

Chestnut's Newsletter - Spring 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the New Year and the spring term. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and that the children managed to relax and recuperate after a busy end to the Autumn Term. We have another busy term ahead of us.

PE shoes need to be in school every day and welly boots on a Friday. Also, please ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school at all times.

Our topic for the first half of term is 'Magic and Mystery', where we will be looking at a range of traditional and fantasy stories. In preparation, please talk to your child about your favourite traditional tale as a child. They could also ask their grandparents or other older family members which traditional tales they enjoyed when they were young.

After February half term we will be moving onto 'Homes and Transport', learning about different types of homes both locally and around the world. If you have any old photographs of Hatherleigh from the past we would love to see them. We will be having a walk around the town looking at different types of homes. This is planned for **Monday 9th March at 2:00pm**. I would be grateful for volunteers to walk with us so please let me know if you are available to help.

We will also be looking at a range of transport through the ages.

This term we will be having a push on simple sentence writing and letter formation, so please support your child with this at home, as much as possible. We will be starting on Phase 3 phonics. Your child will benefit greatly from regularly re-capping phase 2, as well as new phase 3 graphemes, as they are stuck in their pink Sound Book each week. We will also be working hard on name writing.

It is really important that you continue to read with your child, at least three times a week, if possible. This only needs to be for 5/10 minutes at a time, but regular reading helps build fluency. Discussions about what they have read are important to develop comprehension and skills such as inference and prediction. Being read to and sharing books together also helps to develop a love of reading, so please try to find the time to share books with your child. We will continue to give reading certificates to children that have read three or more times in a week, so please write all reading in your child's reading diary and ensure that these are in book bags each day.



In maths we will be continuing to embed a secure understanding of numbers to 10 (including 0), which forms the foundations for manipulating numbers as they progress up the years. We will also look at measure, including mass, capacity and length.



We are resetting house points for the Spring term so each child is back to zero. Your child will receive a certificate when they reach each multiple of 20.

We will be hosting a class assembly this term where parents are invited to attend. This is being held on **Tuesday 31st March at 2:45pm**. We hope you will be able to join us.

Occasionally we may ask for certain items for junk modelling projects, however please do not send in donations unless we have asked, as we just don't have room to store things. Thank you.

Please keep book bags tidy otherwise important information can get lost. Sound books, reading diaries and sharing books need to be in school on a Thursday to enable us to update them.

Please ensure reading books are kept in the plastic wallet that was provided last term. This will help to keep books in good condition.

Please don't hesitate to contact us on Class Dojo if you have any questions.

Yours Sincerely

Kim Tucker and Joanne Byers