



Northchapel Primary School

growing kind and curious children who aspire to succeed

Caterpillar Class



Spring term 2026

Staff Team

Mrs Moore & Mrs Lintott

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to all the children of Caterpillar Class and their families. We hope you all had a good holiday season and are rested and reenergised for the spring term. Our Year 1 topic this half term is 'Emergency Services', and we will be spending time learning about the 4 emergency services through books and role play as well as conversations about how to stay safe, and what to do in the event of an emergency. In the latter half of the term, we will be 'Dressing-Up', building on our existing knowledge and performance skills. Please see our year group specific 'Topic Overviews' for more information.

Communication

- Children will use subject folders and floor-books and Tapestry to share their learning.
- We will also keep you updated with photos and information in the Monday Messenger each week.

Meetings

- Parents evenings will be held towards the latter half of this term, to discuss your child's progress.
- If you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing or learning before then, please email nmoore@northchapelprimary.co.uk. These emails will be checked daily during working hours.
- Longer discussions can be arranged for a mutually convenient date after school if needed.
- Emails will be checked daily during working hours.

Absence & Attendance

- Urgent matters such as same-day absences or changes to collection, should be directed to the school office on: office@northchapelprimary.co.uk.
- For planned absences (e.g., medical appointments), please complete a request form from the office.

Behaviour & Parent Communication

- Blue Forms are used for minor incidents (illness, first aid, and small behaviour issues).
- Emails will be sent for more significant incidents or when restorative work is needed.
- If behaviours are repeated, we will invite you to discuss how we can support your child.
- MCAS is used to log behaviour incidents centrally.
- Email will also continue to be used for class information such as homework grids and topic overviews.

Home reading

We are looking forward to our 'Parent Phonics Workshop' on **Thursday 29th January** (2pm for Reception and 2:30pm for Year 1).

It is lovely to see so many children in Caterpillar Class being so excited to read in class, and a huge thank you to the families who are continuing to strengthen this passion at home too, reading really is the gateway to learning and we really appreciate your ongoing support of your child's reading journey.

A reminder that, in order to minimise disruption to lesson time, books will ONLY be changed on Mondays and Thursdays. If you have any queries regarding the reading level your child has been given, please write comments in their reading diary.

If you feel your child would like to do additional reading beyond that set out above, you can find additional e-books to read here: <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/free-ebooks/>

Phonic sounds and key words

A reminder that your child has their own (free) account for Teach Your Monster to Read. Their log in details are inside the cover of their reading records. Please refer to the information letter regarding this before the Christmas break.

Reception

In Reception, we will continue to send home phonics sound cards and matching pictures for each new sound they have been learning, as well as tricky (or non-decodable) words for the phase they are working in, which they need to be able to read on sight, and then write. Please practise these with your child for a few minutes each night. You can use the space in the yellow phonics books to practise or record what your child has been practicing at home. These cards will accumulate as we add new sounds through the year.

Year 1

Children will continue to have daily phonics sessions and will be sent home spellings each week. Please practise spelling and writing these at home, using rainbow colours, in chalk or water on the patio, using a finger in a tray of flour or rice, or making the letters using playdough, the more fun the better! Children will be assessed on their home spellings the week after they have been taught and sent home. Please keep an eye out for screening practice packs with real and nonsense words for children to practice decoding and blending (reading). We will draw attention to these through our weekly newsletter sections.

Water bottles

Please ensure your child has a named water bottle in school every day.

Home items

Please can all toys and trinkets, and belongings not compulsory over the school day, be kept at home and not brought in to school now we are in our second term. Thank you.

Covering all weathers

We will be playing outside every day! As the spring term is subject to variable, chilly weather, please ensure your child has a pair of wellies which they keep at school, a WARM waterproof coat, and a school jumper. If your child gets cold through the day, an additional thermal layer or top should be worn underneath their full school uniform, which they should be in every day.

Forest School & Swimming

Will not be taking place this term for Caterpillar Class. Watch this space for the summer term!

PE

Will take place led by Miss Whit, supported by Mrs Lintott on **Thursday afternoons**. Please can your child wear their PE kit to school on this day.

Sharing Assemblies

These whole school assemblies are held on *some* Friday mornings at 9am and parents will be invited in to share our learning. Please check our newsletter and school calendar on the website for details.

We are very much looking forward to working in partnership with you and your children.

Mrs Nikki Moore
Class Teacher