

Charnwood Primary School

Parents Newsletter

February 2024

Sketchley Hill Primary Visit

Year 3 welcomed our link school Sketchley Hill Primary from Burbage in Leicestershire. Their 30 Year 3 pupils were treated to a viewing of Year 3's Sikhism assembly before meeting and playing together with our OPAL equipment. 3 Palm then took the Sketchley pupils for a walk around the local community. This included sharing information about the different places of worship, the different types of food and clothing shops and much much more! It was great to see our pupils sharing their knowledge of the local area so enthusiastically. Children had a well earned lunch and enjoyed playing together and making new friends. The day ended with photos and hugs before waving Sketchley Hill off. The children can't wait to go to Sketchley Hill in May to see each other again and learn more about their local community.



OPAL Play for newsletter:

Charnwood Primary School believes that playtime should be as fun and engaging as possible. That is why we have introduced OPAL Play. The OPAL Play project aims to give primary children of all ages the opportunity to explore their creativity to its fullest, by allowing children to build, roll, jump, dig and essentially create anything that they can imagine!



Thanks to the recent addition of a new storage area, the children can now choose from a much larger variety of different materials, building equipment and toys, which has made playtimes even more fun!



The whole of Charnwood Primary School would like to say a special thank you to the following local business: Seedat Carpets and Flooring, D H Leisure and Sabat Bakery. They have kindly donated some great play items, which have been hugely appreciated and thoroughly enjoyed by the children.

We are always looking to add to our play stock, so if you have any unwanted items: large cardboard boxes, scooters, prams, fabrics, large tubes or dressing up clothes, we would love to receive them. Thank you in advance, from the Charnwood Primary team.

Year 6 Warning Zone trip

Year 6 visited the Warning Zone on the Wednesday, 14 February 2024. The facility aims to educate young people on understanding risks, peer pressure, anti-social behaviour and consequences. With the Internet and online presence being so widely accessed from a young age, the E-Safety zone educates children on cyber-bullying, grooming, scammers and much more. We had a great time exploring and learning. The pupils also had the opportunity to meet cricket player, Sam Evans from Leicestershire Cricket Club.

The Year 6 team would also like to thank the four parents for volunteering and supporting us on the trip – thank you!



A special video message from a world champion Aeronaut!

Year 3 have been learning about the AERO and AUTO prefix in their vocabulary lessons and were lucky enough to receive a personal video message from Dominic Bareford a former ballooning world champion who went to Leicester University. They now know that an aeronaut is someone who pilots a balloon or airship and got a chance to see his Autograph as well as watching his fascinating video message about ballooning. Click the link to learn a little more:

<https://www.charnwood.leicester.sch.uk/aeronaut-video>

Educational Visits

This month, our children have had the following opportunity to enhance their learning on educational visits: -

- Y1 Coventry Transport Museum trip
- Y3 Leicester Museum & Art Gallery
- Y5 Leicester Museum and Art Gallery trip



Author Visit!

The fabulous author Emily Jane Clark visited Charnwood on Thursday, 15 February 2024.

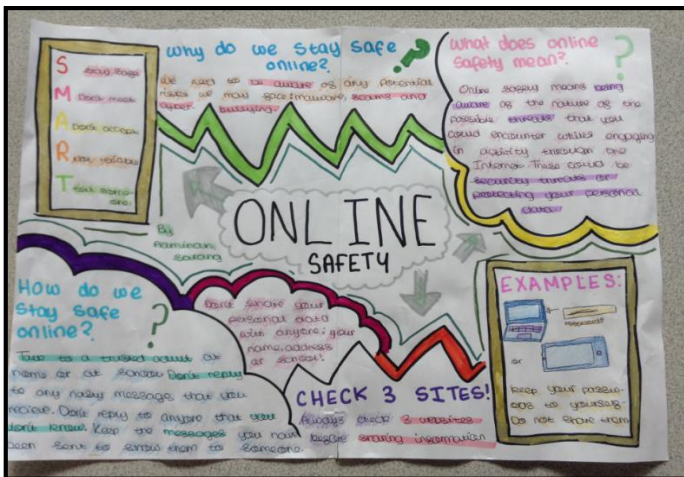
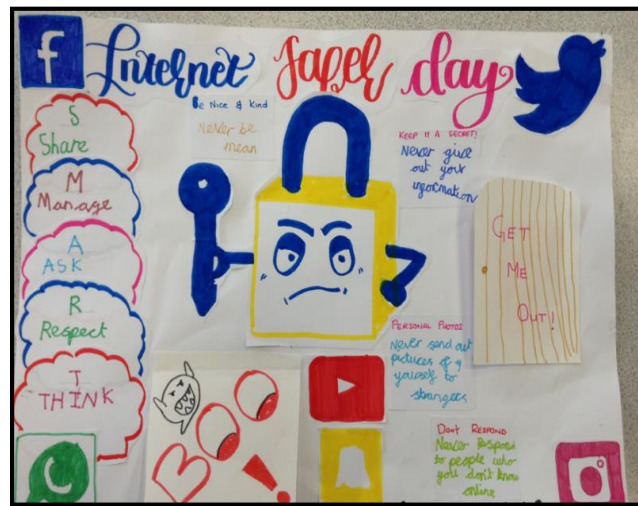
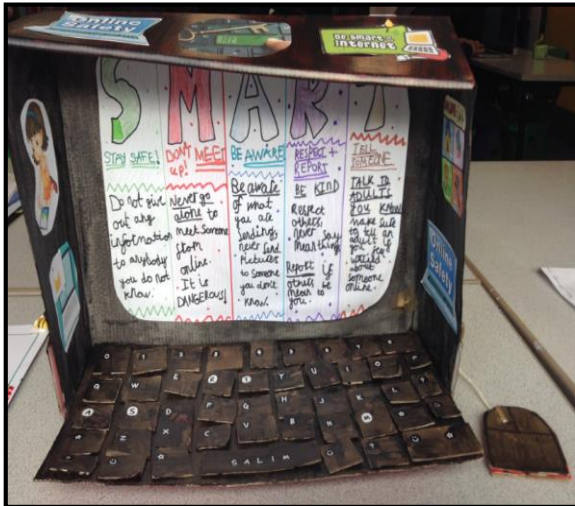
Emily lives in the East midlands. She is also a comedy writer and a drama teacher.

