



Great Whelnetham CE Primary School
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Dear Parents/Carers,

Thursday 7th September 2023



Larks Class Newsletter Autumn Term 2023



We are excited to welcome our new children to our Great Whelnetham family and wish a warm welcome back to our Year 1 parents. We hope you all had a wonderful summer break. All the children have had a super start to the first term for this academic year. Please find below some information about this half term.

Curriculum Learning:

English: We will be reading Fairy stories and Traditional Tales: Rapunzel and Little Red Riding Hood. We will look at both traditional and alternative versions. The Year 1 children will be learning how to write punctuated sentences leading to a short narrative.

Maths: We will be focusing on place value to 10 and addition and subtraction within 10, using a mastery approach. We will practice our counting skills to 100.

History: The first three weeks we will be having 3 history lessons weekly on the Victorians. For the remaining 3 weeks we will switch to **DT** where we will attempt to design and make puppets!

Science: We will be investigating 'The Human Animal' with a focus on our body parts and understanding our senses and how we use them.

P.E/Forest Schools:

We are incredibly lucky to have gymnastics with our specialised Gymnastics teacher on **Wednesday** mornings first session 9.15am. So can I please request that your child **comes** into **school wearing** their **PE kit**. There is no need to bring in school uniform on this day as I intend to keep the children in their PE kits in order to maximise their learning time. PE kits should include: a white t shirt, shorts, joggers, socks and trainers. Please ensure all clothing is clearly labelled. Forest Schools will be on **Thursday afternoons**. Please ensure your child brings in the appropriate clothing. **Active lunchtime club** will be on a **Monday** for Larks class. Please ensure your child has trainers in school.

Homework:

Reading: All pupils need to be reading at home every day. This will help your child practice their blending skills and improve their understanding of the books they read. Please do record when they have read in their reading diary making any relevant comments. We do have a whole school reading challenge and our focus is Transport this year. The children will shortly be bringing home their new bookmark for this challenge so please do initial it every time you hear your child read.

Year 1 Spellings: On Mondays, spellings are sent home in your child's reading diary, and they will be tested the following Monday. Please help your child to practice writing their spellings at home.

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Reception: Please practice the sounds and actions your child has learnt using the sound cards in your child's book bag.

Book bags, Water bottles and Coats: Just a reminder we encourage children to bring their belongings into School using a named book bag rather than a rucksack, unfortunately we have little storage space for these. When children attend before school gymnastics and Forest Schools, they can bring in a small rucksack for their Gym/FS clothes. Please ensure **everything** is named!

We ask all children to bring to school on a Monday a clean water bottle similar to this one to avoid spillages!



We will send the water bottles home every Friday to ensure they are cleaned thoroughly. The weather is very changeable at the moment so if you could please ensure your child has a sunhat and a waterproof jacket that should cover every eventuality!

News: I am very excited about our forthcoming Victorian Day on Monday 18th September. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Class Welcome to Parents

Class teachers are delighted to welcome parents into their pupil's classrooms on Tuesday 19th September. They will be sharing the routines, expectations and exciting learning experiences for the year ahead. The Parent's welcome in Larks and Robins will take place from 2.40-3.00pm. The Parent's welcome in Owls and Swans will take place from 3.00-3.20pm. Pupils will be dismissed as usual.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support, it is very much appreciated.

Kindest regards

Mrs C Masson & Mrs C Fisher
Larks Team