

Charlton Kings Infants' School

22nd March 2024



NEWSLETTER

Dear families

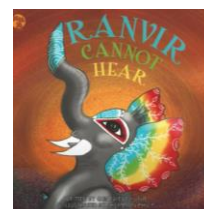
This term has been a short term, but we have certainly packed a lot in to our Geography and Science focused school theme of 'Planet Earth's Great Lands'! We started the term with our Scarf for Scarf day when we celebrated how each of our 'voices matter'. We thoroughly enjoyed World Book day which we shared with pupils from CKJS and it was wonderful to see so many families joining us for our Science open afternoons last week. We hope that you enjoyed finding out more about our Science curriculum as you joined your child/ren in their scientific investigations. Please do continue to refer to our regularly updated [Curriculum pages](#) to find out more about our curriculum plans for each year group.



Thank you to the 150 families who responded to our travel survey and congratulations to Alexander who was the winner of the scooter! Families identified that safety and vehicle speed were key influential factors when deciding whether to walk/scoot or cycle to school/kindergarten. Many of those who responded said that they would be willing to support community initiatives to promote further active and safe travel to and from school/kindergarten – do watch this space as our Eco-school council continue to develop their initial suggestions and ideas!! We look forward to working with the school councils from both Balcarras and Charlton Kings Junior schools to develop our Active Travel plan.

This term we have been exploring our school theme of 'Respect and Tolerance' and our focus learning behaviour of 'Excellence'. We've been exploring how we can be like 'Elliot Excellence' by recognising our individual and group strengths, what we are 'getting better at', how we can seek support and help others.

We have been thinking about our similarities and differences and how we can value and celebrate these together. Here are two of the stories we have enjoyed sharing during our weekly assemblies alongside our celebration of International Women's Day and British Sign Language week.



We wish you all a happy and relaxing Easter break and look forward to everyone returning to school and kindergarten on **Monday 8th April**.

Mrs James and the CKIS team.

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Reception

From the cold lands of Antarctica to the hot lands of Africa- it has felt like Reception have been on safari this term as we immersed ourselves in the landscapes and wildlife of 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Browne. The children have produced some wonderful writing inspired by the story as well as imaginative artwork. .

With the arrival of Spring, we were very excited to find frog spawn in the pond at Forest School. In Maths we explored the names and properties of 3D shapes, explored time and learnt how to double numbers to 10. Commando Joe has given us some team building challenges in PE based on nursery rhymes such as climbing an obstacle course drainpipe like Incy Wincy Spider whilst demonstrating our inner Rebecca Resilience!



We have welcomed engineers Mr and Mrs Urbain who taught the children about renewable energies with live demonstrations and Mr Mabbett, a wildlife explorer who took us on an adventure to the artic and the jungle as he shared his incredible photographs.

It was lovely to welcome so many parents to our Science open afternoons and Wednesday Wander as well as the Year 5s from CKJS who came to share books with us on World Book Day.

The Reception Team wish you all a very Happy Easter.



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Year 1

We have had a busy term in Year 1! We kicked off Science Week with a fantastic trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park and saw lots of animals. We loved finding out all about them!



In DT, we learnt how to roll and coil different objects and how to make things move with a lollipop stick and a split pin. We designed our shoebox habitats and had lots of fun making them!

Year 1 are now determined to save the planet! As Geographers, we have enjoyed learning all about rainforests and have been very worried about the impact of deforestation. We are going to continue to spread the word, to encourage everyone to protect our beautiful planet!



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Year 2

As Historians and Geographers, we have been learning all about Charlton Kings. We all went on a walk around the village to look at the facilities we have in our village and what we like and dislike about it. Geoff Bridgman from the Charlton Kings Local and Family History Society came in to talk us all about Charlton Kings in the past. He brought many pictures with him and told us lots of new information about what life was like in Charlton Kings in the past.



We had a great 'Science Week'. We did some experiments based on the five types of Scientific Enquiry. Some of us were lucky enough to do some experiments with some of our grownups from home too. We asked many questions and made many predictions. We also had a visit from Maisie's Mum who talked us all about her job as an Ecologist. We are so lucky!



We have also been learning to play the recorder for the last 10 weeks with a teacher called Vicky. We performed a concert to the rest of the school and we were fantastic! Our teachers were so proud of us all.

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Forest School News

Our Forest School area is beginning to burst into life after a very wet winter. We have been out tracking down leaf buds, snowdrops and other clues that spring is on its way. Plants in the woodland garden, including the bulbs we planted in the autumn, are shooting and to protect them from trampling we have been weaving a low dog wood fence. When heading outside we have listened for busy birds and buzzing bees, perhaps the most exciting sound was the frogs croaking in the pond and frogs spawn has been spotted. Regularly monitoring the health of the pond is important and surveying the types of wildlife in the pond is one way of doing this. This gave us opportunities to practise our identification and classification skills during science week. To celebrate World Book Day some of our activities were inspired by reading "The Giving Tree" and included boat building. Some were large enough for us all to sit on, others were small rafts which we could test in a water tray. Finding our knots held tight and the mini rafts floated was thrilling and we gained a huge sense of achievement.



