

Charlton Kings Infants' School

21st July 2023



NEWSLETTER

Dear families,

What a wonderful and busy year we have had in 22-23! This time of year is always full of excitement with lots of celebrations and opportunities to plan for new adventures. It is also a wonderful time to reflect on both our success' and our plans for the future. We continue to be very proud of all our children and their progress during the year, both in their personal and academic development. It has been a privilege to watch all within our school community continue to grow in confidence and independence as learners and to develop as increasingly resilient problem solvers and critical thinkers.

This year, we have made significant developments to our teaching of writing across the school and this has resulted in all children making accelerated progress as writers. We have maintained our high standards in phonics, reading and maths and have been excited by the children's passion for learning and acquisition of new knowledge, skills and understanding across all Foundation subjects in our school curriculum. To find out more about our curriculum and key learning objectives for each year group, please do visit our website; [Curriculum information](#)



We thank you for your ongoing support and your hugely positive feedback during the year. We have enjoyed reading your comments from our recent family survey and continue to use feedback from all within our school community (children/families/staff/visitors) to inform our ongoing school improvement planning. Here are some of the comments that our children and families have made this term:

We like being challenged!

We would like more equipment in the playground at playtimes!

We feel safe at school and know how to keep ourselves and others safe, including when we are using the internet!

We love maths!

My daughter has thrived since attending

This is a very special school environment which outperformed all my expectations, and I am so grateful that my child was able to have this environment as the start of his school journey.

We've been really impressed with the fantastic progress our child is making.

The school is lovely – my children feel settled and safe there.

Please see below in response to the key points from your feedback to date:

You said....

Seesaw is great for finding out what is happening in the classroom, but can be tricky to navigate for newsletters and other communications.

We are planning to

- Continue to grow use of Seesaw as a communication tool to share your child/ren's learning with you.
- Send a simple link to the website whenever a new letter/newsletter or detailed notification is released. These will remain on the website and will be organised into a simple file structure so that they can be searchable.

You said....

Lunchtimes can be tricky for my child. Space and things to do can be limited.

We have.....

Increased use of the Reception outdoor area and trained additional MDSAs during the year. Appointed a Forest School leader who will be on site from 12-4pm on a daily basis from September.

We are planning to....

- Invest in developing our grass area by re-seeding it towards the end of the Summer/early Autumn.
- Re-launch and train our older children as playtime buddies.
- Invest in further outdoor play equipment.
- Run forest school sessions during the lunchtime period.

You said....

You would like more information about your child/ren's progress during the year and how to further support their learning at home.

We are planning to

- Look into providing simple termly reports and overviews which we will share with you at parents' evenings.
- Review our parents' evenings and timings and our home learning policy, providing families with refined information regarding how to support progress and development at home.

You said.....

The environment is beginning to look a bit tired.

We have....

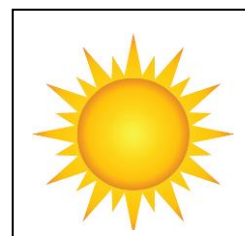
Invested in painting indoor and outdoor spaces, purchasing new furniture and creating new spaces. We continue to face the impact of reduced school budgets which has resulted in us not being able to purchase certain services and resources. Families (through PFA) and small groups of volunteers have already helped us hugely this year by fundraising to instal a new library and both staff and volunteers have given up their time at the weekends to paint, plant, trim and build in our outdoor area. If you (or members of the community or your family) are able to help us to continue to maintain our environments to a high standard, please do contact our School Business Manager – sbm@ckis.org.uk

We would welcome the ongoing support and help from all within our school community – Thank you!

