

# Charnwood Primary School

## Parents Newsletter

### March/April 2024

#### Trips

During the months of March and April, our children have had the following opportunities to enhance their learning on educational visit:

- Y1 Spinney Hill Park
- Y3 Spinney Hill Park
- Y4 Abbey Pumping Station
- Y4 Synagogue
- Y4 Bradgate Park
- Y5 Guildhall Museum
- Y5/6 Cinema trip



#### Events

During the months of March and April, the following events took place:

- DG Music Event
- Charity during Ramadhan
- Eid Celebration
- Red Nose Day



#### Upcoming Trips

Date	Trip
Tuesday, 21 May 2024	FS2 Twycross Zoo
Thursday, 23 May 2024	Y3 Palm Sketchley Primary School
Thursday, 23 May 2024	Y5 Botanic Gardens

## Charity during Ramadhan

During the month of Ramadhan, when Muslims fast from dawn until sunset, they are encouraged to think of those less fortunate than themselves. During this Ramadhan we collected food items to support the Wesley Hall Community Centre food bank, which provides food parcels for people in need around Leicester.

We also set up 'Charnwood' fundraising pages for the following charities: Doctors without Borders, Islamic Relief and Save the Children to help us raise money and show our support for humanitarian causes.



### Teamsing in with Sketchley Hill!

3 Palm met with our link school, Sketchley Hill Primary, but this time virtually on teams. The children were able to discuss and ask questions to each other about Eid and Easter. It was great to see the children making comparisons between these religious festivals and valuing each other's beliefs. 3 Palm will be heading over to Sketchley Hill to learn more about their local community in May – how exciting!



### Update from the Local Authority regarding leave of absence

**For unauthorised absence from August 2024**, Penalty Notices will increase to £160 per parent per child (discounted to £80 if paid within 21 days). If there is occasion to issue a second Penalty Notice for unauthorised leave of absence within a rolling 3 year period, it will be issued at the higher rate of £160 per parent per child, with no opportunity to pay at the lower level. A Penalty Notice cannot be issued if there is a third occasion of unauthorised leave of absence in the rolling 3 year period and it is highly likely that the local authority will take direct prosecution action in the Magistrates' Court which can result in you receiving a criminal conviction. Please also be aware that any cases of extended periods of unauthorised absence, linked to holidays or trips away, are highly likely to result in prosecution action by the local authority.

If your child has unauthorised leave of absence **prior to the end of the summer term in 2024**, you will either be issued with a Penalty Notice of £120 per parent per child (discounted to £60 if paid within 21 days), or, your case will be referred by the Local Authority directly to the Magistrates' Court.

## Attendance

The whole school attendance for this year to date is: 92.5%

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

Well done to 3 Chestnut for having the highest attendance of 91.6% for March-April.

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**





### Foundation Stage 1 afternoon places

If your child's date of birth is between the following dates 01.09.20-31.08.21, we have afternoon places (11.50am-2.50pm) available in our Foundation 1 to start from September 2024.

If you would like more information, please contact the school office.

### School Dinner Arrangements

Lunchtime arrangements must be agreed for the beginning of each term. Lunchtime arrangements **cannot be changed** during the half term.

Any changes can only be made for the following term.

If your child will be having school dinners, please ensure payment is made by **Monday** morning for the commencing week. Payments can be made weekly, monthly or termly via the **School Gateway** app.

### Half term food offer

Leicester City Council is working in partnership with Samworth Brothers to give eligible families the opportunity to shop for free food and groceries for use over the May half term holiday.

For more information, please click on the following link: <https://families.leicester.gov.uk/holiday-food-offer/>

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