



Chestnut Newsletter Autumn Term 2024

Welcome back! We hope you have all had an amazing summer break and are feeling well-rested and ready to start our new year. We are so excited to begin our school year in Chestnut, and to work with your lovely children. In this newsletter, you will find information about what we will be covering during the Autumn Term and some useful information for the school year.

Our topics for this term are:

'Childhood', 'Funny Faces and Fabulous Features' and 'Our Wonderful World'.

We will start the year by making sure the children have a smooth transition from Year 1 or Year 2 into their new year group. We will use this time to allow the children to get used to their new environment and to build friendships with their new classmates, as well as strengthen those already in place.

Our 'Childhood' topic will form the overarching theme for Autumn Term. We will learn all about what life was like in the 1950s and compare it to life today. We will look at food, houses, way of life and toys. We will also closely look at the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The children will look at simple family trees and begin to create their own.

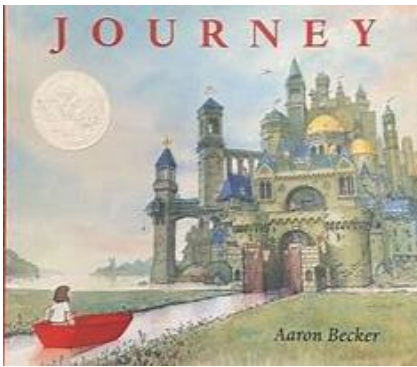


Phonics and Spelling

Year 2 children from both classes will work together to consolidate Phase 5 phonics and begin Phase 6. Year 3 children will all work to consolidate Phase 6 and to learn Year 3 spelling rules. The spelling rules children focus on during these sessions will be sent home to learn as homework, each week.

English

To begin the year, we will be placing a lot of focus on handwriting, grammar and punctuation. Our first half term will be spent working on these essential skills, which underpin the whole English curriculum. We endeavour to use the children's interests to inspire our English curriculum, where possible, and use lots of wonderful texts to spark their imagination and creativity. Once children are confidently using punctuation and grammar for their age range, we will begin to focus on a wide range of rich texts, beginning with 'Journey' by Aaron Becker. We will work on prediction skills, character description and setting description. The children will develop their skills of using a wide range of



sentences and will begin to use co-ordination, (and, or, but for Year 2) (when, before, after, while, so, because for Year 3) to join clauses.

Maths

In maths, we will begin the year by exploring place value. This involves counting, writing and ordering numbers correctly. Year 2 will explore numbers to 100 and Year 3's focus will be on the place value of 3-digit numbers up to 1000. We will then move on to addition and subtraction, using concrete resources, and pictorial images, to support us in our understanding of this. Year 2 will add and subtract two digit numbers, crossing tens. Year 3 will add and subtract a two-digit number from a 3-digit number. There will be lots of focus on children learning their number bonds and times tables this year. As the children move through school, this becomes increasingly important. By the end of the year, Year 2 children should know the 2, 5, 10 and 3 times tables, as well as related division facts. Year 3 children should know the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables, as well as related division facts.

Science

Our Science topics for this half term include 'Humans and Health', and 'Materials and Rocks'. In 'Humans and Health', children will learn all about the food groups humans need to thrive as well as learning about the human skeletal and muscular system. In 'Materials and Rocks', different types of rock and how fossils are formed.



Homework

We use the Seesaw App to issue our weekly homework tasks. Homework will be uploaded to Seesaw on a Friday and should be completed, and submitted for marking, by the following Thursday. All children's SeeSaw log in details have been printed and attached to their reading records. If you require any further support to access SeeSaw, please do not hesitate to ask.

Your child will also be given a weekly spelling list to learn, which they should practise at home. These spelling words will be a mixture of tricky words and words they are learning to spell in school. Spellings will be sent home via SeeSaw and on EdShed.

All homework and spellings will be available in the classroom, should children prefer a paper copy. It is the responsibility of the child to pick up a paper copy, should this be how they prefer to complete their homework.

Reading and Reading Records

Kirklevington Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

Your child has been issued with a Reading Record and this will be used to log your child's reading progress throughout the year. They will be expected to bring home their reading book, each day, and books will be changed on a Monday and Thursday. Please leave a comment in your child's Reading Record, when you have listened to them read at home. When your child's reading record has been signed 6 times, your child can 'spin the wheel' in class as a reward.

Year 2 SATs

There will be no Year 2 SATs this year.

PE and Forest School

In Birch, our PE lessons this half term will be on a **Tuesday** afternoon and run by a specialist PE teacher from Conyers. Although, the day for P.E. will unfortunately have to change soon due to difficulties out of our control. As soon as we know the change of day, we will make parents and carers aware. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Children should come to school on P.E. and Forest School days in their outdoor P.E. kit. They should wear a **sweatshirt/hoodie, t-shirt, jogging bottoms or shorts and trainers**. No jewellery (especially earrings) or football kits, please. Children with long hair must tie hair in a bobble prior to PE lessons. **All pupils should have a water bottle in school every day**. As well as this, we will be participating in the Daily Mile, so your child is welcome to keep some trainers in school (in a bag on their peg).

Our Forest School sessions will be on a Wednesday afternoon. Please make sure your children are dressed appropriately for the weather as it does get very cold towards the end of the half term. Please make sure they also have their wellington boots ready should it be wet or muddy.

We are thoroughly looking forward to working with your children and, as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Harris

Miss Waller