

Welcome back to the new school year, we hope you have had a restful and enjoyable summer holiday.

Autumn Term 2025 in Chestnut Class from Mrs Diwan.

I hope you have had a great summer holiday and that the children are refreshed and ready for their new school year.

Mrs Diwan will be teaching Chestnut Class Monday-Friday and Mrs Duff will teach the class on Monday afternoons. Mrs Taylor will support the class on some afternoons during the week.

For the first half term Chestnut Class will be in the forest every Wednesday afternoon. They will have PE on Friday afternoons with the sports coach.

During the second half term Chestnut Class will be taught by Mrs Hammond on a Wednesday afternoon. They will need their PE kits on both Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

I look forward to working with the children and yourselves this term.

Thank you for your continued support.

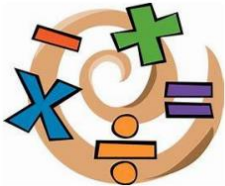
Take a look at the 'Latest News' tab on the school website and the school's Facebook page to see regular updates of what Chestnut Class have been learning this term.

Reading remains a high priority, both in school and at home. Our class reader this term is **'Beyond the Sky'** by Dara Ó Briain. As well as our class book, the children will experience quality books from our reading spine (which can be found on our school website). Children will continue to bring home a book from our reading scheme or a free reader book, plus a choice of their own book from the library.

Children should read at home a minimum of 3 times a week. Answering questions and talking about the book is as important as reading the words. Please make sure reading at home is recorded in their reading records as this counts towards our whole school 'Reading Challenge'. We encourage wider reading too, e.g. comics, newspapers, non-fiction, recipes and books from home. We want to foster a love of reading!

Please remember that spelling patterns taught each week in class can be practised on Spelling Frame and that tests will typically be on a Friday morning.

Maths homework is given out on a Monday and is due back in on the following Monday. Please practise times tables at home each week too. Some good websites to use are www.timestables.co.uk and www.topmarks.co.uk. Hit the Button is a particularly good game on the first website. Children will have already brought home this term's KIRFs on paper, these are also available on the school website alongside the knowledge organisers for this term's topics

English	Maths
<p>Reading is taught with the 3 big ideas of fluency, comprehension and pleasure.</p> <p>Our guided reading focus for the first half term will be 'Exploring Space from Galileo to the Mars Rover and beyond' by Martin Jenkins. During the second half term our focus will be 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman.</p> <p>Writing is taught with the three big ideas of composition, communication and ambition.</p> <p>English, including guided reading, writing, spelling and punctuation and grammar, is taught through a range of different genres and texts throughout the year. We use a five-step approach of: plan it, draft it, revise it, edit it and publish it. This allows the children to see that writing is a process and we can support them through each stage to reflect the features expected in the different genres of writing.</p> <p>We will begin this term with a large focus on grammar and punctuation. This will be an important base for all of our writing over the course of the year. Later in the term we will be writing a range of different genres, linking to our topics in other subjects where possible.</p> <p>Alongside this, we will continue to work on our reading skills, spelling pattern knowledge and our presentation/ handwriting.</p>	<p>Maths is taught within the three big ideas of fluency, problem solving and reasoning.</p> <p>In Years 5 and 6 this term our areas of study will be:</p> <p>Place value</p> <p>Addition and subtraction</p> <p>Multiplication and division</p> <p>Fractions</p> <p>Alongside this, we will be learning and practising our times tables and key instant recall facts (KIRFs).</p> 
Science	History/Geography
<p>Science is taught within the three big ideas of curiosity, investigation and explanation.</p> <p>Autumn 1: Earth and Space.</p> <p>The children will learn about the planets of the solar system, investigate the distance from the sun of each planet, explain the Earth's movement in space and understand the different moon phases.</p> <p>Autumn 2: Life Cycles.</p> <p>The children will learn about the different stages of a human's life cycle, explore the gestation periods of different mammals, investigate the hand spans of children at different ages and explain the changes that take place during both puberty and old age.</p>	<p>History is taught within the three big ideas of chronology, equality and change.</p> <p>Autumn 1: The Maya Civilisation</p> <p>Why should we remember the Maya?</p> <p>Geography is taught within the three big ideas of location, diversity and environment.</p> <p>Autumn 2: South America- The Amazon</p> <p>How is life lived in the Amazon?</p>

Art/DT	Computing
<p>Art is taught through the three big ideas of inspiration, experimentation and Expression.</p> <p>Autumn 1: Art - Painting</p> <p>The children will focus on their use of colour through studying the work of André Derain and Chris Ofili. They will compare figurative and abstract art.</p> <p>Autumn 2: DT - Stable structures</p> <p>The children will explore the design of stable bridges. They will design and construct their own bridge.</p>	<p>Computing is taught through the three big ideas of coding, communication and e-safety.</p> <p>Autumn 1: Communication and collaboration.</p> <p>The children will explore how data is transferred over the internet.</p> <p>Autumn 2: Flat File databases.</p> <p>The children will learn how a flat-file database can be used to organise data in records.</p>
Music	R.E.
<p>Music is taught within the three big ideas of appraisal, practice and performance.</p> <p>Children will listen to and appraise a selection of sea shanties. They will learn about maintaining a rhythm through a song and how chords are played.</p>	<p>R.E. is taught within the three big ideas of faith, understanding and acceptance.</p> <p>Big question - Why are there so many different ideas about God?</p> <p>Autumn 1: Christianity How do Christians show their belief that Jesus is God incarnate?</p> <p>Autumn 2: Hinduism How do questions about Brahman and Atman influence the way a Hindu lives?</p>

French	P.S.H.E
<p>French is taught within the three big ideas of culture, understanding and fluency.</p> <p>In French this term, we will be learning about 'Ici et là'. The children will learn about the different places you can visit in a town, how to describe each of these places and to explain which of these places they would like to visit and why.</p>	<p>PSHE is taught within the three big ideas of responsibility, choice and identity.</p> <p>Relationships: Children will learn how to identify healthy and unhealthy relationships, discuss friendship and bullying and to understand the importance of and how to respect differing opinions. They will also explore visual differences as well as the importance of giving or not giving consent in different situations.</p>

A few reminders...

Water Bottles and Snacks

We encourage children to have a plastic water bottle on their tables (with a non-spill lid). Bottles will be taken home at the end of each day to be washed and refilled. Squash and juice are only allowed at lunchtimes. Fruit is not provided for children in Key Stage Two, your child can bring in a piece of fruit or vegetable from home for a snack to be eaten at morning break.

We are here to help!

If you have any concerns, worries or questions please do not hesitate to contact us as soon as these arise. The best way to do this is to speak to the teacher in person at the end of the school day. If this is not possible, or you need to make contact at any other time, please call/email the main office or the teacher directly and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.