During the next academic year, we will be focusing on a number of key priorities, including:

- Continuing to provide rich Professional Development opportunities for all staff to ensure our children and pupils continue to experience the highest quality teaching.
- Continuing to monitor the impact of our curriculum on children's deeper level thinking and learning in order to inform and improve ongoing teaching and learning.
- Enhancing teaching and learning in oracy across the curriculum.
- Improving standards in spelling across the school.
- Enhancing learning within the Forest School (having recently appointed a Forest School Lead who will be working on-site daily to develop our Forest School provision and learning opportunities for children/pupils).
- Accelerating progress of learning for identified vulnerable children/pupils across the curriculum.
- Continuing to ensure that our curriculum, teaching and learning resources, environments and daily interactions recognise and celebrate our diverse world.

Home learning opportunities this summer break: For YR children moving to Y1 and Y1 children moving to Y2, please see the year group newsletters on Y1 and Y2 home pages of our website to find out about the home learning summer activities.



In addition, why not have a go at the 'Summer Reading Challenge': The Summer Reading Challenge this year is 'Ready, Set, Read!'. Don't forget to sign up at the local library!! For more information, take a look at the Summer Reading Challenge website; [Summer Reading Challenge](#)

Staff news:

At the end of this term we say a sad farewell to Mrs Coulthard who is moving to a new school and new teaching post in September. We also say farewell to Mrs Bennett as she prepares to welcome her second child during the summer holidays. We are also sad to see the following Teaching Partners, MDSAs and Kids Club Partners leave us to begin new adventures and new roles – Mrs Cox, Mrs Preece, Mrs McClelland, Mrs Lawekca, Mrs Crane, Mrs Cheung and Mrs Edwards. We thank them all for their hard work and commitment to CKIS and wish them every success in their new adventures.

We also wish Miss Rowe and her fiancé a wonderful wedding day and look forward to welcoming the new Mrs Thorp back to school in September!

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all within our school community, specifically to our wonderful and committed Governors and PFA who spend many hours of their own time supporting and fund raising for the school; and to our fabulous staff for their ongoing hard work and commitment. Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support during the year, we wish you all a relaxing and sun filled summer break. We wish those children moving to new schools and their families all the very best for the future and look forward to seeing everyone else in September.

Best wishes

Mrs James and the CKIS team

'The wings to fly, the confidence to try'

Reception

Reception have been thinking about the messages of kindness and true friendship in the story of *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister. We have some fantastic writers who have really impressed us with their highly descriptive language and perseverance to write the plot points of the story independently. Much of our continuous provision has also had a fishy theme.



The highlight of the term has to be our class assemblies. The children worked so hard to learn a huge amount of words to all the songs and were very brave as they each had a part to play. All the children particularly loved learning 'You've Got a Friend in Me' and performed the actions with great enthusiasm. They received huge applause and cheers from the audience and there were a few leaky eyes especially from Mrs James!



We kept fit during Fitness Fortnight when our pre-school friends came to visit for a carousel of activities. We also visited the Junior School to take part in our Sports Day enjoying running and obstacle races as well as cheering on parents and toddlers.

Reception love taking their learning outdoors and we were very lucky to have Mrs Austin-Goodall visit to teach us all about pond life and help us to pond dip at Forest School. We even found newts! A group of Dads came in this weekend to help clear up the outdoor area and built Reception a play vehicle from pallets. It was a lovely surprise for the children on Monday morning and it has been a huge hit.

A huge thank you to the 'Dads' Group' (and their helpers!) who gave up their time to help clear up the outdoor areas around school and make this amazing vehicle for the Reception classes.

The children were so excited to find out which class they will be moving to next year and all the Reception team wish them well on the next step of their learning journey. We hope you and your families have a wonderful summer.

'The wings to fly, the confidence to try'

Year 1



Our term started with great excitement with our trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park! We saw so many different animals and enjoyed a train ride around the park. We had a fantastic time!

As artists this term, we have been looking at different seascape artists, including Hokusai and Katie Wyatt. We enjoyed giving our opinion on the artists' work and creating our own seascapes!



As scientists, we have learnt all about plants. We found out what plants need to grow well and loved watching our cress seeds grow!

