

## **Great Chesterford C. of E. Primary Academy**

### **Class 2 Newsletter – Spring Term 2026**

Dear Parents and Children,

We would like to start by wishing you all a Happy New Year. We hope you all had a relaxing and restful break and a lovely Christmas. Thank you again for all your lovely gifts and cards – they were very much appreciated.

This term our topic is 'Healthy Living.' In this topic, we will focus on healthy lifestyles, balanced diets and healthcare from the past and in the present day. In Geography, the children will be exploring their local area and then comparing it to a location in America. For Art, the children will have the opportunity to create different portraits and develop their drawing skills. In science, we will be learning about life cycles, basic needs and food groups. In RE, we will begin by answering the question 'What questions do religious stories make us ask?' with a focus on Christianity, Hinduism and Islam. In PSHEE, we will be discussing Keeping Safe and Rights and Responsibilities. In PE, we will be doing gymnastics and team building. For more details of the proposed activities this term, please see the topic web which will be posted on the class page of the website.

We are delighted to welcome our new Teaching Assistant, Ms McLeod, to the class. She will be supporting the children on Tuesday to Thursday mornings.

#### **PE**

PE sessions will remain on the same days this term but Mr Duers will be leading the gymnastics lessons on Tuesdays. Please ensure children come to school wearing their PE kit on these days. In line with school policy, long hair should be tied back and no hooded sweatshirts and jewellery should be worn.

#### **Homework**

The children will continue to get weekly homework set on a Friday and due in the following Friday. This will normally be maths based but this might change if there is a theme week or special activity coming up. The homework set is designed to consolidate areas of learning we have covered in class and should take 15-20 minutes. If your child needs additional support with an activity or was unable to complete it in the time allocated, please note this down on the sheet or in their orange book as it is really useful for us to know what they have felt confident with and what they have found challenging. Please could all homework be completed in pencil.

#### **Reading**

This term, some children will continue to bring home a Little Wandle reading book every Thursday. This book will be familiar to them as they will already have read it several times in school during the week to develop their reading skills and build fluency. We hope you continue to enjoy celebrating your child's progress with reading. Occasionally, your child may bring home a Little Wandle book that they have previously read. Please do not be concerned if this happens, reading books are carefully selected to match your child's developing phonic knowledge so it may be necessary to return to previously read texts to target particular GPC's or build fluency. In addition to this, the children will also bring home a book from our class library every Monday. This is a book of their own choice and is one that they may

enjoy reading on their own or sharing with you. Please note when you have heard your child read in their orange books as these are checked regularly in school.

For those children who have graduated onto 'free reading books', please encourage the children to swap books from the class library if it is too challenging or not challenging enough! We formally change books on a Monday/Thursday but we are happy for small swaps during the week.

**Water bottles**

The children are encouraged to drink regularly in class. We ask that the children bring in water, rather than squash, in a named bottle on a daily basis.

**Class Worship**

Year 2 will lead worship on 13<sup>th</sup> March this term and you are warmly invited to attend.

**Art focus**

We sadly don't have a school trip planned for this term as we are conscious of costs from the History Off the Page Day and the summer term trip to the seaside. However, we do like to invite artists into school during this term to enrich our topic of portraits so if you know of any artists (from within our class or beyond!) we would be grateful to get in touch as the previous classes have really enjoyed this. Please speak to Mrs Gent with any contact details.

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information. We are looking forward to the term ahead and are confident that the children can build on the positive learning journey they have already started in Year 2.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Gent and Mrs Lincoln