



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy



Starting Reception at Great Barford Primary
Academy

**‘Growing together through
learning, friendship and
worship’**

Great Barford CE Academy’s school motto



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Meet the team ...

Mrs Allen
Class Teacher



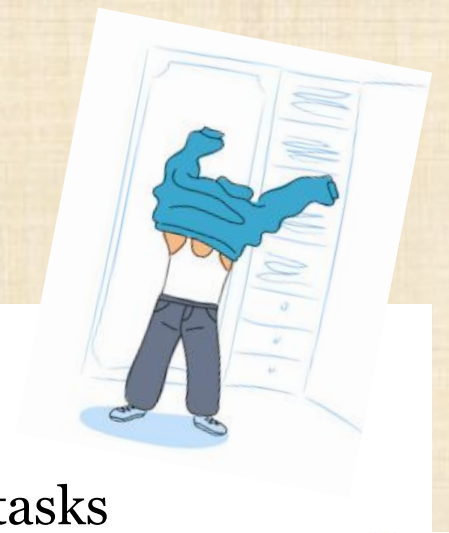
Mrs Cuccurullo
Higher Level
Teaching Assistant



"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Preparing for school



- **Independence** - Encourage independence in day-to-day tasks
(listening, tidying up their toys, toileting, getting dressed,
using cutlery, doing coat up, blowing nose, handwashing...)
- **Interaction** - Talk positively about starting school, say teacher's names
- **Imagination** - Reading daily



PLAY, CHAT, READ...





Uniform and Equipment

- **Uniform/coat/shoes** - *easy* for your child to put on and take off.
- **PE kit** - black shorts or tracksuit bottoms, t shirt in your child's team colour, black trainers and spare socks all in drawstring bag (not a backpack)
- Small **water bottle** (not screw top)
- **Book-bag**
- Pair of **wellies**/spare **set clothes** to leave at school.



[Great Barford Academy
\(pbuniform-online.co.uk\)](http://pbuniform-online.co.uk)

*** Please name
Everything! ***





Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

A Typical Day as a Dove



Arrive at school with
your book bag, water
bottle (**water only**)
and coat/sun hat.
Bike and scooters.



Put your book bag
in your drawer No
keyrings please.



Hang your coat
on your peg.



Put your water bottle
in your colour tray.



Add your name
And photo to the
self registration
board.



Puzzle
time.

"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



A Typical Day as a Dove



Continuous
Provision



Phonics
before
lunch



Lunchtime



Maths



Continuous
Provision



Story
&
Home

"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Continuous Provision

Our indoor and outdoor provision is designed to enhance and develop all children's learning; Our learning is child initiated. We follow their interests and further their knowledge, in a stimulating, inviting and well-resourced environment.

We focus on Personal, Social and Emotional Development targeting Independence, Listening Skills, Building Resilience and Self Confidence through a carefully planned provision and scaffolding from experienced staff.

Playing and Exploring

- Finding out and exploring
- Using what they know in their play
- Being willing to have a go

Active Learning

- Being involved and concentrating
- Keep on trying
- Enjoying what they set out to do

Creating and Thinking Critically

- Having their own ideas
- Using what they know to learn new things
- Choosing ways to do things

"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy



I'm sorry I got messy today but..

I've been exploring the water and learning about emptying, filling and pouring. Sometimes I might spill a little bit - the muscles in my hands are still developing.

There was flour in our messy area today. I was so interested in how it would make clouds if I threw a little into the air.

I loved the texture of the playdough, but I rested my arm on a little bit as I reached across the table. I didn't realise it would stick to my sleeve!

I was learning about what happens if I mix two colours together.. It's messy work, but the green paint on my jumper comes from the blue and yellow that I mixed!

This mark is from a pen. I'm trying really hard to learn to hold the pen and make marks on the paper.

The mud kitchen is very dirty, but it's so much fun! Playing there helps me develop my imagination and explore my understanding of the world. I watched you cook at home and I wanted to try by myself.