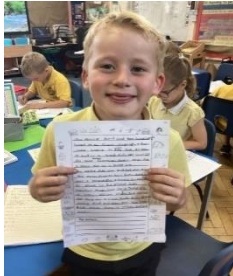
Throughout the year, we have been finding out about different celebrations in RE. We have really enjoyed planning our own end of year celebration. Thank you to everyone for supporting us in making it happen with your kind donations!



'The wings to fly, the confidence to try'

Year 2

What another busy, fun-filled term we have had in Y2. We have been learning all about seashores. We loved reading the book *The Secret of Black Rock*; we wrote some super stories from the point of view of Black Rock and we published them and even made front covers – we are authors! We also loved creating our own seascape artwork inspired by the artist Kurt Jackson.



More excitement! The climbing wall came to our playground. We learnt how to climb safely and had such fun trying to reach the top!

Some of us performed at the Feet First Dance Festival, which was an amazing experience. The dancers were outstanding and we were so proud of them all.



We finally got our Sports Day! Well done to everyone who took part and a special well done to Blue team who were the winners.

We had a wonderful sunny day at the beach in Weston. We all had a long play on the beach, a donkey ride, an ice cream and even a little paddle in the sea! A perfect end to our time at CKIS.

'The wings to fly, the confidence to try'



CKIS 2023 CHALLENGE



WITH YOUR HELP WE RAISED

£ 4,612.37

(BEFORE FEES AND INCLUDING GIFT AID)



MARATHONS WERE RUN AND MILES WERE WALKED !!!

BOOKS WERE READ AND MANY CHORES DONE !!!



MANY CAKES WERE BAKED AND EATEN !



CLOTHES, TOYS AND BOOKS FOUND A NEW HOME !



FISHES AND CRABS WERE CAUGHT, WHILE GOALS WERE SCORED !!!



**AND MORE IMPORTANTLY
WE WERE ALL HAVING FUN !!!**



**ALL FUNDS RAISED,
GO DIRECTLY TOWARDS OUR
NEW LIBRARY PROVISION.**



Organised by CKIS PFA.
Contact pfachair@ckis.org.uk
Charlton Kings Infants' School, Lyefield East Road.
Charity No 1053722

**THANK YOU
SO
MUCH !!!**

'The wings to fly, the confidence to try'

CKIS 2023 CHALLENGE

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

- Many children created their own fundraising pages, with the following on the leaderboard:
 - Penny L £259.6: ran London kids marathon
 - Harry S £193: ran 23 laps at local park
 - Finn E £162: completing as many 23 activities as he can
 - Alice EC £144: ran London kids marathon
 - Clara K (£72) wrote and sent 23 jokes to family and friends
 - Bella did a 2 mile walk and raised £72
 - Bea B 23 half term chores £62
 - Poppy T £60, 23 runs of the monkey bars
- Many teams were created as well:
 - Timmy and George W (£295): read 23 books each at local library
 - Yellow Class ran 23 laps at local park (£268)
 - Monty B and Rufus Marston (£248) were aiming to catch 23 fishes and/or crabs
 - Purple Class raised £232 with 2 activities
 - £125 beat the goalie
 - £107 reading books at care home: activity got cancelled due to COVID at care home
 - Copt Elm Close kids £193 selling preloved toys and book
 - Bonnie and Evelyn did a sale a cake during a weekend and raised £140
 - Theo and Isla did 23 laps cycling £54

Great achievements from all children and 1 hour before the challenge finished, Charlton Kings Pharmacy donated £500.

Big thank you to everyone for their fundraising efforts - this truly was a great family and community opportunity to work together.

PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING.

As the cost of living continues to rise, there may be families in our school community whose personal/financial circumstances have changed since their child/children started school in Reception.



All children at CKIS are entitled to **Universal Free School meals**.

In addition to this, as part of the **Pupil Premium Funding**, your children could be eligible to additional funding which includes free school meals post the age of 7.

