

# Butterfly (Reception) Spring Term Newsletter



Happy New Year! We hope that you all had a restful break and enjoyed spending time with friends and family!

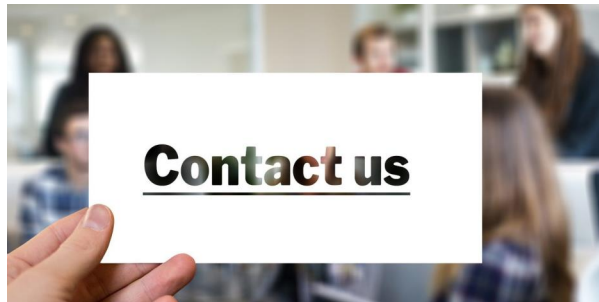
Staff working in your child's class

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*Miss Bateman: Class teacher Monday - Wednesday*

*Mrs Lowe: Class teacher Thursday - Friday*

## Contacting school



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*If you need to contact the team for a class-based or pastoral reason, please do so via:*

*[yearr@cheddington.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:yearr@cheddington.bucks.sch.uk) Should there be any other need to contact the school, please do so via [admin@cheddington.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cheddington.bucks.sch.uk) or call the office on 012960668324.*

*Please note that yearr@ email will not be checked during the school day, therefore if it is urgent, please contact us via the office.*

*If you have regular pick up arrangements, such as a childminder or grandparents who pick up weekly please let us know. This could be in the form of a note or email, this allows us to keep a record of this and helps us when dismissing at the end of the day.*

***If there is a change to pick up arrangements please advise the office either by email or a phone call. The office will let the staff in class know who your child is being collected by.***

*During pick up time you are welcome to come and ask a question once all the children have been dismissed, however, we may have to arrange an alternative time to talk depending on the question.*

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## Important days during the week



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*Please ensure that you send your child's reading folder into school everyday.*

### **Library - Tuesday.**

*The children will go to the school Library each week on a Tuesday. While there they will be able to select a book to take home and read with their grown ups. These books should be returned to school the following week so that they can be returned and a new book selected.*

### **PE - Monday and Friday**

*Although PE is on a **Monday** and **Friday** the children will take part in a variety of physical activities during the week so it is important that they are wearing appropriate footwear.*

*An overview of what the children will be learning about will be placed onto the VLE on a **Monday** each week. Please check the VLE each week as we place home learning challenges and weekly advance organisers on there.*

*Reading folders will be collected each week on a **Wednesday** with new books sent home on a **Friday**.*

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## Dates for your diary

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*We look forward to welcoming you so that you can see what the children have been doing in class. The next shared learning dates for this term are:*

*Thursday 13th February 2025 at 14:45*

*Wednesday 2nd February 2025 at 14:45*

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## Forms to complete

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*During the spring and summer term we would like the children to explore and taste some foods that they may not have seen or tried before. Please complete the following google form to give permission for your child to try, touch and taste these foods:*

*<https://forms.gle/R3WTbVwQ3qoAmC3z5>*

*At Cheddington School, we have a set of Chromebooks for children to use in our computing lessons and across the curriculum. This is a fantastic resource that will support your child throughout their time at Cheddington. Please could you complete this form to allow your child to have a Google account and utilise this resource. Google accounts*

*form: <https://forms.gle/5q1nJbQnurBPTtGj6>*

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## Show and Tell

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*We welcome the children to bring in items from home to share with the class as show and tell but these need to be named and given to a member of Butterfly class staff in the morning so that they can be placed in a safe place. We ask that the items that are brought in for show and tell are linked to what the children are learning about. Please note that while we will do our best to ensure that these are safe accidents do happen and toys do get broken.*

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## Literacy



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### *Reading*

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- *Each week the children will take books home.*
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- *Monster phonics books are designed for the children to read to an adult, they will have read these books in school as part of their guided reading. Monster phonics books link to the sounds that the children have learnt within their phonics lessons and they have learnt the skills to decode and blend the words independently.*
  - *Big Cat books are sharing books and are aimed for an adult to read with the children. The children will be able to read them almost independently but will need support with unfamiliar sounds and words from an adult.*
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- *Children will start to bring home Monster Phonics books with words, these books will have been read 3 times in school with an adult, they should be able to decode and blend the words independently. When your child is reading these books please*

*encourage them to re-read what they have decoded as this will help them to develop fluency and word recognition.*

- The children may also have a second book each week. This will be a Big Cat book and may have words in, please read this book with your child.*
  - Please write in your child's diary when they have read the 'Big Cat' or 'Monster phonics' book with an adult at home.*
  - It is important that you also share and discuss picture books, signs, labels, rhymes and songs with your child.*
    - Regular reading at home will enable your child to make more progress.*
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### **Phonics**

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- At Cheddington school we follow the Monster Phonics Systematic, Synthetic Phonics programme.*
  - Children have learnt all the single letter sounds and are now working on digraphs, two letters that make one sound. The children have been amazing at doing the actions when saying the sound.*
    - Skills focus on blending and segmenting of decodable CVC (constant, vowel, consonant) words alongside reading the first 60 Reception High Frequency Words.*
  - The children are also developing their skills in forming these letters and will begin to write simple words using their phonics knowledge.*
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### **Writing**

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- The children will be developing their FMC (Fine Motor Control) everyday so that they develop their hand strength and other skills needed before they can write comfortably.*

- *We ensure that writing is fun for the children and encourage a variety of mark making activities throughout the day.*
  - *The children will take part in 'dough disco' and 'wiggle while you swiggle' to encourage mark making and FMC.*
  - *All children will be supported in developing their writing skills, by writing different things e.g. lists, labels, cards...*
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### ***Literacy based on books***

