

Great Chesterford C of E Primary Academy

Class 1 Newsletter

Spring Term 2020

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, Miss Gregory 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 Brown (every morning and M, T pm) and Miss Gregory (Every morning and W, Th, F pm) will continue to work with the class every day.

Topic

Our topic this term is 'Dinosaurs' which I hope 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; although I will follow the children's interests where possible. 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 Thorndon Country Park has been provisionally booked for Thursday 23rd January; this visit will be linked to our topic with opportunities for hands on learning and promises to be an exciting way to enrich the curriculum. More information will follow about this in due course.

Organisation

Children must continue to bring a full, named water bottle to school each day. These will be topped up throughout the day as required. Please continue to ensure that all items of clothing, including PE kit, 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

Class One will lead the Collective Worship this term on **Friday 17th January**. Parent consultations will be held on 28th and 29th January. You are encouraged to visit the school on Tuesday 4th February (pm) and Tuesday 17th March (am) for a chance to see the school in action during an open afternoon/morning. Please read the weekly newsletter and regularly check the 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 Monday and Friday. 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 endeavour 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' and also greatly improving their skipping skills.

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 so please feel free to keep the book a little longer to allow time to discuss the text to 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 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>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading Maths log

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L White