

Newsletter

Summer Term

Date: 24.06.22

An Exceptional Place to Flourish

Though your beginning was small,
your future will flourish indeed.
Job 8:7



Our school attendance target is:

96%

Actual attendance this academic year:

92.26%

Attendance this week:

Reception	91.22%
Year 1	97.14%
Year 2	90.0%
Year 3	88.75%
Year 4	90.0%
Year 5	90.53%
Year 6	92.5%
Whole school	91.49%

Winning year groups:

Gold – 1 st	Orange
Silver – 2 nd	Violet
Bronze – 3 rd	Red

Headteacher's note

We had an interesting visit from Kimmy's zoo.

Exotic animals came to say hallo and the pupils had the opportunity to stroke and hold these creatures.

All part of learning.
And it is FUN!

Is Dr Lawson wearing a scarf or a snake?

We also have very exciting news about school refurbishment.



Attendance continues to be mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and schools should communicate clear and consistent expectations about attendance. We are **really concerned** about the attendance figures at school, especially compared with the previous three years for the same period: **1 September – 24 June.**

Academic year	Period average attendance	Number of persistent absence pupils (below 90% attendance)
2018/2019	95.63	3
2019/2020	93.27	11
2020/2021	94.76	12
2021/2022	92.26	17



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford



Newsletter
Summer Term
Date: 24.06.22

Big questions of the week:

Reception	Year 1	Is a superhero good if they have to destroy a city?
Year 2		Who 'wins' if you are part of a team?
Year 3		Is everybody unique?
Year 4		Is it ever okay to cheat?
Year 5		Which would be worse a world without love or a world full of hate?
Year 6		Should you feel guilty for something you haven't done?





Value this half-term



Achievers of the week

		Reader of the week	Writer of the week	Mathematician of the week	Scientist of the week	Star of the week
Reception		William	Scarlett	Lucas	River	Ethan
Year 1	Year 2	Phoebe	Alice	Cassidy	Maci	Amber
Year 3	Year 4	Gabriella	Sienna	Ralph	Talia	Freya
Year 5	Year 6	Charlie	Riley	Dylan	Jess	Harrison M

House Points:

					
		Ants	Badgers	Locusts	Lizards
Reception		130 + 8	132 + 10	126 + 12	125 + 9
Year 1	Year 2	466 + 59	445 + 63	541 + 55	57 + 66
Year 3	Year 4	807 + 58	711 + 62	704 + 35	769 + 50
Year 5	Year 6	543 + 42	600 + 53	548 + 51	514 + 47
TOTAL		2113	2076	2072	2137

Exciting News

Please read the letter emailed today (and attached) regarding refurbishment at the school.

The demountable buildings are to be replaced with new, state-of-the-art permanent classrooms.

We have been waiting for this for a number of years and Essex County Council and the Diocese have agreed for this to commence on 1st July.



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford



Newsletter
Summer Term
Date: 24.06.22

Farewell

We are sad to have to say goodbye to Miss Adams, who will be leaving us next Friday. Miss Adams has been a valued member of staff at Dr Walker's, initially as Learning Support. Miss Adams has accepted a teaching position at another school, starting there in July. Miss Adams will be remembered for her positivity, friendly approach and enthusiasm for initiatives such as the Mini-Marathon fundraising event. We wish Miss Adams well for the future ahead.



IMPORTANT REMINDER

RESPECT is our value this half-term. Assemblies are being held on this theme to encourage pupils to respect differences and similarities and to develop a sense of responsibility. Reverend Sam is also focussing on this theme on Wednesdays.

We have sadly been informed of very unnecessary and unkind comments being made about staff or to staff directly – whether in person or over the phone.

Some of our parent community are feeling saddened by this and have raised comments on some social media platforms which is not the common feeling amongst all parents. This has caused upset.

We are working really hard to make well-being of pupils a priority, so too is the well-being of our staff. Staff have the **RIGHT** to be treated with **RESPECT**.

Whilst we appreciate that there might be differences of opinion from time to time, social media is not the place to voice these publicly. Can we make a kind appeal to use social media appropriately.

If you have any concerns, please address this with the member of staff in the first instance. Please refer to the Complaints Policy.

