

**Great Chesterford C of E Primary Academy**  
**Class 1 Newsletter**  
**Spring Term 2019**

Dear Children and Parents,

Welcome back everyone! I hope that you have all enjoyed a super Christmas break and are feeling rested and ready for an exciting and busy term ahead. Mrs Brown, Mrs Barden, Mrs Carter and I would like to express our gratitude for the cards, gifts and kind words that we received at the end of the autumn term, it is greatly appreciated.

Staffing

Mrs Barden will continue to teach the class on Tuesday mornings. Mrs Carter has joined the Key Stage One team and is working with pupils every morning and supporting the class on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Mrs Brown will continue to work with the class every day.

Topic

Our topic this term is 'Once Upon a Time' and we will incorporate this theme across the subject areas through a wide variety of activities. Please find attached our topic web; this outlines activities that may be covered throughout the term. If you are able to support the topic in any way or wish to volunteer your time to support the school please do not hesitate to speak to me or contact the school office. A class trip to Danbury Country Park has been provisionally booked for Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February; this visit will be linked to the familiar story 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and promises to be an exciting way to enrich the children's learning. More information will follow about this in due course.

Organisation

I would like to remind you that all children must have a full water bottle in school every day. Unfortunately it is not practical or time effective for us to fill empty bottles at the start of the school day; however bottles will be topped up as appropriate during the afternoon. Please also ensure all items of clothing and personal belongings are named, we encourage children to take responsibility for their own belongings and it is much easier for them to keep track of their clothes if they are clearly named. Unnamed lost property will be taken to the school lost property cupboard.

Key Dates

Our class assembly this term will be on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January. Parent consultations will be held on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January. You are encouraged to visit the school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February for an open afternoon. Please check the newsletter and school website or follow us on Twitter to keep up to date with important events (<http://www.greatchesterfordprimary.co.uk>, Twitter: @chesterfordsch)

P.E/Games

PE lessons will usually take place on a Wednesday and Friday, with swimming starting after half term on Wednesday mornings. Earrings should be removed on these days and, as always, long hair must be tied up. Children should have in school a white t-shirt, navy shorts and plimsolls in a named bag which will be stored in the cloakroom. They may also wish to have available trainers, socks, navy or black tracksuit trousers and a warm top (no hooded tops) for outdoor PE lessons. In addition to our timetabled PE lessons Class One will continue to participate in 10 minutes of physical activity each day, I am pleased to see children are really building their stamina with the majority of the class now able to run or jog for at least half of our daily 'Golden Mile'.

Homework

In Class 1, children are expected to do approximately 10 minutes of homework per night, reading is a particularly important part of homework. Children normally have the opportunity to choose a new reading book on a **Monday, Wednesday and Friday**. As your child begins to read longer texts, we appreciate that these may require more time, please feel free to keep the book a little longer to allow time to discuss the text and develop your child's comprehension skills and to foster an enjoyment of reading. When your child has finished reading their book, please could you write the title and the date in the front of their orange home/school link book. Please feel free to comment in the homework book about the books your child is enjoying, including texts other than their school reading book, there is a wealth of eBooks available on [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk) which your child may enjoy in addition to their school reading book.

Maths logs will continue this term with an updated menu however many key skills will be repeated in order for children to consolidate their learning. The maths log homework is beneficial in allowing children to master basic skills and consolidate new learning in a range of contexts.

<u><b>Monday</b></u>	<u><b>Tuesday</b></u>	<u><b>Wednesday</b></u>	<u><b>Thursday</b></u>	<u><b>Friday</b></u>
Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading Maths log

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs L White