

**Great Chesterford C of E Primary Academy**  
**Class 1 Newsletter**  
**Summer Term 2025**

Dear Children and Parents,

Welcome back for the summer term. I hope you all have a lovely Easter break.

Our class topic for the summer term will be 'Bugs, Butterflies and Beautiful Blooms'. This is a hands-on topic with lots of opportunities to learn from the natural world. I will follow the children's interests where possible in order to make the learning relevant and engaging for them. Please see the topic web for more details as to what we may cover. If you have any resources relevant to our topic, or you are able to support in any way please do let me know.

**Preparing your child for the summer term**

- Please continue reading and sharing books with your child. Children who read for pleasure do better in a wide range of subjects at school and it also positively impacts children's wellbeing. The Book Trust website <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/> is a great place for new book recommendations as well as local libraries.
- In geography we will be learning more about the wider world. If you are going on holiday, or on day trips away from the local area please do send us a postcard or photographs with some information about your journey and destination. Postcards and photographs will be shared and displayed in class. If you have friends and family going to interesting destinations, please do encourage them to get involved too.
- Look for signs of Spring / Summer and observe the changing seasons.

**Key Dates**

Birthdays and achievements are celebrated on a weekly basis in our whole school Friday worship. Should your child wish to share any achievements (medals/certificates/badges etc) with the school community, they can bring these into school on Fridays.

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May: Class One will lead the whole school worship; they will deliver their ideas linked to the weekly 'Big Question'

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June: Children will take part in the Year 1 statutory phonics screening check. This is a very low-key activity, the children are given a colourful booklet and asked to have a go at reading the words to me. They will not be aware that it is an assessment at all. Some useful information about the check can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phonics-screening-check-information-for-parents>

I have also attached some additional information.

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June: Sports Day

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July: Class trip to Wandlebury (more information to follow)

Please read the fortnightly newsletter from Mrs Sargeant and regularly check the school website to keep up to date with important events. <http://www.greatchesterfordprimary.co.uk>

**Staffing**

I will continue to teach the class full time, except on Wednesday mornings when Mrs Sargeant will teach the class. Mrs Middleton will teach music on Tuesday afternoons. Mrs Brown, Ms Roscorla, Mrs Robson and Mrs Hinds will support the class throughout the week.

**P.E/Active Learning/Learning outside**

PE lessons will continue take place on a Wednesday and Thursday. Children should come to school in their PE kit on these days. In addition to our timetabled PE lessons, Class One will endeavour to participate in 10 minutes of additional physical activity each day.

As part of our work, we may use the nature space. When visiting the nature space, your child needs: named wellington boots and suitable clothing. During the summer term, we might not always need the waterproof layers, but it may be best to keep them in your child's bag just in case. When the weather gets warmer, please apply long lasting sun cream at home and provide a named sun hat for your child.

### **Homework/Reading books**

I will not be setting Maths homework this half term. In place of this, please practice weekly GPCs detailed in their orange reading record books, in preparation for the Phonics Screening Check. Additionally, I will be sending home a phonics activity or a list of real words/alien words to practice in their homework folders. The parents tab on the Little Wandle website has lots of information on how to best support your child with phonics and how to pronounce each GPC.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Your child will continue to bring home a Little Wandle reading book each week. This is a book which the child has read in school and should be able to share their success with you. Occasionally, your child may bring home a Little Wandle phonics book that they have previously read. Please do not be concerned if this happens as 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 GPCs or build fluency. Please ensure the Little Wandle reading books are returned to school on Mondays as they will be required by other groups of children.

On Mondays your child will choose a book from the class library. This book will not be matched to your child's phonic level and is not expected to be read independently. Please read this book to your child or share the reading experience with them. Please feel free to comment in the home/school link book about the books your child is enjoying, including texts other than their school reading book.

### **Organisation**

I would like to remind you that all children must have a full water bottle in school every day. Children may bring a fruit snack or crackers/breadsticks to eat at playtime; please remember that snacks must be nut and sesame free. Alternatively, a snack will be provided.

Please ensure all clothing and personal items are named as we encourage children to take responsibility for their own belongings. Children should wear school shoes except for PE days. Jewellery and smart watches should not be worn to school. Sun cream should be applied before school on sunny days and children should bring a named sunhat.

If you have any questions or need to update me about any issues affecting your child, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office. I look forward to another enjoyable term ahead.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss F. Thorburn