Ongoing negative and potential derogatory comments on social media, including threats, could be referred to the appropriate authorities and police.



Upcoming events:





Wednesday	29.06.22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CHANGE OF DATE - Parent meeting on PSHE/RSHE lessons to be taught over the next few weeks (15.30-16.00) – All Year Groups• Pupils not to attend. Staff will be available to supervise pupils in the playground.
Thursday	30.06.22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 6 Bikeability
Friday	01.07.22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GOVERNORS' Day in school• West End in Schools – Shakespeare Workshops – all• Years 3 and 4 Virtual author visit• Year 6 Bikeability
<p style="text-align: center;">IMPORTANT NOTICE - YEAR 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We have rearranged Bikeability to accommodate the year 6 pupils to attend Ongar Academy's Year 6 Induction visit.• Bikeability will now be on Thursday (30.06.22) and Friday (01.07.22) and will not impact on the Y6 Shakespeare Workshop		
<p style="text-align: center;">LAST DAY OF TERM: Please note that on the last day of term, Thursday 21st July, parents will be invited to join us for a picnic lunch before an EARLY finish time of 1:15pm</p>		



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford



Newsletter
Summer Term
Date: 24.06.22

<p>Best Friends of the week</p> <p>These pupils are the class buddies, helping other pupils in class.</p>		
	<p>Reception</p>	<p>Years 1 and 2</p>
		
	<p>Years 3 and 4</p>	<p>Years 5 and 6</p>
<p>Chicken Pox</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have some cases of Chicken Pox in school, further NHS information on symptoms and treatment can be found here 	
<p>Hot Weather</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We cannot apply suncream in school so please do ensure you do this prior to coming to school, ideally using a cream designed for all day cover where possible. • All children should bring a water bottle and sun hat to school during spells of hot weather. 	
<p>Voluntary contribution All Students</p>	<p>We have approximately a third of the voluntary contributions outstanding.</p> <p>If we are not able to receive sufficient funds, we will not be able to offer these initiatives in future, as we cannot continue to subsidise it.</p> <p>Thank you to all the parents who have already made a £20 voluntary contribution towards all the fun activities this term – the Ducklings, Wonderdome, Kimmy’s Zoo and the Shakespeare Workshops next week.</p> <p>Pupils have really enjoyed these initiatives and I am sure they have been buzzing at home with what they have experienced.</p>	
<p>School Trends Uniform</p>	<p>Please note that the deadline for uniform from School Trends in time for September is 18th July.</p>	

