

GreatOuse PRIMARY ACADEMY

Parent Newsletter

Headteacher Update

It has been a very busy and positive start to the new academic year, and it has been wonderful to see the children settle so quickly into their new classes and year groups. The school has been filled with enthusiasm, confidence and excitement as pupils have embraced new routines, challenges and opportunities for learning.

We would also like to extend a particularly warm welcome to the new children and families who have joined our school this year. It has been lovely to see new friendships already forming and our newest pupils becoming such valued members of our school community.

Alongside their classroom learning, our children have already enjoyed a wide range of enriching experiences this half term. These have included a fantastic string concert, participation in a Paralympic event, and an inspiring visit to Bletchley Park for our Year 5 and 6 pupils. A big thank you to al the parents and carers who attended our recent school trips as volunteer helpers, without you we are not able to run these enrichment opportunities. Children in Years 2 and 5 have also taken part in engaging CO_2 workshops, helping to deepen their understanding of environmental issues in an interactive and memorable way.

Another highlight of the term was welcoming our local MP to school. He led an assembly for the children, sharing insights into his role and answering thoughtful questions from our pupils, who represented the school exceptionally well.

We are incredibly proud of how our children have approached the start of the year and would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support. We look forward to another exciting and successful half term ahead.

Please can I remind all families that if you have any concerns, questions or queries that you direct these to school. You can do this either by speaking to a member of the Senior Leadership Team on the gate in the mornings, or by speaking to your childs teacher at the end of the day. If you require to meet more formally please can I request that you contact the school office by emailing admin@greatouse.academy

Meridian Trust

Year 5 and 6 Visit to Bletchley Park

As part of their History learning on World War II, Year 5 and 6 enjoyed an exciting educational visit to Bletchley Park. The children travelled by train, making the experience even more memorable! During the visit, they took part in an Enigma code-breaking workshop, where they worked hard to decipher secret messages just as codebreakers did during the war.

They dressed up in period costumes and explored the fascinating grounds, including the historic huts, offices and rooms where important wartime work took place. The children also watched a short film about D-Day, helping to bring their classroom learning to life. This fantastic experience gave them a deeper understanding of World War II







Thursday 22nd October	Last day of Half Term
Friday 23rd October	School Closed
Monday 2nd November	Training day no school
Tuesday 3rd November	First day back after half term
Wednesday 18th November	Bookfair arrives at school until the 24th November
Friday 18th December	Last day of Autumn term

Key Dates

Great Ouse Instagram

https://www.instagram.com/greatouseprimary/

Our Instagram page keeps growing if you haven't checked us out yet please do: **@greatouseprimary** give us a follow and keep up to date with photos, job opportunities and all Great Ouse news.

Parking and driving to school

As the weather deteriorates we are expecting more families opting to drive to school, please can I request that you do not park in residents parking spaces or block driveways. It is essential that you do not park on paths or block access to and from the school site. Please drive carefully and consideratley to protect road users and those walking, scooting or biking to school.

We are working in collaboration with our local MP and the Local Authority to resolve some of the highway issues we are experiencing. Safety for our families is paramount.

Early Years Updates

We are incredibly proud of how well the Reception children have settled into school life this term. They have embraced their new learning environment with enthusiasm and confidence, making new friends, learning the daily routines and working hard to develop a range of new skills.



As part of their learning, the children have been exploring the season of Autumn, noticing and investigating the changes taking place in the world around them. They have enjoyed a variety of stories, including The Little Red Hen. The children were able to recall key parts of the story and thoroughly enjoyed making their own bread, bringing the story to life through hands-on learning.

It has been wonderful to see their confidence, resilience and enthusiasm grow throughout their first weeks in Reception, and we look forward to seeing all they achieve as the year progresses.

Key Stage 1 Updates

In Year 1 and Year 2, we have been learning about the United Kingdom in Geography . In Science, we have been learning about living things and their habitats. In Music, the children have been learning about rehearsing and performing. In English we have explored different texts including, Stanley's stick, Paddington and If your monster won't go to bed. They have learnt to write expanded kernel sentences and how to write instructions using imperative verbs. In Art, the children have enjoyed creating different spirals based on the artist Molly Haslund.



Key Stage 2 Updates

This term in Year 3 and 4, we have been learning about the Romans. We explored what it was like to be a Roman soldier and discovered what everyday life was like in a Roman city. In Science, we learned about the human body and how it works, including the importance of brushing our teeth and the journey food takes through the digestive system. In Worldviews, we explored the concept of pilgrimage and learned why pilgrimages are important in different religions.



This term in year 5 and 6, we have been learning about how World War II affected Britain and its impact on people's lives. Our learning has linked History, Worldviews and English, where we have written newspaper articles and diary entries inspired by I Spy: The Bletchley Park Mystery. In Science, we have explored electricity by creating circuits and carrying out investigations. A highlight of the term was our trip to Bletchley Park, travelling by train and bringing our learning to life. It was a great day enjoyed by all!

October 2026
No. 13

Great Ouse Primary Academy

Pre-School Newsletter

Welcome!

Hello and welcome to our Pre-School newsletter! We hope you enjoy reading and seeing some of what we have all been doing recently.

Important dates!

Friday 23nd October- school closed
Monday 26th October- Friday 30th October - half term







Safety tips



Firework night safety

Halloween



Reminders

1

Please don't forget to check your childs Tapestry account. If you need help accessing this, please ask a member of staff.

2

A reminder that all children who attend Pre-School for all day sessions should have a snack from home for the afternoon.

3

The Pre-School gate opens at 8:30am and closes at 8:50am. Pick up time is 3:20pm.

What have we been doing?

We're so happy to say that our Pre-Schoolers have settled in really well this term! It's been lovely to see them coming in with big smiles, getting stuck into activities, and making new friends. We've played games, sung songs, and had some lovely chats about the special people in our lives as we all get to know each other. It's been wonderful to see everyone getting involved and enjoying their time together.

Our rhyme times have been a particular favourite this half term. We have enjoyed singing 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive, Round and Round the Garden and Incy Wincy Spider. The children have loved joining in with the actions, developing their listening skills and building confidence through familiar rhymes.



We have also spent time exploring feelings and emotions through our focus story, Bea's Bad Day by Tom Percival, which helped us think about how we feel and how others might feel in different situations. The children used mirrors to make different facial expressions, painted happy and sad faces, and listened to a variety of music to explore how sounds can make us feel.

As the seasons begin to change, we have had a big focus on autumn. The children enjoyed building gutter runs and watching conkers roll down, experimenting with how to make them travel faster and further. We also used conkers in our creative area to paint beautiful autumn pictures and practised our fine motor skills by scooping conkers from water using a range of tools. These activities supported problem-solving, creativity and hand-eye coordination while allowing us to explore the natural changes happening around us.

It has been a fantastic half term full of learning, laughter and discovery. We are very proud of all the children and look forward to seeing what adventures next half term will bring!







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