

Great Chesterford C of E Primary Academy

Class 6 Newsletter

Autumn Term 2021

September 2021

Dear Children and Parents,

Welcome to Year 6 - I hope you are all well and enjoyed the summer holidays. This term our class topic is 'The Home Front' and we will incorporate this theme through a wide variety of activities. If parents can help in any way by providing information or resources, I would be very pleased to hear from you.

Attendance

Children in Class 6 are expected to come in at 8:45am to complete any morning jobs and to prepare for the school day. However, they should not be on the school premises before this time. Developing good habits of punctuality and attendance have been proven to result in better attainment so this is particularly important during this academic year.

Staffing

This term, the class will be split in mixed attainment groups on Monday, Thursday and Friday morning for maths and English. On these days, Mrs Sargeant will teach maths and I will teach English. This proved hugely beneficial for children's learning last year and it is great that we have the capacity for this year group to also benefit from this arrangement. Mrs McCullough will teach Science on a Thursday afternoon, Mrs Chambers will teach French on a Monday afternoon and additionally, Mrs Middleton will be teaching music on a Tuesday morning with children working on compositions for the Saffron Walden Choral Society's Spirit of Christmas Carol Competition. Mrs Balchin is the class Teaching Assistant from Tuesday to Friday and children may also be supported by Mrs Campbell, Mrs Heath or Mrs Munday during the week.

P.E/Games

P.E. will usually take place on a Monday and Wednesday afternoon so children should come to school in their P.E. kit on these days. Children should wear the school P.E. kit where possible but during the colder weeks, navy skins or a school tracksuit jacket should be worn. In line with Essex Health and Safety guidelines, earrings must be removed for PE lessons. Please inform me in writing if your child is unable to participate in a P.E. session.

Homework

A timetable for homework in Year 6 is outlined below. In line with the school homework policy, the expectation is that English, maths, French and science tasks should take approximately 30 minutes each week. In addition, children should spend time each day practising weekly spelling and it is useful to maintain practise of timetables. Reading is an important part of homework and children are expected to read for 15 minutes each day with the minimum expectation of this being to an adult once a week.

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Reading English French	Reading Spelling	Reading Maths	Reading Science	Reading

Please note: English homework should be returned on a Wednesday and maths on a Friday. Children will usually have a week to complete French, Science and Spelling tasks.

As previously, the children will be provided with a planner to help them record their homework and reading. We will encourage them to ensure they understand the tasks set before they leave school and have recorded details accurately. Later in the term, we will be introducing Teams for children to access homework tasks and as a means of accessing learning in the event of the need to isolate. More details about this will follow in due course. Keeping up to date and organised with homework is an important skill for children to develop in readiness for secondary school, so please encourage the children to be independent and take responsibility for this when you sign their planners each week. These books can also be used for any comments you may have regarding your child's progress, homework or reading but more urgent messages should be sent via the school office.

Please note that homework may not always be marked in the same way. It will sometimes be more appropriate to check children's understanding through discussion or use work started at home as a basis for continued work in the classroom.

Equipment

Children should have an HB pencil, a 30 cm ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener in school every day. School will provide each child with a handwriting pen and any written homework should be completed using either this or a pencil. Coloured pencils, highlighters or fine-liners are also useful to have in school but are not essential.

Each child will need an old pillow-case or t-shirt for their DT work after half-term as it will be used for a DT sewing activity. If this causes any difficulties, please let me know as soon as possible.

Dates for your diary

A 'Meet the Teacher' presentation will be available on the class page of the school website by **5p.m. on Friday 10th September.**

A virtual Harvest Festival service will be held on **Friday 24th September.** Further details will be on the school newsletter.

This term, we are hoping to have a virtual workshop with Bletchley Par to support our topic work. More details will follow in due course.

The SWCS Spirit of Christmas concert will be on **Saturday 4th December.**

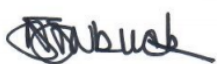
Our class assembly will be on **Friday 12th December.** We are hoping that parents of Year 6 children will be able to attend this in the school hall.

Sorry to mention it so early but a future date for next year's diary is SATs week - the week beginning **Monday 9th May.**

Please refer to the class page on the website for more information and school newsletters for information pertaining to whole school dates and events.

I am looking forward to an enjoyable year ahead. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Starbuck