils have been enjoying spelling sessions and have recently learned a new game where you can steal letters from other players to build bigger words. Everyone got involved and it became a bit competitive! Pupils have also been working really hard to develop their dance skills in PE. They have learned a group hip hop dance and choreographed their own dances in groups. They had lots of fun this week when we danced to Christmas music and accessorised our PE kits with festive hats!





# Road Safety



We continue to encourage parents to park safely and with consideration at drop off and collection times. We appreciate that the roads around school at these times are busy, however, please take care when driving and crossing with your child. We always encourage our children to cross under the supervision of our lollipop lady.

If you have any concerns, please report them to <https://www.fixmystreet.com/> or call 101 for assistance. We will work closely with Thames Valley Police to update them of any concerns raised with us.

Pupils should also be using helmets when riding bikes or using scooters and during the darker afternoons, we would strongly recommend the use of bike lights.

- **Stop, look and listen**
- **Don't try and cross the road between parked cars**
- **Never cross at a bend**

Further information can be found:

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/publications/pedestrians-leaflet>

We would also like to remind you that pupils should not be arriving at school before 8:30am, as the classrooms do not open until 8:45am.

**Thank you!**

# Safer Internet

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, we are holding a Safer Internet Day for all pupils, in the meantime, we wanted to share some articles about "loot boxes" and social media influencers we hope you will find useful.

**Parents and carers may have seen stories about "loot boxes" in the news in the last few weeks. The UK Safer Internet Centre (SIC) has written this article to lay out all of the key information about loot boxes, what they mean for young people and their online safety, and what you can do to encourage safe and responsible usage.**

## **What loot boxes are:**

Loot boxes are virtual items users can purchase in games with real money. In the box, users will find a randomised selection of items that customise or alter the user's experience of the game. The user will not receive any physical objects in the offline world as a result of these boxes.

The items in a loot box could be skins (that change the appearance of their character), new weapons or tools (that improve their characters' abilities), or access to new characters (such as a player for a FIFA team).

## **The kinds of games which feature loot boxes;**

Loot boxes are common in battle royale (last man standing) and first-person shooter games, such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Overwatch, Star Wars Battlefront II, and others.

They can also be found in sports games, such as FIFA, Pro Evolution Soccer, Madden, and others.

## **What it looks like when loot boxes go wrong:**

In the news there have been reports of children racking up thousands of pounds in purchases within games. The BBC asked readers to share their stories of their children making in-game purchases, with one spending over £3,000.

## **How to ensure your kids are using loot boxes safely and responsibly:**

The first step is to have a conversation. Approach it with openness and good faith – not finger-pointing and distrust. Ask your children about the games they play, if these have loot boxes and discuss whether they have bought these themselves.

Make sure your child clearly understands that:

- loot boxes cost real money, even if they are purchased with an in-game currency;
- they may be designed to encourage repeat-purchases;
- You expect them to respect any rules you set about money and responsibility.

Both [PlayStation](#) and [Microsoft](#) allow you to set spending limits on accounts, so you can be sure that your child cannot spend large amounts in a single purchase or over a certain period of time.

## **What you should do if your child gets in trouble with loot boxes:**

Support and contact details for some of the major game publishers can be found below:

- [Blizzard](#) – makers of Overwatch
- [Activision](#) – makers of Call of Duty
- [Epic Games](#) – makers of Fortnite
- [EA](#) – makers of Star Wars Battlefront II, Apex Legends, and FIFA
- [Konami](#) – makers of Pro Evolution Soccer
- [Nintendo](#) – makers of Animal Crossing
- [Ubisoft](#) – makers of Assassin's Creed

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/question/how-can-i-help-my-child-think-critically-about-the-social-media-influencers-they-follow/> (contains useful advice for parental control settings)



# Why Lateness matters

As I write this, during this term we have experienced 74 children being late for school (after the register has closed) which is a 30% increase on Term 1.

