

# GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

## NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING JUNE 5th 2020

### Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the final half term of the academic year - a time when we are usually busy with sports, productions, transition activities and much more. Whilst COVID 19 continues to affect our daily lives, we still have many activities planned for children in all year groups over the next few weeks. I hope that you were all able to enjoy the half term sunshine; we continue to be heartened by the lovely acts of kindness and exciting family projects that so many of our pupils are involved in at this time. As you are all aware, our school has started the phased re-opening by extending provision to Reception children this week and Year One next week. I would like to thank staff for their continued hard work during the half term holiday in preparing school for this wider opening with many now supporting children's education in more than one year group.

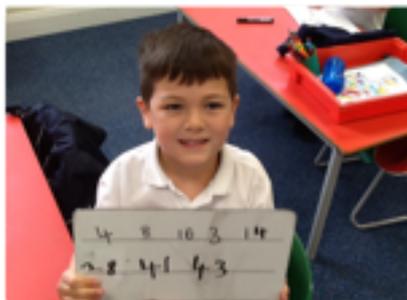
### Zoom Meetings

Class Zoom meetings will resume next week. Due to the teaching commitments of many staff members, there may be a change to your child's previous meeting time. Staff will provide the details of your child's date and time as soon as possible. These weekly Zoom sessions will continue to be managed as before. The meetings will be set up by the class teacher and parents will be emailed an invitation for their child to join the session. Unfortunately, we will be unable to offer alternative days as staff are having to coordinate new working patterns in school alongside their other commitments of home learning as well as juggling their own family requirements.

Zoom meetings will no longer take place for the following Key Stage One groups: Seahorses, Starfish, Ants and Beetles as these children will be covering such social interactions in school. We are very much looking forward to 'seeing' lots of our pupils again next week and hope that many of you will continue to take up this voluntary activity.

### Reception Children return to school

We have all been really proud of how well our Reception children in the Starfish and Seahorse groups have returned to school this week.



### Birthdays

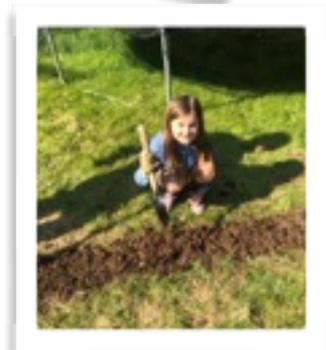
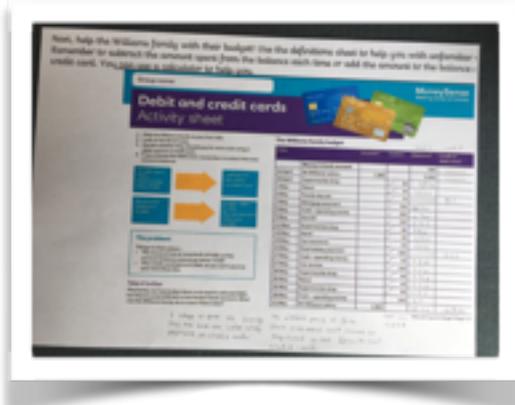
As we are currently unable to celebrate birthdays in school, we would like to wish many happy returns to those in our school community who celebrated their birthday during half term or are doing so this week:

Jacob in Class 3  
Archie in Reception  
Henry in Class 3  
Alan in Reception  
Alec in Class One  
Leo in Class One  
Mrs Hoskins, member of the MDA team  
Mrs Witney, Class 5



### Home learning this week

It has been super to see the positive start that many children have made to their home learning this week and quality time has clearly been spent being creative both indoors and out. Maths seems to have been a popular activity this week in Years 2 and 6. Year 6 are currently focusing on the theme 'Money, Money, Money.' This is an opportunity to think about topics such as budgeting, what influences spending and keeping money safe. On Wednesday, they considered the difference between debit and credit cards - take a look at Anna's work below.



### Home Learning resources

For any Home Learners in Reception Class through to Year 5, who have not yet received the 'Talk for Writing' resources, please contact admin. If anyone needs a new home learning exercise book, please also contact admin via email and it will be left in the postbox for collection. Unfortunately, the post box is not waterproof so please don't leave it there for too long!

### More Blue Peter success for Isabelle

Congratulations to Isabelle, in Class 6, who received her Blue Peter 'Fan Club' badge last week. Here is what Isabelle shared: "To earn it, I had to say what my favourite things about the show are; review a recent episode and design a new quiz. It is really fun and it is my 6th badge so far. Maybe some of the others in the school might enjoy applying!" Sounds like great advice for other children to get involved!

### Wider Opening and Social Bubbles

To date there has not been any further guidance on wider opening of the school for Years 2 to 5. We have received a couple of queries from parents and I just wanted to reassure children and their families that any further changes will be fully communicated to the relevant year groups to provide a supported transition back to school.

We are currently using 'bubbles' to reduce the risk of the spread of Covid-19 within school and this approach may / may not still be in use when other year groups return. If it is still a requirement, we will try to ensure that staff within a 'bubble' include a familiar adult. We also kindly request that you allow school staff to consider which pupils should be grouped in each 'bubble' and do not send requests to us - this is the process that has been followed for Reception and Class One so far.



### **Keeping in Touch**

During term time, please keep in touch with your child's class teacher via the class email address at least once a week. If we have not had any contact, we will try to contact you. As Mrs Davies and Mrs White will be teaching every day in school, please can we ask parents of these year groups to send any queries directly to admin from the week beginning June 15th - thank you.

For all other queries, please follow the normal practice of emailing the office via [admin@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk).

### **Mrs Sarah Mitchell Headteacher**

#### **Dates for your diary**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
2nd June	Non-pupil day
3rd June	Home learning resumes
4th June	Starfish and Seahorse groups return to school
8th June	Ants and Beetles groups return to school
15th to 19th June	MADD Theme Week Music, art, dance and drama
22nd July	Last day of term
23rd July	Non-pupil day