

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING March 27th, 2020

Dear Parents,

Message from Mrs. Sargeant

What a strange old week! It has been lovely to hear the birds singing and to see the spring flowers bloom in the sunshine, but I have really missed the children and staff in school. As we all adapt to these new routines, we should remember that many children may feel confused, anxious or upset due to these changes. Although we have been setting the daily home learning tasks, we appreciate that a large proportion of your time will be spent comforting and reassuring your children. Please do not worry if you don't get to complete every task. Spending time as a family and completing activities such as baking, playing board games, watching films or playing in your gardens are even more important than ever in these uncertain times. The teachers have loved hearing about the ways in which the children have entertained themselves, so thank you for staying in touch. Please be kind to yourselves and stay safe.



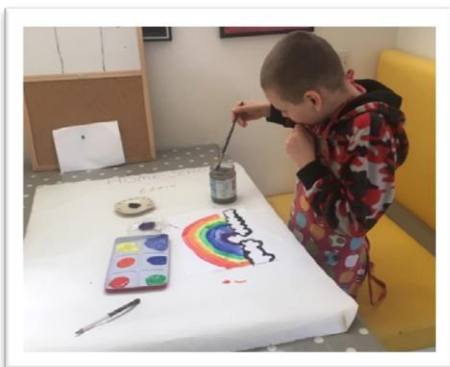
Birthdays

As we were unable to celebrate birthdays in school, we would like to wish many happy returns to those in our school community who are celebrating this week:

India in Reception
Mathilda in Class 2
Fraser in Class 5
Eddy in Class 6

Home Learning

Well done to everyone for starting your Home Learning with such enthusiasm. It has been fantastic to hear how you have been keeping busy: gardening, cooking, cleaning, music lessons via skype and lots more!



Keep up the good work. Keep busy and keep in touch with messages and photos.

Letters from Thailand

The children in Class 5 were thrilled to receive the long-awaited letters from the school in Bangkok to which they wrote in Global Communities Week. They are busy writing their replies.

Big Question

Thank you to Mrs. Starbuck for putting the big question for each week on the RE page of the school website. It is always a great starting point for discussions in school, and may be something you and your family would like to build into your week.

Great Chesterford Flag Competition

Don't forget that the Parish Council in Great Chesterford is holding a competition to design a flag for the village flagpole. This is a fun local activity to take part in during this period of home learning and we hope that lots of you will have a go. Please see last week's newsletter for details on how to enter.

Home Learning

Home Learning will continue next week with teachers publishing daily maths and English activities on their class page of the school website.

Teachers will make it clear if the work is to be marked by the children at home, in which case the answers will be provided, or if they would like to see a screenshot of a particular piece of work. Although we are very happy to receive them, please don't feel obliged to send a photo of every piece of work, particularly if it is difficult to do so.

Daily reading continues to be a really important part of your home learning. Try re-reading a favourite book, sharing a much-loved picture book, reading aloud to each other, listening to an audio book or just curling up in bed with a book at the end of the day.

Daily practice of maths skills (e.g. counting, number bonds, times tables) should continue. There are plenty of online games to help with this.

Contact details for next week remain the same

You will be able to contact teachers via the class email address (listed below) and these will be responded to during normal working hours (9:00am – 5:00pm).

Please note that these emails will only be used during the period of closure.

Reception@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk

Year1@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk

Year2@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk

Year3@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk

Year4@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk

Year5@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk

Year6@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk

For all other queries, please follow the normal practice of emailing the office via
admin@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk

Easter Holiday Challenge

Whilst you all deserve a well-earned break over the Easter holidays, there will be an Easter Holidays Challenge for you to take part in if you are able to. Details will follow shortly so watch this space!



Suggestions for keeping busy

Dance Fans

Oti Mabuse ('Strictly' and 'The Greatest Dancer') is live streaming dance lessons for children on her YouTube page at 11.30 am every day. So get your dancing shoes on!

Fitness

Joe Wicks, the fitness expert, is streaming 30 minute fitness classes at 9.00 am each morning, specifically designed for school-aged children, although everyone in the family can join in!

Free Audio Books

For as long as schools are closed, **audible** are allowing free access to a huge collection of audio books.

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Music for All

There are lots of great opportunities to make music online. Here are a couple of ideas:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/bring-the-noise/half-term-music-activities/zmmpxyc/>

[https://www.nycos.co.uk/daily-](https://www.nycos.co.uk/daily-activities?fbclid=IwAR27FMu9IndcgIzmiiVMcfi8r5_RcKMwp2w3BdGS_FWL3YOj2rXnRpEU9p4)

[activities?fbclid=IwAR27FMu9IndcgIzmiiVMcfi8r5_RcKMwp2w3BdGS_FWL3YOj2rXnRpEU9p4](https://www.nycos.co.uk/daily-activities?fbclid=IwAR27FMu9IndcgIzmiiVMcfi8r5_RcKMwp2w3BdGS_FWL3YOj2rXnRpEU9p4)

Lego Challenge

30 Day LEGO Challenge						
Follow the instructions for each day. The only rule is to have fun and use your imagination!			Day 1 You were hired by an amusement park to create a new roller coaster.	Day 2 NASA needs you to build a new rocket.	Day 3 Your parents want to build a new home and they want you to build it.	Day 4 Hollywood hires you to build a movie set for a new Star Wars movie.
Day 5 You enter a contest to build the world's tallest tower. Will you win?	Day 6 You are stuck on Mars and need to build a new ship to get home.	Day 7 Ford hires you to create the toughest pick up truck in the world.	Day 8 You and 4 friends are stranded on an island. Build a boat to find a way home.	Day 9 Captain Jack needs a new pirate ship and wants you to build it.	Day 10 You and your friends decide to build a tree house.	Day 11 Prince Charming hires you to build a castle for him & Cinderella.
Day 12 Dr. Who hires you to build a new TARDIS.	Day 13 You are asked by the President to build a new monument to George Washington.	Day 14 Mr. Hilton hires you to build a new hotel.	Day 15 There is a circus in town. Build a place for the performers.	Day 16 Help your fellow pioneers build a wagon to make it across the country.	Day 17 Build the fastest car around and join the big car races.	Day 18 Do you want to build a snowman? Get in the winter mood and build a snow scene.
Day 19 The city wants you to build a bridge to connect one side of the town to the other.	Day 20 Pizza party! It is up to you to make a pizza for all the guests.	Day 21 You are hired to build a brand new hospital.	Day 22 The fence is broken and the dog keeps escaping. Build one he can't get out of.	Day 23 You are now in medieval times. You are commissioned to build a jousting arena.	Day 24 The local bank keeps getting robbed. Build a safe no one can crack.	Day 25 Design and build your dream bedroom.
Day 26 You are elected ruler. Build a flag for your land.	Day 27 Aliens are invading and you need to build a war robot to defeat them.	Day 28 The aliens have taken over. They are impressed by your robot. They want you build one for them.	Day 29 You are hired to build a house entirely out of yellow Legos.	Day 30 There is blizzard. You will need to build a snowmobile.		What was your favorite day?