We all run late sometimes, for many of us we have to battle with the temporary traffic lights disruption which seems to indiscriminately challenge all drivers in Wantage. Sometimes, children will feel sick or tired some mornings, or other situations will prevent them from being on time. But chronic lateness eventually takes its toll on a child's overall educational experience. According to research, missing just 10 percent of the school year in the early years causes many pupils to struggle further on in school, and lateness in later years is associated with increased failure and dropout rates. Fortunately, parents can help prevent lateness.

*Julie Batten*

*Assistant Headteacher & Lead Attendance*

**(Taken from "Effects of Tardiness on Your Child's Education" 2016)**

One of the important aspects of school is that it is organised, scheduled and predictable on most days. Pupils depend on the structure of the day and they know where they have to be and when. They know the main purpose for being in school is to learn and that routines are in place precisely to help them focus on that learning. When pupils are repeatedly late, these routines are disrupted. Children who are frequently late have trouble settling in and mastering routines. Lateness can throw off their whole morning or even their day, especially if the late commute to school was stressful.

The social experience has a powerful impact on a child's feelings about school and his/her ability to be academically successful. When a child continuously shows up late to class, other pupils are distracted. Attention is drawn away from the teacher or task and towards the child who has just arrived. Over time, classmates may begin to criticise this child, affecting how they feel about themselves in school. If your child is repeatedly late, they may become a target and negative peer interactions can damage their ability to concentrate on learning.

Attendance is one of the ways children show they can meet their obligations. In many cases, a child's attendance depends on his/her parents' ability to help them be on time. Parents can teach (but not do for them) their children organisational techniques that will help them get out of the house faster, such as packing their bags and laying out their clothes the night before school. But parents who drive their children must also remember to be punctual and responsible. After all, you are the primary role model.

# School Fundraising

We are hoping to gather some resources for our Year 1 pupils and would be very grateful for any good quality donations of the following items:

Small world play i.e.

- Toy cars/construction vehicles/aeroplanes
- Dinosaurs
- Wild animals
- A farm house
- Small dolls to dress- ie Barbie + clothes
- Large wooden bricks
- Fairy/woodland creature toys

They also need construction toys i.e.

- Magnetix
- Kiddy k'nex
- Cogs and gears
- Marble run

We would really appreciate if items could be dropped off to our classrooms during drop off/collection times.

Many thanks for your support!

## Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent book fair, we are pleased to update you that we now have **£738** to spend on books for the school!

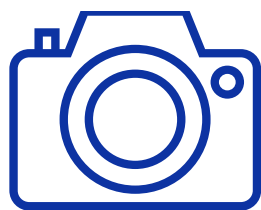


It's time to enter the #easyfundraising Advent Calendar! You could WIN prizes for yourself and donations for Charlton Primary School Oxford EVERY DAY until Christmas Eve.

PLUS, on Christmas Day someone will win £5,000 to spend at John Lewis & Partners and a £5,000 donation!

It's free to enter: [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/advent-calendar/?utm\\_campaign=raisemore%26utm\\_medium=social%26utm\\_source=facebook%26utm\\_content=nt-ac-f](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/advent-calendar/?utm_campaign=raisemore%26utm_medium=social%26utm_source=facebook%26utm_content=nt-ac-f)





# PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL



The Eco Club have been working very hard to sort through our whole school lost property and return named items to pupils, they also recently carried out a litter Pick with The Kier Clancy Docwra Construction Group by their site near the Health Centre. Great work!

Daisy held a wonderful Christmas decorations fundraiser for the school, all items were handmade using materials found in the woodland area.

Congratulations to our Tag Rugby team who won the tournament in their brand new PE tops!

Forest school maintenance club have made some great new nets to cover the pond. They have also been clearing the stream and cutting back on the paths.

Year 4 had an excellent afternoon on Friday 8th November, taking part in their Netball Intra competition. Excellent play all round and great sportsmanship. Mrs Rose's Orange team won. Come and see their trophy in Charlton's ever expanding trophy cabinet!