

## Charlton Horethorne C of E Primary School News

### **New Children and New Staff**

We were incredibly excited to welcome our 10 new reception children to school in September. They have all settled in really well and are doing brilliantly.

We were all delighted on the appointment of Mrs Sara Watkins as teaching Head from the beginning of September. Sara has been a teacher at Charlton Horethorne Primary since 2012 and the school continues to thrive under her leadership. We also welcomed Miss Sophie Spring who teaches in Dragonfly class on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Rev Rona is already a regular visitor in school; she joined us for our whole school Christmas lunch in December and is delivering Collective Worship each week linked to our value of the half term. Our school value for this term is Forgiveness.

### **What's Been Going On In School?**

The children performed their Christmas Production, Straw and Order to packed out audiences on two evenings in December. We were delighted to welcome residents from Elliscombe House and pre-school children from our Chipmunks group to watch our open dress rehearsal. The children also performed some songs from the performance at the Over 60's Coffee Morning. They all worked really hard learning their lines and the songs and we were so proud of them all.

The first half term of 2023 had an ART focus and we were lucky to have Darrell Wakelam, a real life sculptor and artist, visit and spend two days in school creating an amazing art installation for the library area. All the children were involved and had a fabulous time learning new skills.



Pupils from Charlton Horethorne Primary have been busy with a variety of activities for Safer Internet Day. The children produced a video which was featured in Childnet's live broadcast from BT Tower. They opened their own 'internet cafe' for the day, to talk about the importance of online safety, and made some fantastic internet themed cakes! They held an impromptu cake sale at the end of the day to raise funds for the Turkey/Syrian Earthquake Appeal.

**Chipmunks**

Our pre-school group for bumps, babies and toddlers continues on the last Monday of each month from 2-3pm in our school hall. Each session has a theme. The next sessions are on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March and Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April. Do come along and enjoy a play session with your pre-schooler and spread the word to family and friends. The more the merrier!

**Defibrillator**

Many of you know our lovely colleague, Miss Steninger, sadly died very suddenly in 2021. Her family have very kindly donated a defibrillator to the school which is installed on the side of the temporary classroom (go through the front gate and follow the path around to the left). It is accessible to the whole community and there is no lock on the cabinet. The defibrillator has been registered with the ambulance service.