



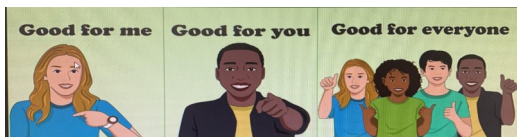
# Great Chart Primary School Newsletter for Parents and Pupils Term 4 2025



## MESSAGE FROM MRS PANG, HEADTEACHER

Welcome to our Term 4 newsletter. It's lovely to know that Spring is just around the corner and that we can start to look forward to the longer days and lighter evenings.

During Term 3, as part of our school values, we looked at Responsibility and how we all need to try to make the right choices and take responsibility for that choice. We also looked at the different types of responsibility from caring for our families to caring for our world. We also focused on ensuring that we take responsibility to wear the correct uniform to school thinking also about hairstyles and the correct footwear. During Term 4 we have reinforced with our pupils the concept of RESILIENCE: not giving up when things get difficult. We have encouraged the children constantly to try their best, to not give up when they find things difficult and to welcome challenges. We have taught them strategies to help them when they get stuck and to persevere when things get tough!



After implementing the Empowerment Approach with the children in January they have covered the 5Cs and what the brain needs. Children are becoming experts in understanding their needs and ensuring they are at their brain best. We will continue this programme for the rest of the year - there is still plenty more to learn.



At the end of January the children celebrated The Lunar New Year. We had dedicated Assemblies and some year groups continued this learning back in the classroom with food tasting, dragon and lion dancing and lantern making. We have also been finding out about Ramadan and Eid, with special Assemblies.

We also celebrated World Book Day - please read the article further in the newsletter.

It's been great to see many parents during our consultation sessions, open sessions and parent workshops during Terms 3 & 4. I hope you have found all of the information useful and feel more confident to support your child.

Please remember, if you have any concerns or worries please make an appointment to see a member of staff. We can also communicate with parents via emails or phone calls. Please speak to Mrs Gibbins or Mrs Butcher to arrange any appointments.

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## Message from Mrs Pang continued

During the February holiday, Miss Hogben became Mrs Epps. Please could I congratulate her on her marriage and wish her all the best for the future.

Thank you to the Friends' Association for running some fun events once again. The Movie Night was a success once again and the Book Character Hunt was enjoyed by families over a weekend at the beginning of March and then the popular Buy Something for Someone Special sale was back again. Thank you also for your very kind donations via the Amazon Wishlist. Please visit the school website to find out about future events and how you can support the Association.

We will be saying goodbye to Mr Bagshaw on Wednesday 30th April. We will be very sad to see him go as he has been such a great member of the team. Mr Bagshaw will still continue to lead the girls and boys football teams which is great news.

Please could I wish Mr Bagshaw all the best for the future and thank him for all he has done.



Finally, thank you for your continued support and have a lovely Easter break with family and friends.

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## Easter Crafts



Adult Education Session at the school for Years 2-4 - Easter Crafts - 3rd April 3:15-5:15pm. This event is now fully booked.

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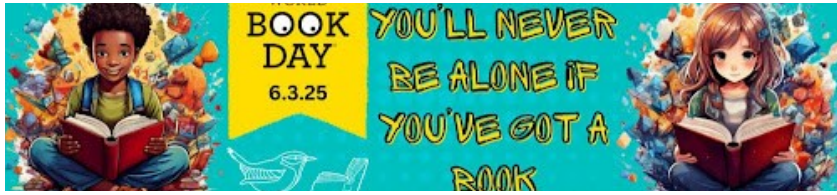
## Easter Holiday Ideas

With Spring in the air the Easter Holidays are a perfect time to explore the local area and get out and about. We have found there are many great places to visit locally that are free or with minimal charges that many pupils have not been to. Here are some ideas if you need some inspiration:

- \* **Practice your cycling skills.** [Victoria Park](#) has great pathways to practice and have a whole new cycle track and café.
- \* **Take a nature walk** - Singleton Lake and Bucksford Meadow are lovely places to spot plants and wildlife and enjoy the outdoors.
- \* [Singleton Environment Centre](#) is free to visit with woodland areas to explore. They also run events.
- \* **Go on a playground safari.** There has been lots of investment in children's play areas recently and the [Playground Buddy App](#) is great for finding new play areas.
- \* **Go for a picnic** - This [site](#) has some brilliant ideas for free days out.



# World Book Day



At Great Chart Primary, World Book Day 2025 was a chance to celebrate and champion reading across the whole school. This is more vital than ever as this World Book Day, half a million children in England don't own a single book. The World Book Day Strategy 2023 – 2027 sets out how we can all encourage children, from all backgrounds, to develop a life-long habit of reading for pleasure, and benefit from the improved life chances this brings them.



During the week, every class has had an action packed drama session with a teacher from Perform UK, focusing on a book that the class had already read or is currently reading. The sessions brought the books to life through drama, dancing and singing, with lots of fun and laughter mixed in. The buzz created in this session, spilled over into their follow up work and writing, back in the classroom.



We also held a book swap, which was a fun and engaging way to exchange books that had already been read, for new ones they haven't read yet. It encourages reading, sharing, and community-building. We had some lovely donations of books to swap and many children enjoyed choosing a new book to read.



Classes paired up so that the older children could read and share books with the younger children in the school. These were such lovely sessions as the children were completely engaged in the enjoyment of reading.

