

**Great Chesterford C of E Primary Academy**  
**Class 1 Newsletter**  
**Spring Term 2022**

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 Holmes 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. We continue to be impressed with the positive attitude and resilience of all the children, it is a pleasure to teach them.

Staffing

Staffing arrangements remain the same as last term. I will be in class full time, except on Tuesday mornings when I have non-contact time; this is the best time to arrange a telephone conversation or Zoom meeting if there is anything you wish to discuss. Mrs Barden will continue to teach the class on Tuesday mornings; Mrs Middleton will also lead music during this session. Mrs Brown and Mrs Holmes will continue to work with the class every day.

Topic

Our topic this term is 'Dinosaurs' and we will incorporate this theme across the subject areas through a wide variety of activities. I hope this will be a motivating and engaging topic for all learners, some of whom may already have a keen interest and sound knowledge base. Please find attached our topic web. This outlines activities that may be covered throughout the term. Should your child be required to self-isolate at any point during this term, there will be a regularly updated 'home learning letter' on the Class One page of the school website. This should provide you with ideas and activities to support your child for up to two weeks of remote learning.

Organisation

I would like to remind you that all children must have a full water bottle in school every day as it is not possible 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 as 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.

Key Dates

Our class assembly this term will be on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January. Parent consultations will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January via Zoom. Further details will be emailed from the office. Please check the newsletter and school website or follow us on Twitter to keep up to date with important events, including Covid updates (<http://www.greatchesterfordprimary.co.uk>, Twitter: @chesterfordsch)

P.E/Active Learning/Learning outside

PE lessons will usually take place on a Monday and Thursday. Children should come to school in their PE kit on these days. In addition to our timetabled PE lessons, Class One will continue to participate in 10 minutes of physical activity each day. We will be using the nature space on Wednesdays every week. When using the nature space, your child needs: named wellington boots or sturdy waterproof boots, named waterproof trousers and coat, or a waterproof all-in-one (this is important even on dry, sunny days as the seating in the log circle is likely to remain damp). I also recommend additional layers for colder days e.g. an extra jumper, spare socks, gloves and a warm hat.

Homework

In Class 1, children are expected to do approximately 10 minutes of homework per night. Reading is an important part of homework. Children normally receive a new reading book on Monday and Thursday. As your child begins to read longer texts, we appreciate that these may require more time so please feel free to keep the book a little longer to allow time to discuss the text, 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.

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

If you have any questions regarding the information in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to another enjoyable term ahead.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L White