Your child might be eligible if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

This benefits your family and your child/children in school. The **school receives funding** which is used to further enhance teaching and learning and improve outcomes for your child/ren and others across the school.

If you believe you are eligible, please follow the link below;

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

CKIS—A safer school community for all.....

We are committed to ensuring the safety, health, and well-being of all within our school community. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs James, and Mr Owens is our primary deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.



Mrs James



Mr Owens

You could also speak to any of our other deputy designated safeguarding leads – Mrs Price, Mrs Koller, Mrs Tyler, Mrs Durant, Mrs Pritchard, Mrs Netting or Mrs Ralph if you have any concerns.

Supporting everyone in our school family – CKIS family engagement and support team

A Message from Mrs Pritchard

The Pastoral Team have had a busy term, working with lots of children and families and have received some very positive feedback.

Don't forget, if you would like to speak to Sarah Pritchard, our Family Support Worker, you can email her on familyliaison@ckis.org.uk.



Please can we remind all parents to contact school directly if you have any concerns or queries regarding any behavioural incidents or similar that have taken place in school. It is important that we have oversight of such concerns and incidents and we strongly discourage parents from approaching other parents to try to resolve these concerns outside of school.

'The wings to fly, the confidence to try'

CKJS and CKIS Prayer Group

Prayer group for CKJS and CKIS: If you are interested in more information about the prayer group which meets to support the Junior school and Infant school, please let us know so that we can put you in touch with the group leaders. This group prays for our schools using Whatsapp and by meeting for prayer.

Contact Dan Lamb via danlamb@hotmail.co.uk



Parking for school drop-off

With the ongoing concern over the volume of traffic on School Road, the owners of The Royal have kindly agreed that parents can use their car park when dropping their children off for school. The car park is available for us to use in the mornings only and all cars must have left by 9.15am. Please ensure that you only park in designated bays and nowhere else.



When parking on site in the school playground for drop off and pick, please reverse your car when possible.

Dogs

Please can we remind all families that dogs are not permitted on school premises at any time (including drop off and pick up times for school, and breakfast and after school club, and at drop off or collection for Gym Club or Ju Jitsu).

Scooters and Bicycles

If your child goes on their scooter or cycles to school please ensure they dismount at the school gates before entering the playground.

Dates for your diary 2023

4 th September	Inset Day (Kindergarten and school closed to children/pupils)
5 th September	Inset Day (Kindergarten and school closed to children/pupils)
6 th September	Start of Term 1 (Year 1 and children in school)
6 th September	Stay and Play sessions in Kindergarten (by appointment)
6 th -8 th September	Stay and Play sessions in Year R (by appointment)
11 th -15 th September	Year R in until 1pm (Groups)
18 th -20 th September	ALL Year R in until 1pm
20 th September	Phonics and Reading for Y1 and Y2 Parents (am & pm)
25 th September	Year R in school full time
25 th September	Y2 Clubs start this week
4 th October	Whole School Individual Photographs
12 th October	Whole School Harvest Celebration (venue TBC)
27 th October	End of Term 1
30 th -3 rd November	HALF TERM
6 th November	INSET DAY
7 th November	Start of Term 2
8 th November	Flu Immunisations
9 th November	Flu Immunisations
10 th November	Remembrance Assembly
15 th November	Parents Evening
16 th November	Parents Evening
20 th -24 th November	Road Safety Week
21 st November	Prospective Parents Open Morning
30 th November	Prospective Parents Open Morning
13 th December	Carol Rehearsals at St Marys
14 th December	Christmas Story Night
15 th December	EYFS Nativity AM and PM
18 th December	EYFS Nativity AM
18 th December	Carol Rehearsals at St Marys
19 th December	KS1 Carols at St Marys PM
20 th December	KS1 Carols at St Marys AM
21 st December	End of Term 2
8 th January 2024	Start of Term 3

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