



School Newsletter – Wednesday 21st July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

And another academic year comes to a close. Once again, it has been an eventful year with the pandemic. However, the Chattenden Team spirit has shone through and we end the year on many positives. The pandemic was challenging on many fronts, and once again, my deepest condolences to the community who have lost loved ones. I remain grateful for the support that the community has provided one another and the support we have received from parents/carers.

The children at Chattenden have always been champions, and they continue to be so. They have been resilient and flexible beyond our expectations. Whatever we have thrown at the children, they have faced head on: bubble limitations, Covid protocols, online learning... the list goes on. Compared to other local schools, our strict internal controls have meant that we had very few bubble closures this academic year and none since school re-opened on the 8th March. Thank you to those parents/carers who have taken their civic responsibility seriously.



Through the dedication and hard work of staff, the children have really enjoyed their last few weeks of term. Miss Masoudi and Mrs Allman pulled off a great feat by managing to hold 3 performances of the Year 6 Production "Grease Junior".



The children were simply magnificent and parents/staff were all tapping their toes away start their new chapter at secondary school. I would like to wish Year 6 all the best as they start their new chapter at secondary school.

It has been wonderful that we have managed to fit in some trips this term. Years R, 1 and 3 have had an amazing time on their school trips and the children were superbly behaved – well done!

I remain grateful to all staff who have been simply brilliant this year. I really could not have asked for a better team. The pandemic has brought many challenges in terms of delivering the curriculum and filling in gaps of the children's knowledge. Through sheer diligence, the staff have managed to help most of the children reach Expected levels or higher in the core subjects. I know that they will continue with great fervour in the summer term.

It has been an honour to serve this school and the community over the past five years. I wish all the children, parents, carers, staff and Governors all the very best for the future. The school is now in a very strong position to continue to move upwards and onwards, building upon the great strengths that it possesses. I would like to thank parents for the kind words you have expressed to me in recent weeks. The children of Chattenden make me extremely proud. I would like to wish Miss North all the very best for September.

Good luck Chattenden! Continue to shine and be brilliant!



Mr R. Boyjoonauth
Principal

Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents / Carers,

At the time of writing this message, I am sitting here, nice and early, preparing for the Year One field trip to Kent Life Museum today, with glorious sun shining. Yes I have packed my sunscreen (I hope). Anyway, what a year we have had at Chattenden Primary School, with all that has taken place around us: the pandemic, and if we are in a lock down or not, or whether the England football squad bring home the trophy...? We can certainly say it has been a year of firsts and historical events taking place.

On behalf on the Governing Body, I wanted to on this occasion reflect, and say a big thank you to all of those teachers and support staff, who have left and will be leaving us at the end of this summer term. Thank you to Mrs. Sieber & Miss. Marrable for your many years of service which between them amounts to over 40 years of service. We wish you well with your retirement.



We also bid a fond farewell to Mr. Boyjoonauth, after a tremendous 5 years of dedication, commitment, passion, drive and determination to take our school forward, and ensure that your children have the best start in education before moving to secondary school. We shall miss those bowtie Fridays and funky coloured socks. Thank you, Merci, for everything; you will be missed.



Finally, as we prepare for the new academic year starting in September, we shall be looking for some new parent governors to join our governing body, especially those with a finance, risk, or educational background to ensure we have a robust Governing body to support the school as we move forward. Please contact me via the school office if you are interested. Parent Governor nominations and elections will be held in the Autumn Term.

Well, it is time for me to draw this to a close. I would like to wish our Year 6 children well, as they move into their new schools. A pre-welcome to all of our new Year R children and their families to our Chattenden Family. I wish everyone a safe, relaxed and fun summer. We look forward to welcoming you all back in September 2021.

Warmest regards,

Mr N Shorthouse
Chair of Governors



Classes next academic year

The classes for the next academic year are as follows:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Teaching Assistant</u>
R	Mrs. Underhay and Mrs. Dhadwal	Mrs. Stewart
1	Mrs. Kingdon	Mrs. Link
2	Mrs. Diddams	Mrs. Barness
3	Miss. Viertel	Mrs. Dallamore-Hynd
4	Mr. Budaly	Mrs. Chandler
5	Miss. Jug	Mr. Darlington
6	Miss. Masoudi	Mrs. Allman

Buster's Book Club

Thank you for supporting us with your child's reading this year by joining in with Buster's Book Club. Since starting Buster's in November, the children at Chattenden have read for an amazing 64,352 minutes on Wednesday evenings! Year 5 have read the most number of minutes this year (16,336) closely followed by Year 4 (15,460). Well done to all of the children this year who have received certificates and badges for being our Star Readers of the Week. We will continue with Buster's Book Club next year, so please continue to support your child with their reading. Why not join in with the Medway reading challenge over the summer?

Summer Reading Challenge 2021 at Medway Libraries



Join us at Medway Libraries for our free Summer Reading Challenge for 4-11 year olds! With our fun nature theme, together this year we'll be Wild World Heroes- be inspired to explore ways to help save the planet, take action for nature, and discover how you can make a difference to the environment!

The challenge is to read 6 books between Saturday 10th July and Saturday 11th September, and for every book you read you'll receive a prize. The final prize is a certificate and shiny gold medal! All library books count towards the challenge; books with stories, books with facts, ebooks, graphic novels, comics, and audiobooks- the main thing is to read books you enjoy! It's quick and easy to sign up; just visit any Medway library.

Dance Squad 2021



A massive congratulations to all the pupils in the 2021 dance squad. We entered a Medway school dance competition for KS1(Naughty-Matilda) and KS2 (Cat in the Hat-Suessical) both teams brought home 1st place giving us a double win! Well done to all the children!



Parent Workshop

We recently asked parents of SEND children within the school if they would like us to run parent workshops. The responses were really helpful and I can now confirm we have arranged a few workshops on the themes that were most prominent. The first of these sessions will be held on Tuesday 28th of September at 9am, this session will be aimed towards parents with children who either have an ASD diagnosis or who are displaying ASD tendencies. The session will be in person (COVID allowing) at school. More details will follow nearer the time.

ParentPay

As previously advised, we will be fully "cashless" as a school from September and all payments for clubs, trips, etc will need to be made online through our secure ParentPay system. Many of our parents already pay through this and will be familiar with the payments.



Letters will come out in September with details of how you can sign up to ParentPay if you have not already done so. If you do not have access to online banking you will be able to make payments in certain shops through the PayPoint system.

Chartwells, the catering company who provide our school lunches, are also exploring the possibility of providing some sort of online payment system but this may not be through ParentPay. We will advise you once this system is being introduced but in the meantime payments for school lunches will need to continue to be paid by cheque (payable to Chartwells) or by cash.

Breakfast Club

Come September there will be regular breakfast specials. We also offer help with reading, spellings and homework. As well as exciting new crafts mornings.

If you would like your child/ren to join Breakfast Club, then please contact Mrs Stewart at breakfastclub@chattenden.medway.sch.uk on the Friday before the week that you require. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 21st July 2021

Last day of Term 6

Wednesday 1st September 2021

Staff Development Day – SCHOOL CLOSED

Thursday 2nd September 2021

First day of Term 1 – all children return to school