

Great Chesterford C.of E. Primary Academy

Class 6 Newsletter
Spring Term 2018

Dear Children and Parents

Welcome back and a happy new year to you all! Firstly, I would like to thank all the children for their hard work and enthusiasm last term – a great way to start Year 6.

This term our class topic is entitled '**O Grão De Cacau**'. Through our topic we will be looking at a range of work, including rainforests, biomes and the Aztecs. If parents can help in any way by providing information or resources, I would be pleased to hear from you.

Children in Class 6 are expected to come in from 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.

Mrs McCullough will continue to teach the class every Thursday and Mrs Chambers will continue to teach French on a Tuesday afternoon. Mrs Barden will also take groups of children on a Tuesday morning for booster lessons in English and Maths.

P.E/Games

P.E. usually takes place on Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons. Children should have in school both indoor and outdoor PE kits this term. For indoor use, a white T. shirt, navy shorts/skort and plimsolls will be needed, which they should keep in their boxes in a named P.E bag. As we shall be continuing to go outside for games lessons through the winter, children should also have available trainers and a navy school tracksuit or skins. The focus of our games lessons will initially be hockey and football therefore children may bring studded boots. To participate fully in hockey lessons, the children will also need a gum-shield and shin pads this term. Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled.

Homework

Children in Class 6 are expected to do approximately 30 minutes of homework per night. Reading is an important part of homework and children in this class should normally spend at least 15 minutes reading each day. We are encouraging the children to read one book, at home and school, and to bring this text into school every day. This facilitates progress through a book and enables them to complete their 'Reading Missions.' Daily reading should be recorded in their homework planner.

Homework will usually be set as timetabled below:

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

In addition to the homework set, children might like to spend time each week revising. This may involve using the revision guides or appropriate websites, such as the BBC 'Revisewise'; website. Mental maths skills (such as knowing tables and using mental strategies for addition and subtraction) and spellings could be focused on during car journeys or walks. The website includes details on the

Year 6 page 'How to Help Your Child at Home' which details the spellings that will be a focus. A little regular revision will be more beneficial than a panic in May!

Homework Diaries need to be signed weekly by parents and children. They should be used to record the amount of time spent on homework each day. These books have been designed in line with the organisers used at secondary school as part of the transition process from primary to secondary. Children are responsible for writing down their homework each day and ensuring that they understand what they need to do before they leave school. They also need to make sure they have the correct books and equipment in school each day. A timetable has been provided for them. Parents are invited to comment in these books on their child's progress in any aspect of homework, including reading. Please note that homework will be looked at on a regular basis but 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.

Dates for your diary

The class assembly will be on **Friday 9th February** - everyone is welcome to attend. Our school trip this term will be to the Botanic Gardens in Cambridge on **Thursday 15th March** – more details will follow shortly.

I also ask that you note the date of SATs week for next term. The statutory tests will be sat in the week commencing **14th May**.

I am looking forward to another busy and enjoyable term ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Starbuck