Emily led an assembly for our key Stage 2 children. She read some extracts from her book, enthused the children about reading and gave them some amazing top tips about how to be a great writer. The children roared with laughter and came away inspired to read and write!



Safer Internet Day

This month, we celebrated Safer Internet day on Tuesday, 6 February 2024. Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. It was fantastic to see that many of the children knew information on how to stay safe online and created some amazing posters for the competition. Here are a few of the posters we had received. Well done to all those that had taken part.



As we want to ensure we are staying safe online every day, please ensure that you keep all usernames and passwords safe. Only communicate with those that you know and ensure parental controls have been switched on across all devices. Please visit the following website for further information- www.saferinternet.org.uk.

Book bags and Rucksacks

Children are coming to school with too many things they do not need in their bags. We have limited space for coats and bags in our corridors. The big bags take up a lot of room and keep falling off the pegs.

This is becoming difficult to manage and it is creating a trip hazard. All resources that children need are provided by school. Homework and books should be the only things in bags as well as a water bottle (and a lunchbox if they have a packed lunch).

We have also had incidences of children bringing things into school that are not appropriate or suitable for children. We request parents to talk to children about this and ensure this does not happen. We thank you for your help and understanding.



New library book

At Charnwood we have been extremely lucky to receive funding to purchase new library books. Over the next few weeks' new library books will be available to for the children to borrow. Therefore, please encourage your children to look after their library books. Try not to tear or crease the pages, handle the books with clean hands, don't bend the spines back or remove the plastic jackets, use a bookmark and most important of all keep books away from leaking water bottles. (We speak from bitter experience!)

As you know, books are very expensive and all the children know how we expect them to look after the books they borrow. However, if your child loses or damages a book they have borrowed, then we would ask you to pay for a replacement. This will allow the library to maintain a healthy stock of reading material. Children with overdue books will not be able to borrow more books until they have returned the overdue book.

We would like the children to change their library books regularly. Please encourage them to keep the library books in their book bag when they are not reading them and bring to school. When books are lost, damaged or not returned to the library other children miss out on the joy of enjoying those books.



Attendance

The whole school attendance for this year to date is: 92.6%

Our School attendance target figure is 95.2 %, so as you can see so far we have not met our target.

Well done to 2 Magnolia for having the highest attendance of 93.8% for February.

Regular attendance at school promotes well-being. It gives children the best chance of learning and reaching their potential. Pupils should attend school every day the school is open, unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable.

Arriving at school on time is as important as attendance.

The school gates open at **08:30am** and close at **08:40am**. Children should be in school by this time as registers are taken from 08:40am.

Children who are late miss out on the important initial learning activities of the day. Children who are regularly late fall behind in their learning. Their day is disrupted, as is the learning of the rest of the class, whose attention is disrupted by the arrival of latecomers.

Please visit our school website for further information about attendance:

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

Please inform the office **before 9.00am** if your child has an appointment and will be absent or is arriving late by calling the school office on **0116 251 6574**.

If your child is going to be absent for any other reason, please contact the school office and provide sufficient information about their absence.

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
Friday, 01 March 2024	Y4 Synagogue trip
Tuesday, 05 March 2024	FS2-Y6 & Y5 Sycamore Parents Evening
Wednesday, 06 March 2024	FS2-Y6 (Not Y5 Sycamore) Parents Evening
Thursday, 07 March 2024	World Book Day
Thursday, 07 March 2024	Y5 Guildhall Museum trip
Thursday, 07 March 2024	Y5 Sycamore Parents Evening
Friday, 08 March 2024	Y5/Y6 Showcase Cinema trip
Monday, 11 March 2024	Y4 Bradgate Park trip
Tuesday, 12 March 2024	FS1 Parents Evening
Thursday, 14 March 2024	FS1 Parents Evening
Friday, 15 March 2024	Red Nose Day

The following events will also be taking place. Letters with more information will be sent out soon.

Date	Trip/Event
Monday, 11 March 2024 - Friday, 15 March 2024	Food bank donation week
Monday, 18 March 2024	Ramadhan Charity Week

School contact details

Our school email addresses have recently changed. Please note the new email contact details:

School office: office@charnwood.thealt.org.uk

Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

If you wish to share confidential information, related to your child, family or only for the attention of the head teacher please email:

headteacher@charnwood.thealt.org.uk

Data Protection Officer (DPO)

If you have any questions about the operation of General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) please email:

Data Protection Officer: DPO@charnwood.thealt.org.uk

The last day of spring term is Friday, 22 March 2024. Children will return to school on the Monday, 08 April 2024.

This newsletter can be provided in large print format on request and is also available on the school website.