

*Believe in Yourself*

# Newsletter

31/03/23

## Head's News

Dear Parents/Carers

We have reached the end of another busy term and are all looking forward to the Easter holidays.

I would like to congratulate Year 4 on their wonderful production of the Bee Musical, it was both an educational and entertaining show and I was very impressed with the wealth of talent on display.

This week also saw our A-team Footballers compete in and win the Cheltenham Schools Football League, winning the final 5 – 2. This is the first time we've won for eight years and we are now the proud holders of a trophy (which dates back to 1922) for a year! Well done to the team and Mr Gill.

As we look forward to next term, please do check the school website for curriculum information. We put lots of info about what the children will be learning in every

subject on there – just look under Our School > Curriculum or under the Children's tab > Classes.

Thank you to everyone who has completed the parent survey, your views are very important to us. If you have not had chance to do this yet, please [click here](#). We will close the survey after the Easter holidays and let you know any resulting actions from this and the children's survey next term.

Sadly, Mrs Gilder is finishing her role as a TA with us today. She has been associated with the school for a long time and was once a pupil in my Year 3 class! I would like to thank her for everything she has done for the school and wish her every success for the future in her new career.

Finally, we are advertising for a teaching assistant to join our fabulous school team. If you, or someone you know, would be interested, details can be found on the vacancies area of our website.

Wishing you a very Happy Easter.

Sue Selwood

## Dates For Your Diary

### April

17<sup>th</sup> - First day of Summer Term

17<sup>th</sup> – Meeting for pupils and parents about the Year 5 France Trip

19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> - Year 5 Residential to Abernant Lake

20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> – PTA School Uniform sale in 5T

### May

1<sup>st</sup> – Bank Holiday

4<sup>th</sup> - Meeting for pupils and parents about Year 6 Stackpole Trip

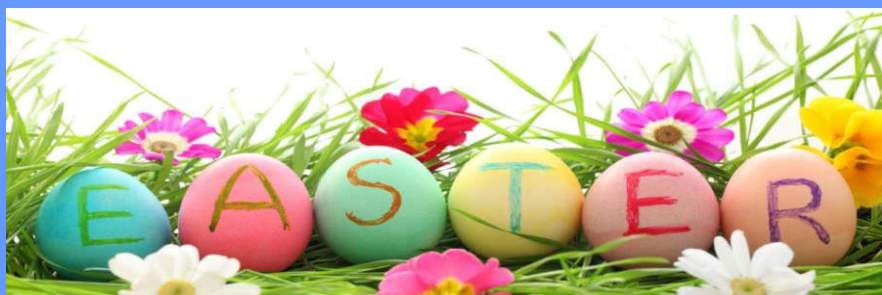
5<sup>th</sup> – CKJS/CKIS Coronation Celebration and PTA picnic

8<sup>th</sup> – Bank Holiday

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 SATs

12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Residential to France

25<sup>th</sup> – Guitar Concert



## Balcarras Gate

Please note that after Easter, the Balcarras gate will not be open for drop off in the morning. Children and parents will need to walk round to the the Glynrosa gate. We appreciate that this might take a little longer but we very much appreciate your support with this change.

## Year 3 Trip

As part of their rivers topic, our Year 3 classes embarked on a voyage of discovery to the National Waterways Museum in Gloucester this week. The children learned all about the importance of the River Severn to the area, thinking about how the docks might have looked and sounded over 100 years ago. They also learned more about different parts of rivers and worked alongside each other to create a scaled-up model of the Severn. Despite some wet weather during our visits, the children enjoyed themselves and were able to boost their curriculum knowledge already gained in Geography lessons.

First, we got to school and had to do our Morning Activity. Then we got on the Bennett's coach! It took us 30 minutes to get there and get off the coach. It took us 5 minutes to walk to the museum and we saw beautiful sights on the way. Jack even stepped in the River Severn (it was actually a puddle!)

