



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

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025



## Larks Class Newsletter Spring 1 Term 2025



Welcome back to this exciting busy half term! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and found time to relax and enjoy the festivities with your families. Please join me in welcoming Mrs Swain to Larks class and our Great Whelnetham family.

Please find below some information about this half term:

### Curriculum Learning:

**English:** Our new genre is Non-fiction with a focus on The Great Fire of London! We will learn the features of a non-fiction book and write a fact file, a diary entry and a newspaper report. **Reception** will be focusing on the digraphs learnt and writing simple sentences.

**Maths:** Using White Rose mastery, our modules will be Place Value within 20, Addition and Subtraction within 20. We will continue to practice counting to and from 100, counting in our 2's, 5's and 10's. We will also continue to teach Mastering Number for both year groups.

**History:** For the first three weeks the children will be learning about the significant event 'The Great Fire of London' comparing past and present London and firefighters. We will look at sources to understand how we know so much about the event. We hope to recreate our own GW Fire of London in the playground and take a trip to the local Fire Station!

**Art:** Week 4 we will move onto Art, learning about the work of Kandinsky and Molly Haslund. Our focus will be 'Spirals' and The Circle Project. We will read the book 'Swirl by Swirl' spirals found in nature and use this to inspire us!

**PHSE:** Our topic is 'Healthy Me'. The children will learn the importance of keeping themselves clean, making healthy food choices, sleeping well and making healthy lifestyle choices. We will also be discussing what a 'trusted adult' means.

**Science:** Our topic is 'Everyday Materials' In this unit children will be able to distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made.

**RE:** We will introduce the children to Judaism understanding why the Torah is such a joy for the Jewish Community.

**Computing:** This half term children will move on to 'Lego Builders' and then 'Maze Explorers'. They will become familiar with the word 'Algorithm' and learn how to follow and create simple instructions on a computer, then how to debug a set of instructions.

**PE:** We will continue on a Monday afternoon with ITFC improving our ball skills. **Please** ensure children have their PE kit in school, **including socks** for girls that are wearing tights.

**Please note we no longer have forest schools on a Wednesday.**

### Homework:

**Reading:** If possible, all pupils need to be reading at home every day. This will help your child practice their blending and fluency and improve their comprehension skills. Please **record** when they have read in their **reading diary** making any relevant comments and initialing their bookmark.

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**Spellings:** On Mondays, spellings are sent home for the Year 1 children 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.

**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 were given out on parents evening. I will send home the Spring 1 and Spring 2 KIRFs for both year groups this week.

**Reception:** In addition to hearing your child read please continue to 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, they can bring in a small rucksack for their gym clothes. Please ensure **everything** is named!

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 cold at the moment if you could please ensure your child has a suitable warm coat in school, along with a hat and gloves.

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 Swain & Mrs Moore  
Larks Team



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