



**Great Whelnetham CE Primary School**  
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Dear Parents/Carers,

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024



## Larks Class Newsletter Autumn 1 Term 2024



Welcome back to this exciting busy term! It has been wonderful to welcome so many new parents! We hope you all had a wonderful summer break and had chance to relax and enjoy some of the wonderful weather. Please find below some information about this half term.

### Curriculum Learning:

**English:** Our new genre is Fiction: 'Stories about families'. We will be reading My Mum and My Dad books by Anthony Browne and Avocado Baby; talking about people who are special and care for us. Children will learn the difference between fiction and non-fiction and begin to write simple sentences using the correct punctuation.

**Maths:** We will be focusing on Place Value within 10, Addition and Subtraction and Shape. Children will start to count in 2's, 5's and 10's.

**Science:** Our topic is The Human Animal. Children will learn about human and animal bodies and consider similarities and differences. We will identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.

**History:** This topic 'Amazing Me' compliments our English and Science learning looking at significant changes within their living memory focusing on themselves, their parents and grandparents.

**PHSE:** Our topic is 'Being me in my World' Children will begin to work on recognizing and managing their feelings. We will discuss working with others and why it is good to be kind and use gentle hands. We will talk about similarities and differences from their friends and how that is ok.

**Design & Technology:** We will discuss where food comes from. Children will explore and evaluate different vegetables they would like to use in their stir fry. We will discuss health and hygiene before going onto prepare a vegetable stir fry for them to taste and take home!

**Computing:** This half term the children will learn how to stay safe online. The children will learn how to login safely to Purple Mash and create their own avatar. We will also be watching e-safety commissioner's short videos Hector's World.

**RE:** Our topic is Christianity asking the question 'Why is the word God so important to Christians?'

**Forest Schools:** The children will continue to have **forest schools** this term on **Wednesdays**. It is very important that your child has the correct clothing to stay warm and dry as they will be outside whatever the weather!

### Homework:

**Reading:** We encourage all pupils to read at home daily. For reception children, initially this will be practicing the phonemes learnt in class. We will send home sounds to practice as they are learnt. The books that will accompany these sounds are based around discussion.

For Year 1 reading daily will help your child practice their blending and fluency and improve their comprehension skills. Please can both year groups **record** when they have read/practiced sounds in their **reading diary** making any relevant comments and initialing their bookmark.

**Year 1 Spellings:** On Mondays, spellings will be 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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**Maths:** To help develop children's fluency in mathematics we ask them to learn Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs). We expect children to practice their KIRFs at least 3 times a week. These will be given out towards the end of Autumn 1.

**Book bags, Water bottles and Coats:** Just a gentle 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 on the children's pegs. When children attend before school gymnastics, they can bring in a small rucksack for their gym clothes. Please ensure **everything** is named!  
Please note children do not need pencil cases; we provide all the equipment they need.

We ask all children to bring to school on a Monday a simple sensible water bottle similar to the image below.



We will send the water bottles home every Friday to ensure they are cleaned thoroughly. As the weather is very changeable, if you could please ensure your child has a **waterproof** coat in school.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns. Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support, it is hugely appreciated!

Kindest regards

Mrs C Masson, Mrs Lockwood & Mrs Moore  
Larks Team



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