When we met our instructors, we found out one was called Alex and one was called Anna. When we walked into the museum there were lots of interesting things to look at but not to touch because it might break. Then we headed out to a boat called Sabrina 5. It had been upgraded 5 years ago. When we headed down to the bottom layer of Sabrina 5 we put our bags and coats on the pegs or benches. Then it was time for the first part of our exhibition. We got split into Red group & Blue group. My group learnt about the water cycle and the dangers of water first. Then we made a model of the River Severn out of sand!

After break we were on the second part of the day and we were heading on a tour of the museum! When we started the tour, Anna showed us a lot of interesting things like engines, a model of the docks and a boat made out of rope. It was really fun! But when we went upstairs it became really creepy! When we got to the play area there was a mini pirate ship, a cabin with a creepy baby in, building blocks and a bridge you could make and walk across it.

Then it was time to wash our hands and go and get our lunch from Sabrina 5 which we ate at the docks. When some people had finished their lunch, they played tag (away from the water!) which was fun. But then it was time to go back to Sabrina 5 again and swap our lunch bags for our coats just in case it rained while we had our tour around Gloucester Docks. We went past old tracks, the lock and boat repairs and then we headed back to Sabrina 5 to get our bags ready to go on the Bennett's coach again.

By Josh 3L



## Year 4 Show

The wonderful acting troupe of Year 4 put on two fine performances this week, of *The Bee Musical*: a fun-filled adventure deep into a bee hive, exploring the crises facing our black-and-yellow stripy friends. Linking very closely with our Science work on environmental change, the show has been a great opportunity to bring our learning to life through catchy songs and a thought-provoking story. The children have been incredibly dedicated, learning lines, dances and songs as well as regular rehearsals. They have been extremely excited to perform their show, and hope you enjoyed it!



## Forest School

After Easter, Years 3 and 4 will restart Forest School lessons on a weekly basis. Please make sure your child has long trousers (joggers/leggings) as part of their outdoor PE kit in order to take part in these sessions safely.

# Internet Safety

**Before the Internet, parents felt that they had some control of who their children communicated with. Many houses had one phone and parents felt confident that they knew who their children were talking to.**

The web has changed this and parents find it difficult to keep track of the multiple accounts and Apps that their children are using. The internet can be a great way for adults and children to connect with friends, family and new people. An increasing amount of children and young people are using social media, gaming and live streaming apps to chat and share content with others. But connecting and sharing with people online can come with risks too.

For more information on staying safe on line please click on the link below

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/a-parents-guide-to-privacy-settings/>

## Family Link

Google Family Link is a free app that works with Android and iOS devices to allow parents to keep track of their children's digital activity. It allows parents to manage a variety of things to keep children safe online, including device location, screen time, privacy and it allows parents to accept or reject new apps or websites.



## Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?

### Under 13



### 13+



### 16+



### 17+



# Wellbeing at CKJS

At Charlton Kings Junior School, our vision is that children leave us exceptionally well prepared for life's journey, wherever that may lead.

Schools are in a unique position to shape and influence the mental health and wellbeing of their pupils and to help prepare them for the opportunities and challenges ahead. Research evidence shows that education and health are closely linked. So promoting the health and wellbeing of pupils and students within schools has the potential to improve their educational outcomes and their health and wellbeing.

We all recognise the importance of children being happy both in school and at home. However, life sometimes throws up challenges which can affect a child's well-being and happiness.

At CKJS we strive to have good wellbeing practices. Our motivation to improve our approach is underpinned by the desire for our school to be a good place for all of our students.

Planning for wellbeing is a conscious action. Our positive culture and values along with our approach to good mental health is embedded in the ethos of school, integrated and modelled by staff and pupil groups. (Such as the School Council and Young Leaders).

We recognise the need for a balanced focus on wellbeing and achievement and have a 'We can do better' approach. Restorative practices play a powerful part in establishing this culture as it focusses on accountability, healing and needs.

At CKJS we encourage pupils to develop strategies to manage their happiness and well-being. We encourage them to:

- Identify elements of their life they are able to take control of to improve their happiness.
- Talk about their feelings and worries.
- Use strategies to deal with anger and negative emotions.
- Seek help and support if their feelings continue to affect their well-being.

