

Great Chesterford C of E Primary Academy

Class 4 Newsletter

Autumn Term 2026

September 2026

Dear Children and Parents,

Welcome to Year 4 - I hope you all enjoyed the summer holidays. I am really looking forward to teaching the new Class 4! I will be teaching the class all week, except on a Tuesday morning when Mrs Munday will be teaching. Miss Colgan will be the teaching assistant in Class 4 this term.

This term, our topic is 'Our Changing World'. We will be learning about volcanoes, earthquakes and plate tectonics and how these have changed the planet. Alongside this geographical focus, we will be studying the Victorians in history and the effect this era had on our world, as well as looking at electricity in science. If you can help by providing information or artefacts on any area of the curriculum, I would be pleased to hear from you. A full topic web accompanies this letter with the details of what will be taught in each subject area.

P.E/Games

P.E. lessons will usually take place on Mondays and Wednesdays this term, so children should come to school in their P.E. kit on these days. For safety reasons, jewellery and watches/Fitbits should not be worn. In line with Essex Health and Safety guidelines, earrings must be removed. If a child is unable to remove their earrings, we must have your written consent that school is not liable for any incidents relating to wearing this item of jewellery. Should your child be unable to take part in P.E. due to injury, please inform me or the office in writing. Navy blue skins or tracksuit bottoms may be worn as required during colder weeks. However, no hooded tops can be worn. When PE is taught inside, children should wear clean trainers, plimsols or bare feet. Swimming costumes need to be worn under P.E. kits on swimming days, and full details are provided on the separate swimming letter.

Art

Please could the children have a named art apron/old shirt available in school for art lessons.

Homework

Reading is an important part of homework and research has shown the benefit of all primary school-aged children reading to an adult. Children in Class 4 should read to an adult daily for at least 15 minutes. The adult should record the reading progress and any discussions had about the text in their child's school diary. To promote reading in school, the children will be able to participate the reading challenge, earning points for finishing books and completing tasks related to the books they have read.

In addition to daily reading, children in Class 4 will have one maths task complete each week, and they are expected to spend up to 20 minutes on this activity. Please encourage your child to take pride in their work at home and to aim high with their presentation. Homework will be sent home on Fridays and should be returned by the following Thursday. Fluency in times-table and related division facts is essential for maths development. Regular practice on apps such as TTRockStars will support with this.

Children will be sent home with a list of spellings to practice on a Friday, and a test on these spellings will take place in school on the following Friday.

Please provide a plastic wallet for your child to transport their homework to and from school.

Dates for your diary

Class assembly: **9:10am on Friday 9th October.**

Class trip: on **Wednesday 30th September** we will be attending a choral outreach event at St Mary's Church in Saffron Walden. A letter will be sent to you shortly.

Later in the term, we hope to take a trip to Audley End house to learn more about life in Victorian times. More information about this will follow in due course.

The Year 4 residential trip to Burwell house has been booked for the **18th and 19th of January 2027**, and further information will be sent to you about this soon.

I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know you all as the year goes on. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Hoare