# Lunar New Year - EYFS and Year 1



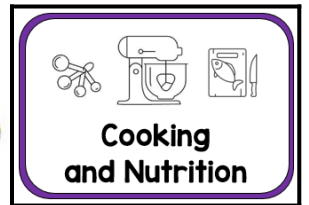
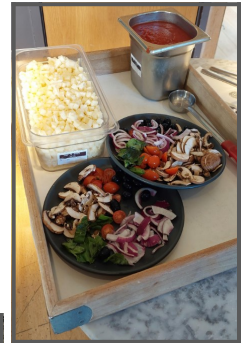
The children in EYFS and Year 1 enjoyed opportunities to learn about Lunar New Year. They enjoyed dressing in traditional clothes, making decorations, eating special food and creating their own dragon dances.

Year 1 also learned about the story of the Willow Pattern and created some amazing plates inspired by the design. They welcomed the Year of the Snake in style!



# Year 5 Trip to Pizza Express

Year 5 were lucky enough to take a trip to Pizza Express in March to learn more about pizza as part of our Cooking and Nutrition topic. We learnt where it first originated from, and how the Margherita pizza was named after an Italian queen and has the colours of the Italian flag. We found out more about the ingredients, including learning how yeast works and how tomatoes grow best. We shaped the crust carefully before adding tomatoes and mozzarella. We enjoyed the process but especially enjoyed the eating!



# Well-Being Day

On the 6/7th February, all classes took part in Great Chart's 'Well-Being Day'. Our focus was 'Move your mood'. All of the children thought about how moving their body would make them feel good. Each class was lucky enough to have a yoga session as well as experiencing lovely activities during the day which were off curriculum. Everyone had a super day!



# Ashford Primary Singing Workshop Day at Highworth School

On Wednesday 26th February, members of 'Great Chart Singers' from years 4, 5 and 6 attended this joint school singing workshop day for KS2 pupils, where schools came together to perform to each other and sing fun songs in a massed choir. The singing was led by experienced singing leaders Kirsten Ellington and Danny Moulton. It was a fantastic day where the choir members participated in activities including vocal warm ups and singing in harmony. As we arrived, the Highworth Fusion Band was playing well know songs which everyone enjoyed singing along to. After lunch, we heard Highworth Choir perform.

Schools were invited to prepare one song of their choice to perform to the other schools in the morning if they wished to. I was very proud of Great Chart Singers with their performance of 'Consider Yourself' from the musical 'Oliver'. As well as singing, the children performed in character and with movement too - it went down very well!

Everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable day and returned to school with even more enthusiasm for singing - brilliant!

*Miss Fillmore*



## The Empowerment Approach with Kit Messenger



On Wednesday 30th April 7:30- 8:30pm, we will be offering parents the chance to join an online training event with Kit Messenger who is the founder of the Empowerment Approach. She will be talking about how parents can support their children with this approach. Please book your place via Arbor from **Monday 31st March 2025**.



# Diary Dates

Please also refer to the e-bulletin

Tuesday 1st April—3 Toke Swimming—last session

Thursday 3rd April—KAE Easter Crafts session for Years 2-4.

**Friday 4th April—Last Day of Term**

**Tuesday 22nd April—First Day of Term—Great Chart**

**Wednesday 23rd April—First Day of Term—Goldwell**

Thursday 24th April—5 Griffin Swimming starts

Friday 25th April—Year 2 Open Session

Tuesday 29th April 7pm —Friends' Association meeting,

Wednesday 30th April 7.30-8.30pm —Empowerment Approach Talk to parents (online)

Thursday 1st May—Friends' Association Uniform Sale

Friday 2nd May—Friends' Association Doughnut Sale

**Monday 5th May—Bank Holiday**

Monday 12th— Friday 16th May —Year 6 SATS, including breakfast every morning

Friday 16th May—Friends' Association Discos

Tuesday 20th May 7pm —Friends' Association Meeting

Wednesday 21st May—School class photos

**Friday 23rd May—Last Day of Term**

Friday 23rd May—Friends' Association Doughnut sale

**Monday 2nd June—First Day of term**

Wednesday 4th June—EYFS Vision screening

Thursday 5th June—5 Griffin last swimming session

Wednesday 11th June 6pm—New Parents' Evening—September 2025 Intake

Thursday 12th June—Year 5 Consultations

Friday 13th June—Someone Special Sale

Friday 13th June—Year 3 Roman Day

Monday 16th—20th June Year 6 Top Up Swimming

Tuesday 17th June 7pm —Friends' Association Meeting

Wednesday 18th June—Year 5 Consultations

Saturday 21st June—Summer Fete

Tuesday 24th June—Sports Day

Tuesday 1st July—Friends' Association Meeting

Wednesday 11th July—Picnic in the Park

Saturday 12th July 7-9pm —Year 6 Leavers Party

**Friday 18th July 1.30pm — Last Day of Term with early finish**

**Tuesday 22nd July—Last Day of Term—Goldwell**

**Wednesday 3rd September—First Day of Term**

## Up Coming Exciting Dates

**Thursday 24th April**

Year 4 Visit to Folkestone Harbour

**Tuesday 29th April**

Year 3 visit to Kent Life

**Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd May**

Year 5 Aqualab

**Wednesday 7th May**

EYFS Trip to Wingham

**Monday 19th May**

Year 2 visit to Chatham Dockyard

**Friday 6th June**

Year 6 Residential

**Monday 16th June**

Year 4 visit to Godinton House

**Wednesday 2nd July**

Year 1 visit to Samphire Hoe

## Forest School Dates

Thurs 3rd April—Year 4

Thursday 24th April—Year 3

Thursday 1st May—Year 2

Thursday 8th May—Year 1

Thursday 15th May—EYFS

Thursday 22nd May—Year 5

Thursday 5th June—Year 6

Thursday 12th June—Year 1

Thursday 19th June—EYFS

Thursday 26th June—Year 2

Thursday 3rd July—Year 4

Thursday 10th July—Year 3