



Chevening St Botolphs Class R



Date: 12/9/25

Theme: Getting to know you

This week:

All About Me

We've really enjoyed sharing our *Me Bags* with one another during snack time this week. It's been a lovely opportunity to listen carefully, celebrate our uniqueness, and explore the similarities and differences between ourselves and our friends.



VIP time

We've had a fantastic time exploring both the classroom and outdoor areas during our VIP sessions! The balance bikes and stage have been especially popular. We've seen budding pop groups forming and even bus stops being created for those waiting their turn on the bikes. The creativity and enthusiasm have been wonderful to see! We've also begun crafting in the *junk modelling* area, so expect some amazing creations coming your way soon. If you'd like to contribute, we'd love donations of clean, washed containers or other recyclable materials from home to keep the creativity flowing.



Lunchtime

We've embraced our new lunchtime routine with confidence and ease! The children have enjoyed meeting our friendly lunchtime supervisor, Mrs Samways, and settling into their new dining experience. If staff feel that your child isn't eating enough to sustain their energy throughout the day, we will be in touch. Otherwise, you can assume they're eating well and enjoying their meals.



Colour monster

This week, we've enjoyed sharing the story *The Colour Monster*. This lovely book helped us explore different emotions and reflect on how we felt when starting school. The children made thoughtful connections between the Colour Monster's feelings and their own experiences. We've also begun learning about the *Zones of Regulation*, a helpful tool for understanding our emotions and discovering ways to calm ourselves when needed. It's been a great start to building emotional awareness and self-regulation skills.



Year 6 Buddies

We've really enjoyed a couple of lovely play dates with the Year 6s this week. The children are beginning to pair off a little and form some budding friendships, which has been lovely to see. Just to clarify, our official buddies have not yet been decided, in case you hear otherwise. We'll let you know once they've been confirmed!

Play dough:



Thank you for all the play dough tubs we have received. We will start our 'Dough Disco' sessions next week so please send in a tub if you haven't done so already.

Learning Journal

Your child will have received their yellow learning journal today. Every week I will add a task for them to complete at home and return to school on Wednesday.

This week, I would like you to:

Decorate the cover of your new Learning Journal. You may add stickers, glitter, photos and drawings. Remember to add your name so we know who it belongs to. To help prevent wear and tear, it would be useful to cover these in sticky back plastic once they are decorated.

Reminders:

- If your child accidentally brings home any school property, we would appreciate it if it was returned the next day. They often put items in their pockets and forget they are there!
- Please ensure your child brings a water bottle and waterproof coat to school **every day**.
- Please remember to bring in Wellies.
- We're still missing a few family photos, and it would be lovely to complete our class collection. The photos we've received so far have made a beautiful display in the classroom, and the children are really enjoying talking about their families and sharing stories. If you haven't sent one in yet, we'd love to add yours to the wall!
- We are also missing a couple of paper plate faces.

Forest School

We're excited to be taking part in Forest School sessions, which offer a wonderful opportunity for children to learn and grow in a natural outdoor environment. Here are just a few of the many benefits:

- **Boosts Confidence and Independence:** Children are encouraged to take risks, solve problems, and make decisions, helping them build self-esteem and resilience.
- **Supports Emotional Wellbeing:** Being in nature has a calming effect and helps children regulate their emotions. It also promotes mindfulness and reduces stress.
- **Encourages Teamwork and Communication:** Activities often involve working together, which helps develop social skills and positive relationships.
- **Enhances Physical Development:** Climbing, balancing, and exploring help improve coordination, strength, and overall physical health.
- **Fosters Curiosity and Creativity:** Forest School nurtures a love of learning through hands-on experiences, imaginative play, and exploration.
- **Connects Children with Nature:** Spending time outdoors helps children develop a deeper appreciation for the environment and the world around them.

Please let me know if you are available to help with Forest School sessions. You will need a Chevening DBS. The sessions will be every **Thursday from 1pm, starting in a couple of weeks.**