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Violet Class –Litter Picking Challenge

**Violet class completed a litter picking challenge at the weekend.
Well done!!**



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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 [click here](#) for more information.

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 Durant (SBM) Mrs Tyler (SENDCo), Mrs Koller (Y2 lead), Mrs Pritchard (Family Support Worker), Mrs Netting (YR lead) or Mrs Ralph (KDG lead) if you have any concerns.

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

A Message from Mrs Pritchard

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.

Information from the Pastoral Team

We wish you all a happy Easter and hope you enjoy the break from school. We thought it would be timely to remind you all of two websites which can be very useful for supporting your children and the whole family at home. The SCARF website (www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/scarf) has lots of activities you can do with your children to help support their health and wellbeing learning. The Glosfamilies Directory (www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk) provides a wealth of information, advice, support for families, relationship support and things to do in the local area.

Also, we would like to make parents aware of an online resource which couples experiencing relationship difficulties, separation and divorce can register for free of



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charge. The following link will give couples access to online courses from the relationship experts at OnePlusOne which can help with stress and improve communication. Parent resource sign up (oneplusone.org.uk)

[Parent resource sign up \(oneplusone.org.uk\)](http://oneplusone.org.uk)

Other Information

Contacting School

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.

Amazon Class Wishlists

On your class page on the school website you will find a link to an Amazon wish list. If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday by purchasing something from the list for them to share with their classmates that would be very much appreciated. We are in the process of updating the lists to include learning resources as well as books. With our very limited school budget, your support in buying from the wish list at any point in the year would be very welcome.

CKJS and CKIS Prayer Group

Prayer group for CKIS and CKJS: 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



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Healthy Snacks

Please can we remind all parents to send their children in with healthy snacks to have in school – fresh fruit/vegetables in a sealed/reusable container. As a healthy school we do not permit children to bring in other snacks (including in lunch boxes) – e.g., sweets and chocolate. Please can we also remind you that we are a **nut free school!**

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 and do not ride their bikes/scooters in the playground at any time. We have had a number of near misses with adults and children being bumped into by children on bikes/scooters.

Labelling Items

Please ensure all uniform is named; including coat, lunch & snack boxes and water bottles. We have 320+ children across the KDG and school and many coats, shoes, jumpers etc all look the same!!

Electronic Gates

Please can you make sure that when entering the school via the main electronic gates, you wait for them to be fully opened before walking through. If they are tampered with or touched before they are fully open this can cause them to become jammed.

Textile Bank

Please donate any clothes or shoes to the textile bank we have here on site in the school playground.

Reporting Absence

Kind Reminder - Please ensure that you report any absences to the main school office on 01242 514483 or secretary@ckis.org.uk. All absence must be reported before 9.30am and must be reported for each day your child is absent. If we have not heard from you by this time, we will make contact with you regarding your child's absence.

Dates for your Diary

Term 5 2024

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 8 th April | Start of Term 5 |
| 8 th April | Living Eggs in school for 2 Weeks |
| 10 th April | Oral health survey (parents of children involved have already been contacted) |
| 20 th April | Mini London Marathon (families have already registered for places if attending) |
| 8 th May | Red Class Assembly |
| 15 th May | Yellow Class Assembly |
| 22 nd May | Blue Class Assembly |
| 24 th May | End of term 5 |
| 3 rd June | Start of term 6 |
| 4 th June | New Families Induction Evening |
| 19 th June | Class Photographs |
| 21 st June | Olympic Carnival Day at CKJS |
| 21 st June | World Music Day |
| 24 th June | Class group photos |
| 26 th June | Parents Evening |
| 27 th June | Parents Evening |
| 3 rd July | Transition Day and Wednesday Wander |
| 4 th July | EYFS Sports Day |
| 5 th July | Y2 Weston Super Mare trip |
| 9 th July | KS1 Sports Afternoon |
| 11 th July | Reserve Sports Afternoon (in event of bad weather on the 5 th or 9 th July) |
| 13 th July | PFA Summer Fete |
| 17 th July | Y2 Leavers Assembly |
| 18 th July | Y2 Leavers Assembly |
| 19 th July | End of term 6 |
| 20 th July | Inset |

**PLEASE DO LOOK AT OUR SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR ALL PLANNED EVENTS
AND NOTE THAT DATES CAN CHANGE**

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