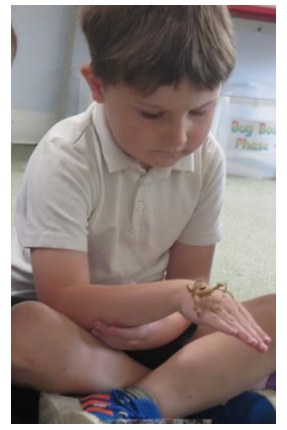
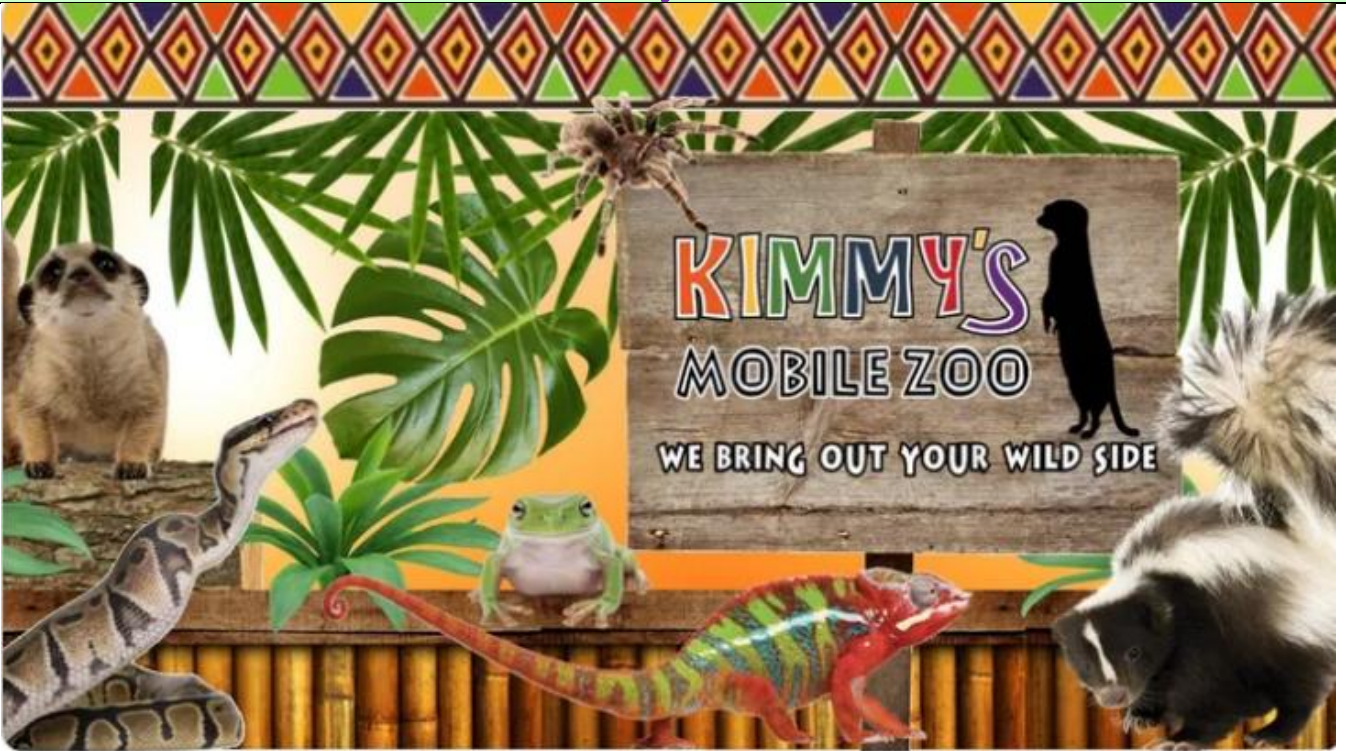


The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford



**Newsletter
Summer Term
Date: 24.06.22**

Kimmy's zoo



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford



Newsletter
Summer Term
Date: 24.06.22



PIC-COLLAG



The Church of England in Essex and East London Diocese of Chelmsford



Newsletter Summer Term Date: 24.06.22

FUN FACTS

**Dwarf rabbits
(Peter and Benjamin)**



Females called does are only pregnant for 30 days and the offspring are called kittens!

**Duprasi (or Doops)
(Anna and Elsa)**



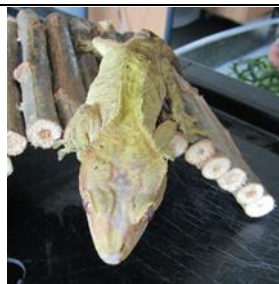
They store fat in their tail like a camel stores fat in its hump!

**Australian Whites Tree Frog
(Princess Fiona)**



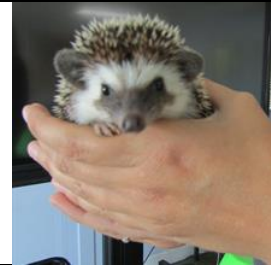
They can change colour from bright green to dark brown to camouflage from predators! They are also nicknamed the smiling tree frog, I am sure you can guess why

**Crested Gecko
(Pascal)**



They have a prehensile tail which means that they can hang from their tail like a monkey! Their tail can fall off to escape predators....but it doesn't grow back!

**African Pygmy Hedgehog
(Mrs Tiggywinkle)**



They have up to SIX THOUSAND quills on the top of their body to protect them from predators! and can travel up to 5 miles in one night to find food!

**Leaf insect
(Groot)**



Many species can spray an acid out of their bum to escape predators. They can also regrow limbs that fall off when escaping from predators!

**Royal Python
(Shere Khan)**



They are nicknamed the ball python because they curl up into a tight ball to deter predators! They flick their tongue to smell!