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- *The children take part in literacy lessons everyday and these lessons are based on a book. From this the children will;*
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- *Make predictions*
  - *Create story maps*
  - *Use speech bubbles*
  - *Understand questions*
  - *Write simple sentences*
  - *Learn about sentence structures*
    - *Follow recipes*
    - *Act out stories*
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## Maths



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*The children will be following the White Rose Maths Scheme through a mixture of adult-led activities as well as independent learning. The topics that we will be covering this term are :*

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- *Subitising, finding and representing numbers 0-5*
    - *Mass and capacity*
    - *Exploring numbers 6, 7 and 8*
    - *Length, height and time*
    - *Exploring numbers 9 and 10*
    - *Exploring 3-D shapes*
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*To help your child at home we suggest that you play board games, do lots of counting of objects, look for numbers in the environment and do cooking together. These skills will develop your child's understanding and embed their knowledge and understanding.*

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## EYFS curriculum areas



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*The areas of learning are; communication and language; personal, social and emotional development; physical development; literacy; mathematics; understanding the world and expressive arts and design. Through the below topics the children will have exposure to all areas of the EYFS curriculum.*

*The children will be looking at the topic 'Animal Safari'. This topic looks at animals that live in different areas of the world, thinking about what the animals might eat and their habitat. This topic teaches the children about how to look after animals and the importance of caring for our local and global environments.*

*We will move onto the topic 'Big Wide World'. This project teaches the children about the global community to which they belong and explores how living things, communities and climate differ around the world. The children will use their knowledge from 'Animal Safari' to support their learning in this topic.*

*As we progress through the spring term we will be looking at the topic 'Starry Night'. This topic explores the difference in the world at night compared to the day. It teaches children about the importance of a good night's sleep, and helps them to discover what is happening in the world while they are sleeping, including finding out about nocturnal animals.*

*The last topic we will be looking at in the spring term is 'Signs of Spring'. This project teaches the children about the changes that happen during the spring, including weather and the festivals that are celebrated at this time of year.*

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## RE & PSHE



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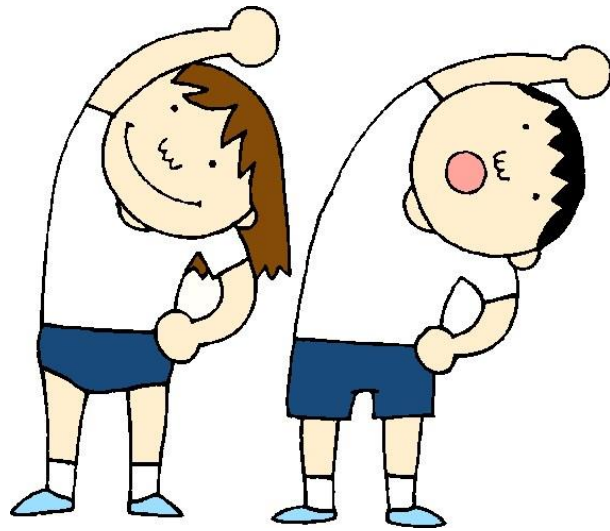
*In PSHE the children will learn dreams and goals; within this topic the children will learn about challenges, not giving up, setting and achieving goals and supporting each other.*

*The children will also be learning about being healthy; within this topic the children will learn about our body, moving our body, food including healthy and unhealthy and keeping clean.*

*In RE, for the first half term, the children will be looking at the topic "How do people celebrate?" They will be exploring how New Year is celebrated in different countries and learning about the festival of Holi. In the second half of the term, the children will be looking at the topic "What is Easter?" and will be exploring how the Christian festival is celebrated.*

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## PE



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*PE is on a **Monday** and **Friday**. The children will be developing their use of space and using resources in different ways.*

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- *The children will also be able to use equipment in the outside area.*
  - *PE kit should be in school all week (it will be sent home each half term).*
    - *Long hair needs to be tied up*
    - *All earrings need to be removed or covered with tape.*
  - *Please ensure that the children have appropriate clothing for the weather.*
  - *All PE kit needs to be clearly labelled and please encourage the children to develop independence by practise getting changed by themselves.*
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## Homework



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### *Reading*

*Children should be reading their Monster Phonics books at home as often as possible.  
Reading for 5 minutes everyday is often better than reading once for longer.*

*It is also important to share stories from picture books everyday.*

### *Home Learning Challenges*

*On a **Monday** a selection of activities will be uploaded to the VLE. These activities are for you to do at home if you wish to. These will be linked to the learning in class.*

*We will look at these if they are brought into school.*

### *Weekly Advanced Organiser*

*Please use this to support you in talking to your child about what they might have been learning at school. This will enable them to show you what they know and to extend and embed their learning. These organisers will be placed onto the VLE every Monday.*

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## Recommended reading



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*Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne*

*The Empty Poy by Demi*

*The Way Back Home by Oliver Jeffers*

*What ever next by Jill Murphy*

*The Teeny Weeny Tadpole by Sheridan Cain and Jack Tickle*

*How to Catch a Star by Oliver Jeffers*

*Whatever Next! By Jill Murphy*

*All Are Welcome by Alexandra Penfold.*

*Our World: A First Book of Geography by Sue Lowell Gallion*

*The Koala Who Could by Rachel Bright*

*Walking Through the Jungle by Julie Lacome*

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## Websites to support learning



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### *Learning Resources*

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zks4kmn>

### *Speech and Language*

<https://www.icancharity.org.uk/>

### *Maths*

<https://earlymaths.org/maths-postcards-for-families>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>

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## Equipment



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*The children should bring in a named water bottle in every day. If they have a packed lunch they should have a separate drink in their lunch box.*

*The children should bring a named coat in each day, the children will be spending time outside throughout the day.*

*All items of clothing should be clearly labelled.*

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