



Chesterton CE Primary School
Alcester Road
Chesterton
BICESTER
Oxfordshire
OX26 1UN

Telephone: 01869 252498
Fax: 01869 244012
Email: office.3082@chesterton.oxon.sch.uk
Website: www.chesterton.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Iain Horner

12th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year! I hope that your Summer Holidays were a welcome change from school for a few weeks, but that your children are excited to be back. Please see below for some information on upcoming events.

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon and Race For Life



Please join us for coffee, tea and cake at our Macmillan coffee afternoon on **Thursday 26th September** from 2.15pm onwards. Our school council will be helping to run an informal afternoon for Chesterton families in the school hall. Please come along for a hot drink, chat and a slice of cake (or two!).

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

We would be extremely grateful for any donations of cakes – large or small – that we can serve at this event to raise much needed funds for a fantastic cause. Please send any cakes into your child's class at the start of the day on Thursday. Any cakes left at the end of the afternoon will be sold on the playground in aid of Macmillan.



Following the success of last year's Race for Life and the incredible amount of money raised, Mrs Rotherham has organised another edition on the morning of the 26th September. Please see the separate letter that you should have received in recent days.

School Photographs

Children will be having their individual photographs taken next Wednesday morning (**18th September**). If you would like your child's photo taken with non-school age siblings, then please arrive at school at 8.30am and they will be taken first.



All children will have their pictures taken; you have the choice whether or not you would like to order and, of course, are under no obligation to purchase.



Morning Run

Our morning run on Tuesday and Friday is now well-established with most children arriving in good time to complete plenty of laps. As the underfoot conditions turn a bit wetter and muddier, we will be encouraging the children to change into wellies if they don't want to spoil their shiny new school shoes. We would ask that they don't go into classrooms to put P.E. trainers on as this will be too time consuming. We would also ask that you say your goodbyes before the children start running as the intention is for parents to leave when the first bell rings at 8.50. If your child is reluctant to

start running, please encourage them to find a friend or member of staff who can help get them going. We will be locking the gate as close to 8.50 to ensure that the school site is secure and that pupils have arrived on time. You are, of course, welcome to drop them off and leave before the bell goes as on other mornings.



Harvest Service and Collection

This year, we are again holding our Harvest Collective Worship at school. Please feel free to join us at 11.15am on **Tuesday 1st October**. Each class will be sharing their Harvest thoughts and we will be singing some songs.

As part of Harvest, we will also be collecting donations for the Bicester Food Bank. This has been very successful in the past with generous contributions sorted by our helpful Collective Worship councillors and loaded into the Food Bank van. Bicester Food Bank supports local families in need with emergency supplies.

They are particularly in need of donations of:

- Tinned fruit (400gms)
- Tea bags (80s)
- Dried pasta (500gms)
- UHT milk (1 litre)
- Breakfast cereals



Please bring any donated items to the school hall on the Tuesday morning.



Documents For The School Office

You will shortly receive a number of 'admin' documents from the school office. Please make sure that you return the following documents as soon as possible: annual permission slips, Home School Agreements (signed by children and parents), data and contact details sheets and ICT user agreements. It will make Mrs Durham's and Mrs Pull's jobs much easier to have all these in promptly.

Break Time Snacks & Lunch Boxes

If your child is in Year 3, please be aware that they will no longer receive a free fruit and veg snack at break time as this scheme only provides for pupils up to the end of Year 2. Older children can bring in a healthy snack of fruit or vegetables from home (separate to their lunch box) to eat at break time. Cereal bars or fruit-based sweets are not suitable as break-time snacks.

We have noticed a number of 'lost property' items appearing on the lunchbox trolley. These mostly consist of unclaimed Tupperware and water bottles, which often look new and expensive and are hard to reunite with their owners. To help avoid lost items, or those gathering mould on the trolley, please provide some sort of clearly labelled lunch box or cool bag. In our quest to reduce single-use plastics and unnecessary waste, please avoid sending lunch in carrier bags as these are hard to identify and often end up being unclaimed.



The Tree House and After-School Events

I hope that you'll agree that now The Tree House has become a well-established part of Chesterton School and, with the involvement of our teaching assistants during the first session (up until 4.30) the range of activities on offer is more varied than ever. In addition, there will be some other clubs led by either Chesterton staff or visiting providers (e.g. Miss Barrett's Upper School Gardening Club). Please speak to the school office if you have any issues with signing up.



When it comes to after-school clubs and events, we do our best to ensure that each term we cater for as many year groups as possible and try to avoid clashes whenever possible. However, we are now offering so many options that there will inevitably be occasions when children (or their parents!) cannot be in two places at once. If this is the case (eg. Tree House and a school football match), please encourage your children to inform the staff involved as soon as possible which club/event they would like to participate in. This will ensure that pupils are not thought to be 'missing' from a club and that replacements can be selected in the case of competitions and matches. If you are ever unsure, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

After-School Supervision

At the end of the school day, we like the fact that the school playground is a sociable place for the school community to meet and, especially on sunny days, enjoy catching up with each other. We know that the children also like to take the opportunity to have a short play on the equipment or field before wending their way home. We are happy for this to continue as it is part of what makes the school a welcoming and friendly environment, however, we must reiterate that parents are responsible for their children's behaviour and safety at this point. We would also ask that, when a member of staff needs to close the gate (usually by 3.30pm), that families are ready to leave the school premises promptly. As after-school clubs and events, including The Tree House, need to use the field and playground at this point, we have to ensure that the school site is safe and secure and that there is no confusion between children.

Chesterton Sports Kit

Unfortunately, we are still painfully short of some school sports kit, with some items not being returned at the end of the last school year. It is really disappointing for the children if there is not enough matching kit for their team to wear and we don't have the budget to replace lost items, so please ask your children to check under their beds or in their wardrobes and return to school as soon as possible! Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr I. Horner

Headteacher