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford



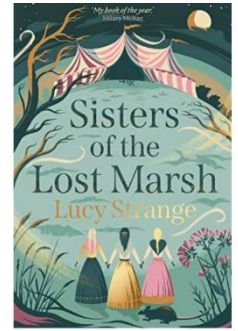
**Newsletter
Summer Term
Date: 24.06.22**

Indigo/Violet Literacy

On Wednesday 22.06.22, Indigo-Violet participated in a virtual writing workshop. We got to meet author Lucy Strange, who talked about her new book, 'Sisters of the Lost Marsh' and tactics she uses for story writing.

Lucy used real life scenarios with added 'what ifs' - what if there were ghosts, what if there world froze, what if no one ever aged ... the what ifs are endless!

These inspired the children to begin their own stories.



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford



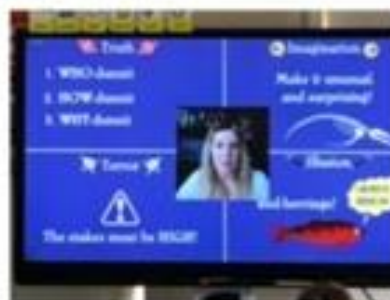
Newsletter
Summer Term
Date: 24.06.22



Indigo-Violet welcomed **Hana Tooke** into their class today (albeit virtually) for a great reading/writing workshop.

Hana grew up on a polder near Amsterdam, in a house filled with peculiar clocks and a head filled with a peculiar imagination. She's been a singer, a teacher, and even a mad scientist, but these days she spends her days writing stories, sculpting puppets, and collecting curiosities. She lives in Bath with two humans, a cat, and a skeleton marionette. Her debut novel, *The Unadoptables*, was shortlisted for the Bath Children's Novel Award and longlisted for the Branford Boase.

Hana spoke about being a reluctant reader at school, her selective mutism, physical disability and her ADHD diagnosis, proving that we can all be great writers - no matter what challenges we face!



The Church of England in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford



Newsletter
Summer Term
Date: 24.06.22



Headteacher: Dr L. A. Lawson (*PhD, MTh, BA, DipEd, QTS, NPQH*)
Address: Walker Avenue, Fyfield, Essex, CM5 0RG
Telephone: 01277 899298
Website: www.fyfieldrwalkersprimary.co.uk
Twitter: @drwalker_s

24.06.22

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have some great news for you. The demountable buildings are to be replaced with new, state-of-the-art classrooms. We have been waiting for this for a number of years and Essex County Council and the Diocese have agreed for this to commence.

We are really pleased with the design of the new buildings and the facilities that are being provided (similar to the picture inserted). There will be two classrooms side-by-side (facing the EYFS area) with a shared cloakroom and three toilets. They will have air-conditioning and solar panels too. At the back of the classroom, the ground will be seeded with grass so we will have an extra space that we can use in the future for more outdoor learning.



A number of surveyors have been in to complete checks and pre-building phase meetings have been convened. The building works will commence on Friday 1st July, where the builders will put in a track for their vehicles to access the site to keep them separate from all the children. The old classrooms will be demolished in the three weeks leading up to the end of the summer term and the new buildings will be built during the summer holidays. Ready for the new school year in September.

All consideration will be taken to ensure the safety of all our children, whilst the works are going ahead. The children will still have access to the majority of the playground and field but do please ask your children not to go near the building works. The area will be demarcated.

The pupils in years 1 and 2 will have their classroom moved to the hall for the last three weeks and we will have staggered lunch breaks to accommodate two sittings: EYFS/KS1 and KS2 respectively.

We are sorry for the slight inconvenience over these last three weeks, but it will be very exciting to see the old buildings being demolished, and replaced by brand new ones. The builders have planned it for the least amount of disruption possible. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to broaden their horizons and learn new things outside of the classroom. This will also provide our pupils an insight into the building industry – an extra bonus for life skills.

The builders will obviously have more vehicles here and so we do ask you to consider if you could park at the Village Hall and be considerate of all road users during this complicated time. There will not be any deliveries during drop-off and pick-up times.