Early
Childhood
and Family
Service



"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Story Kingdom and Block Play



"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Cooking, Playdough, Clay

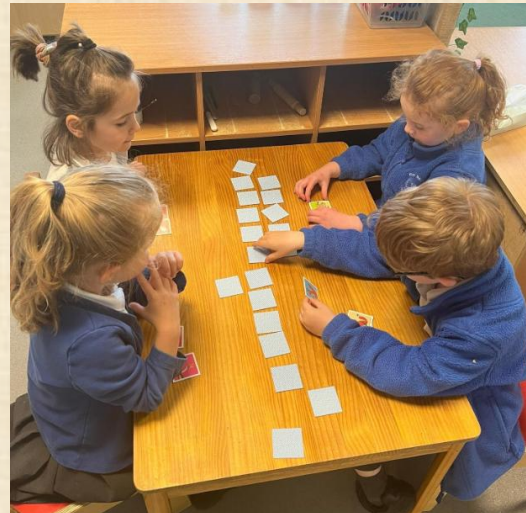
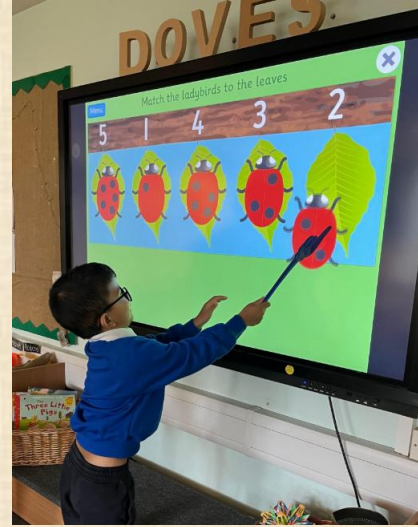
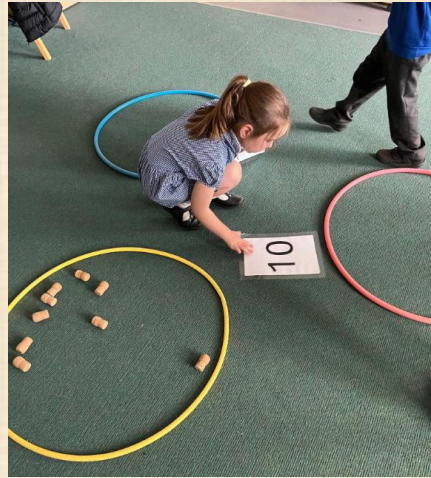


"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Maths, Games, Puzzles



"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Painting, Drawing, and Writing

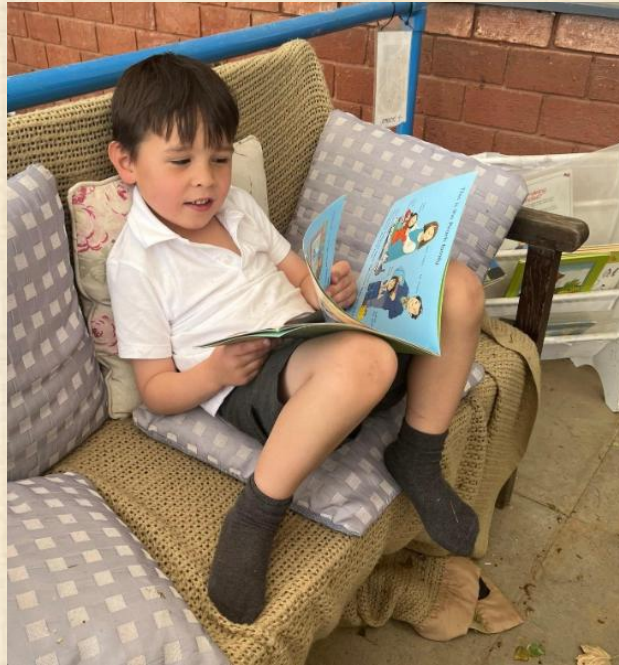


"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Reading



"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Outdoor Learning



"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Outdoor Learning

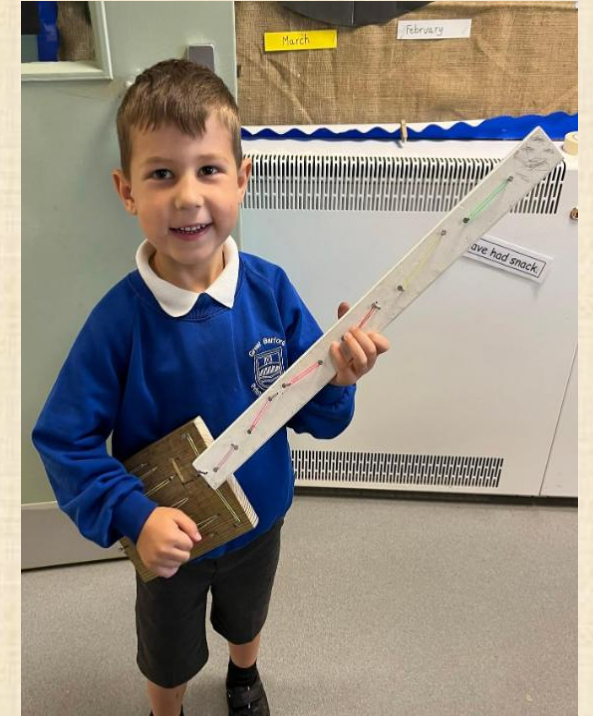
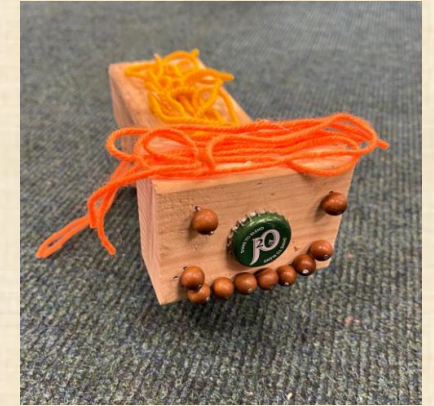