We have a dedicated website page in the 'children's' section of the website, which offers advice and guidance. There is a more detailed page on our approach and strategies in the 'Parents' section under 'Pupil Wellbeing' to support this article.

The most important advice is that children should be encouraged to talk to someone at home or at school about how they feel, no matter how small or silly it seems. We have also found that the best interests of the child are met if home and school work together. If you are worried about your child, please speak to their class teacher or Mrs Selwood.



# Forest School

It is now spring in Forest School. We have been busy planting the remaining Blackthorn saplings to form hedges on site, looking at the blossoms developing on the Wild Cherry, and the leaves emerging on the various trees.

My new favourite quote from David Attenborough is,

*“No one will protect what they don’t care about; and no one will care about what they have never experienced.”*

The Easter holidays are a great time to get out into nature and look at the trees and flowers emerging from their winter slumber. You can actually see the differences from day to day, and it’s a great opportunity for children to observe the dramatic changes in nature at this time of the year. This allows us to get children (and parents), to experience nature and the wonder of it. A lot of children tell me that they see nature every day, but it’s clear that, ‘seeing’ and ‘observing’ are separate experiences, one passive and one active. Therefore in Forest School, we will be focusing on observing and thinking about what we experience through the coming months, to build a connection to nature.

The new Forest School HQ is in place, the shed, which is really useful to store equipment and reference materials. This was the last piece of infrastructure we needed to complete the site and it has been well used already. I’m looking forward to seeing how the area develops over the coming months and years. The aim is to provide an engaging and exciting place for the children to connect to nature and build skills that should be useful as they continue to develop throughout life.

I’m very pleased with how far we’ve progressed in the last year, and excited to see where the coming year takes us. If you have any questions about Forest School or ideas to develop the program, please speak to me whenever you have the chance, all contributions are welcome. Enjoy the coming months after what seems like a long, dark winter.



## 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 we can put you in touch with the group leaders. This group prays for our schools using Whatsapp and by meeting for prayer, with the next prayer meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April from 7.30-8.30pm.

## PFA News

Things here at PTA towers have been busy. Our famous disco took place this week and a great time was had by all. All of the children took home an Easter sweet treat at the end to celebrate a great half terms work. Thanks you to all of the helpers who kept the children going with LOTS of squash!

Planning is under way for an afternoon of fun and games on Friday 5th May to celebrate the Kings Coronation. This will be after school and in conjunction with CKIS on the school field. Look out for up coming details as well as other planned events.

A reminder to year six parents that the Web shop is open for leavers hoodies, although these are not paid for by the PTA, it takes a bit of organising to make sure the kids receive them.

We are still looking for volunteers to join our small team especially for the next school year. Key members of the team end their tenure this summer, so, if you are looking for a way me meet like minded people and help the school, please make contact though CKJS Reception.

## King's Coronation Art competition.

All children at CKJS are invited to participate in a special King's Coronation Art competition.

The prizes will be Hobbycraft art vouchers; for the winner £25 and 2 runners up of £10.

All prize winners and a number of 'highly commended' entries will also be awarded a special Coronation keepsake.

All you have to do is create a picture based on the theme of 'The King' in any medium (painting, drawing, collage etc.) no smaller than A4 and no larger than A3. It can be in colour or black and white.

If you would like to take part, submit your entry (with name and class on the back) to Reception or to Miss Morrison in 3MB no later than Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

## Reminders

Could we remind you that it is the responsibility of parents to ensure that the correct information is held at school. This is particularly important when it comes to medical information, address and contact details.

Please contact Reception if you would like to check these details.

## Useful Links

<https://camp4211.co.uk/>

<https://www.move-more.org/>

<https://www.ultimateactivity.co.uk/FSF>

<https://bookwhen.com/ssgym/e/ev-szcm-20230227152000>

<https://www.cultivationkids.com/>

## Red Nose Day

On Friday 17 March 2023 we joined thousands of people up and down the country for Red Nose Day.

Your generous donations raised a fantastic £317.47.

Thank you for your continued support.



### Contact Us:

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