Yours sincerely,

KGBush

Mrs. Karen Bush
Chair of Governors

L Lawson

Dr. Llewellyn Lawson
Headteacher

WHAT TRUSTED ADULTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT: SOCIAL MEDIA & MENTAL HEALTH

Social Media is often scrutinised as having a negative impact on children's mental health. Children and young people are now growing up in a technology dominated world, and social media plays a major role in their social lives. This balanced guide focuses on both the positive and negative impacts that social media can bring to young people and their mental health.

POSITIVE IMPACTS

EASY ACCESS TO SUPPORT AND HELP

Due to delays in young people getting help for their mental health, such as experiencing low mood, or suffering from anxiety, they may sometimes reach out to access support from others online. Sharing problems or issues with friends, peers and broader social networks can be met with positive reaction, with nearly 7 in 10 teens reporting to receive support on social media during tough or challenging times. Where there are moderated communities which offer support and guidance, children can be provided with a great source of support.

SUSTAINING FRIENDSHIPS AND MAKING CONNECTIONS

There is evidence to suggest that strong adolescent friendships can be enhanced by social media interaction, allowing children to create stronger bonds with people they already know. Online relationships can actually make children more relationship-oriented, thoughtful, and empathic. By sharing comments on pictures, videos and posts, it can create long-term friendships as they can continually keep in touch, even with a distance between them.

A SENSE OF BELONGING

Support can be found in various places online; sometimes this is known as "finding your tribe". Online platforms and groups can provide a wonderful sense of belonging for children. They can find peers with similar interests and circumstances which can sometimes be difficult to find in real-life. As a result, this can create stronger connections and help to build confidence.

NEGATIVE IMPACTS

SELF-ESTEEM & BODY IMAGE

There are 10 million new photographs uploaded to Facebook alone every hour, providing an almost endless potential for young people to be drawn into appearance-based comparisons whilst online. No one is the same as how they portray themselves online as we tend to only show the best part of ourselves. The pressure to fit-in and conform is huge, which can become a driving force for children to replicate what they see from friends, celebrities and sponsored adverts. This pressure may contribute to anxiety, low mood and a feeling of inadequacy. As a result, it can lead to a feeling of low satisfaction with their own lives.

HARMFUL ADVICE

FAKE NEWS

The online world provides the opportunity for anybody to upload and share photoshopped pictures, edited video, fake news and even unvetted advice. Children may stumble upon this, which could potentially encourage them make wrong decisions and not get the help that they need. It's important that you teach your child to differentiate between what is true and useful information and what is fake.

ADDICTION AND COMPULSIVE CHECKING

Social media addiction is thought to affect around 5% of teenagers. The Office for National Statistics found that children who spend more than 3 hours a day on social media are more than twice as likely to support poor mental health. Furthermore, compulsive checking due to 'Fear Of Missing Out' has been linked to poor and disturbed sleep, as well as difficulty to relax during evenings. One in five young people say they wake up during the night to check messages on social media, leading them to be three times as more likely to feel constantly tired at school than their classmates who don't use social media during the night.

CYBERBULLYING

One recent large-scale UK study showed that cyberbullying is one of the biggest challenges for young people. Other studies suggest that cyberbullying has a bigger effect on wellbeing and mental health than other types of bullying. 7 in 10 young people have experienced cyberbullying, with 37% of young people saying they experience cyberbullying on a high-frequency basis. Young people are twice as likely to be bullied on Facebook than on any other social network.



Meet our expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



HELPFUL APPS:

- Hub of Hope - <https://hubofhope.co.uk/>
- Mindshift
- Smiling Mind

SOURCES OF HELP:

- Childline, 0800 1111 or visit their website
- Bullying UK, 0808 8002222
- Young Minds Parents line, 0808 802 5544

SOURCES: <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/publications/social-media-keeping-people-and-mental-health>, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/articles/mental-graduated-wellbeing-2019-10-26>, <https://www.nhs.uk/health-topics/mental-health/>, <https://www.nhs.uk/health-topics/mental-health/>, <https://www.nhs.uk/health-topics/mental-health/>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 19.06.2019



The Church of England in Essex and East London Diocese of Chelmsford



Newsletter
Summer Term
Date: 24.06.22