

## Newsletter – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

This term's value; Care

We are focusing on caring for our school environment.

Dear parents, carers and families,

Welcome to the start of the Autumn Term. Welcome back to all of those returning and welcome to those who are new to Chesterton. We have had many new children join us and it is wonderful to see. For those who have children who have joined in Years 1 to 6, there are group messages set up between parents using Whats app, if you would like to join these please either speak to another parent or a staff member who can introduce you to you Parent Council Class Rep.

Today we had a refresh of our school values; Care, Respect and Persevere. Each half term one of these values will be our focus. These will be discussed in assemblies and in classes. This term we are focusing on Care, for the next two weeks we will be thinking about caring for the environment. The classes will be concentrating on a particular text; Years 1 and 2 it will be Tidy by Emily Gravett and Year 3 to 6 it is The Paperbag Prince by Colin Thompson. We then thought it would be wonderful to invite parents in to celebrate how the children have started the new academic year. There will be an exhibition of their work, around the texts, on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm. Year 1, 2 and 3 will be in the Green Hall and Years 4, 5 and 6 will be in the Purple Hall.

As you may be aware Attendance is a key focus for us as a school, our aim is to ensure all children have good attendance. The Government expectation is that children's attendance is 95% or above. Good attendance is 95% or above. In figures this means children should have no more than 8 days absence in a school year of 190 days. Once children's attendance is below 95% we begin to monitor it, once a child's attendance is below 90% it is of concern. To have 90% attendance children will be absent for 19 days, almost four weeks of learning missed. We understand that children get ill and have bugs and need to take time off for this reason but other than illness we expect children to be in school. If you need to take children out of school for another reason, you will need to put a request in writing to myself but, please be aware only exceptional circumstances will be authorised, I will not authorise any holiday during term time.

This year we are really hoping to hold many different parent events and welcome you into school, like we used to. I will be updating the date's box below but I will also try and keep the calendar on the school website up to date so the information is easy for you to access.

With best wishes for the week ahead, Kate Yeoman.