"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Woodwork



"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy



"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Parent Partnership



Your junk is our treasure!

"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Birthdays



In Doves we love to celebrate birthdays and to do this, if your child would like to bring in self raising flour, sugar, eggs and soft baking margarine, we will happily help them to bake their own birthday cake to share with their friends.

(Please bring ingredients in a few days before their birthday)



"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Arbor and Swift Kitchen



We use Arbor for all online payments for trips and breakfast/after school club and for booking breakfast/after school club.

All hot school lunches are free to Reception children. These are booked on Swift Kitchen and can be booked anything from the day before to a half term in advance. Meals **must** be ordered and checked out even though they are free and they **must** be booked before 8am on the day they are required, if they're not, packed lunch will need to be provided from home.

Login details will be sent to you for both Arbor and Swift Kitchen after registration packs are returned.

"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Communication

Who do I speak to if I am worried or have a concern?

If at any time you have concerns or queries, please catch Mrs Allen at the end of the day or email the school office at admin@gbpa.org.uk to arrange a mutually convenient date and time to meet.

How can I find out what is going on at school?

- ❖ School website, www.gbpa.org.uk
- ❖ Half Termly Curriculum letters
- ❖ Class notice boards
- ❖ ClassDojo
- ❖ FRIENDS Facebook Page





Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Pick up arrangements ...



- **On the registration form please record a password.**
- **Give the password to anyone who is collecting your child.**
- **Inform the teacher or email the school office of a change of pick up.**
- **Don't be offended if we call you to check!**

"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



Absent email address

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, it is important that you email attendance@gbpa.org.uk with the following information before 09.30am

- *Your child's name and class.*
- *Reason for absence.*
- *When you expect your child to return.*

If your child continues to be absent, please email.



Medicine
All medicine
including inhalers
to be handed in via
the office.



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

What is Next

Monday 22nd June 2026

3.30pm – 4.30pm Stay and Play

Children and parents 'Stay and Play' in Doves

Please remember to bring All About Me sheets for the team.

Thursday 25th June 2026

09.15am – 10.30am Children to visit the classroom.

Children Only

6th - 8th July 2026

Practitioner Transition Chats

(Booking available today,
Parents only please)

***If your child attends another setting a practitioner will contact the setting
for a handover meeting.***

"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."



First Week in September

Date	Start Time	Finish Time	Other Information
Tuesday 1st September	Staff Training Day		
Wednesday 2nd September	An allocated start time between 08.45 and 10.30am	11.45am	No Lunch
Thursday 3rd September	8.45am	11.45am	No Lunch
Friday 4th September	8.45am	12.45pm	Stay for Lunch
Monday 7th September	8.45am	3.15pm	First Full Day



Great Barford
Church of England
Primary Academy

Term dates 2026 – 2027

Autumn Term

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

26th October – 30th October 2026

Monday 2nd November 2026

Friday 18th December 2026

Staff INSET Day

Term Begins

Half-term Holiday

Staff INSET Day

Last day of term

Spring Term

Monday 4th January 2027

15th – 19th February 2027

Monday 22nd February 2027

Thursday 25th March 2027

Term Begins

Half-term Holiday

Staff INSET Day

Last day of term

Summer Term

Monday 12th April 2027

Monday 3rd May 2027

31st May – 4th June 2027

Monday 19th July 2027

Tuesday 20th July 2027

Wednesday 21st July 2027

Term Begins

May Day Bank Holiday

Half-term Holiday

Last day of term

Staff INSET Day

Staff INSET Day

"Growing together through learning, friendship and worship."