

GREAT CHESTERFORD C of E PRIMARY ACADEMY
Reception Newsletter - Summer Term 2022

Dear Children and Parents,

Welcome back to school. I hope you have all had a happy and relaxing Easter break.

This term we will begin by finding out about animals that are native to Africa. Then, we shall head off to sea on a pirate adventure and find out about different sea creatures too. We will also be thinking about our local community and healthy lifestyles.

Staffing

Further to Mrs Mitchell's email, I am delighted to welcome Mrs Gent, Mrs Middleton and Mrs Vandrau to our Reception Team for this term. Mrs Gent will be teaching the class on Tuesday mornings and Mrs Brackstone will continue to support her during this session.

Show and Tell

Please note that Show and Tell will take place on **Tuesday** mornings. The dates for each group are shown below:

Pyramids	Cones	Spheres	Cubes
26 th April	3 rd May	10 th May	17 th May
24 th May	7 th June	14 th June	21 st June
28 th June	5 th July	12 th July	19 th July

Please could you ensure that your child only brings in one object to show and that it is not easily breakable or very precious!

Pirate Day Wednesday 8th June

As part of our topic, we will be having a pirate dressing up day. The whole day will have a pirate theme and there will be opportunities to play pirate games, make pirate accessories (eg maps, telescopes) and have lots of fun!

Children may come in "pirate" costume or simply wear sailor type clothes (eg jeans and a t-shirt). We ask that the children do not bring swords into school! We will be playing games outside so children must be able to move freely in their costume and be prepared to wear their plimsolls or trainers.

Walk Around the Village

During the Summer term, we will be walking around the village, looking at different features etc. Once I have a confirmed date for this, I will let you know.

Collective Worship

We will be leading Collective Worship on Friday 1st July.

Reading and Homework

Reading remains a key part of the children's homework and **all** children in Reception class should spend at least 5 minutes reading the school reading book and learning/revisiting their phonics sound cards each day. When practising the phonics sounds, you might want to include activities which include spelling these words too. This could be writing the words, using chalk, magnetic letters etc.

Please note the reading record book should not be used for other messages as it is not checked daily.

I will continue to add optional challenges to our newsletters and below are some other suggested activities that you might like to do with your child.

Suggested activities:

Role playing shops, using the coins: 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p.

Handwriting/letter formation practise, including writing numbers

Comprehension activities eg answering simple questions about a text. You could take it in turns to think of questions.

Shared writing of short stories or rhymes

Identifying 2d and 3d shapes in the environment

P.E./Games

Please make sure your child comes to school in their PE kit on **Mondays and Wednesdays**. PE lessons will continue to be taught mainly in the hall, but we will also take the children outside for some elements of athletics. Nearer the time, we will take the children to the school field to practise for sports day. For safety reasons, long hair must be tied back every day and earrings and watches must be removed for PE. If your child is unable to take out their own earrings, please could you take them out before they come to school on PE days.

Outdoor work

As part of our work in Reception class, we will be continuing to use the courtyard as our outdoor classroom each day. Therefore, when the weather is hot or forecast to be hot, please ensure your child has a **named sun-hat** and that **long-lasting sun lotion has been applied before they come to school**. Please send your child to school with a **named water bottle every day** (even if they are having a school dinner), as we take regular water breaks throughout the day and encourage the children to keep hydrated. Your child will also need their waterproof suit and wellingtons in school for when we head off to the nature space.

Dates for your Diary

25th April – Meerkat Visit

8th June – Pirate Day (see above)

15th July – Open Afternoon (details to follow)

Communication

Please do speak to a member of the Reception team if you have any questions and we will do our best to answer them. Should you wish to have a quick chat, I am happy to do so once all the children have been picked up at the end of the day. Alternatively, do drop the school office an email and I will get back to you soon as I can.

I look forward to a very busy and enjoyable term ahead. If you have any queries, then please do not hesitate to speak to me or another member of the Reception team. Thank you once again for all your support.

With best wishes,

Mrs Davies and the Reception team