



Spring Term 2026 in Chestnut Class from Mrs Diwan

Welcome back!

I hope you have had a fun and restful Christmas break and that the children are refreshed and ready for their new learning in school.

Whilst recovering, Mrs Diwan will teach Chestnut Class every morning. The children will be taught by either Mrs Plowman or Mrs Duff in the afternoon.

Once recovered, Mrs Diwan will teach Chestnut Class Monday-Friday. Mrs Duff will be teaching the class on a Monday afternoon.

Chestnut Class will continue to attend Forest School on Wednesday afternoons with Mrs Hammond and have PE on Friday afternoons with the sports coach.

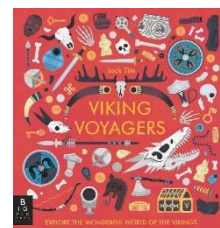
I look forward to working with the children and yourselves again this term. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Diwan

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: **Viking Voyagers by Jack Tite.**

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, plus a choice of their own book from the library.

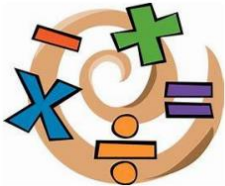


Children should read at home a minimum of 3 times a week. Answering questions and talking about the book is as important as reading the words. Please make sure reading at home is recorded in their reading records as this counts towards our whole school 'Reading Challenge'. We encourage wider reading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

Spelling patterns taught each week in class can be practised on Spelling Frame <https://spellingframe.co.uk/> Spelling tests remain on a Friday morning.

Maths homework will continue to be 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.

Knowledge organisers for this term's topics are available on the Chestnut Class page.

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 'A story like the wind' by Gill Lewis . During the second half term our focus will be 'The Savage' by David Almond.</p> <p>Writing is taught with the three big ideas of composition, communication and ambition.</p> <p>We will be writing setting descriptions based on the text 'Dracula' and non-chronological report that links to a class topic.</p> <p>Alongside this, we will continue to work on our 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>Multiplication and Division</p> <p>Fractions, decimals and percentages</p> <p>Area, perimeter and volume</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: Electricity.</p> <p>The children will learn about the parts of an electrical circuit, the effects of voltage on a circuit and what affects the output of a circuit. They will then apply all of these skills to identify and correct problems in a circuit as well as to design and build their own set of traffic lights.</p> <p>Autumn 2: Living things and their habitat.</p> <p>The children will learn to classify living organisms, understand the kingdoms of life, use the Linnaean system of classification, identify the characteristics of microorganisms and investigate asexual reproduction through spore dispersal.</p>	<p>History is taught within the three big ideas of chronology, equality and change.</p> <p>Autumn 1: The Vikings</p> <p>What impact did the Viking's invasion have on British life?</p> <p>Geography is taught within the three big ideas of location, diversity and environment.</p> <p>Autumn 2: A study of the Alpine region</p> <p>What are the conditions like in the Alps?</p>

Art/DT	Computing
<p>Art is taught through the three big ideas of inspiration, experimentation and Expression.</p> <p>DT is taught through the three big ideas of composition, construction and evaluation.</p> <p>Autumn 1: DT - Textiles</p> <p>We will be designing and making cushions to fit a room in our home. We will be learning to do running stitch, back stitch and sew on a button.</p> <p>Autumn 2: DT - Inventions and achievements</p> <p>We will be designing and making a bird table using wood work skills such as measuring, cutting and joining.</p>	<p>Computing is taught through the three big ideas of coding, communication and e-safety.</p> <p>Autumn 1: Programming- Selection in quizzes.</p> <p>The children will develop their knowledge of selection by revisiting how conditions can be used in programs and then learning how the If... Then... Else structure can be used to select different outcomes depending on whether a condition is true or false.</p> <p>Autumn 2: Programming- Sensing movement.</p> <p>The children will apply all of their programming skills to design, build, test and download some of their own programming. Micro-bits will be used to transfer the programming on to.</p>
Music	R.E.
<p>Music is taught within the three big ideas of appraisal, practice and performance.</p> <p>Spring 1: Madina tun nabi (Islamic song)</p> <p>We will look at how to sing over a drone and singing rounds with simple accompaniment.</p> <p>Spring 2: Building a groove</p> <p>We will look at how drums work with chords and a melody to build the layers of a song.</p>	<p>R.E. is taught within the three big ideas of faith, understanding an acceptance.</p> <p>Autumn 1: places of worship</p> <p>The children will explore different places of worship and places of religious significance for different world views.</p> <p>Big Question - What are the best ways to think about living and dying?</p> <p>Autumn 2: Christianity</p> <p>Should believing in the resurrection change how Christians view life and death?</p>

French	P.S.H.E
<p>French is taught within the three big ideas of culture, understanding and fluency.</p> <p>Our topic in French this half term is: <i>à la mode</i></p> <p>Children will learn the names of items of clothing and be able to describe them using colours. They will continue work on their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.</p>	<p>PSHE is taught within the three big ideas of responsibility, choice and identity.</p> <p>Living in the wider world.</p> <p>Children will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Celebrating difference and diversity ▪ Discrimination ▪ Online safety such as passwords, protecting devices, sharing safely online and identifying suspicious contact.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Money- the risks of gambling, financial emotional well-being and being a critical consumer. |
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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.