

Chestnut's Summer Newsletter April 2026



Dear Parents/ Carers,

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break and that you and your children are ready to enjoy the exciting learning taking place this term.

This term we are welcoming back our student teacher, Heather Allen. Miss Allen will be completing the final stage of her teacher training and will be with us until 26th June.

Our topics are 'Plants and Animals' and 'Water and Pirates'. Before half term we will be learning about the life cycle of butterflies and about plants in our environment. We will be hatching our own butterflies in class and releasing them. We will learn about the parts of plants and what plants need to grow. On 12th May we will be spending the day at Rosemoor where we will learn about how plants grow. Thank you to the parents that have offered to help us on the day.

After half term we will learn about water and creatures that live in the ocean. On Thursday 16th July we will have a Pirate Day, when children can come to school dressed as a pirate. We will be holding our class assembly on this afternoon and would like to invite parents to join us from 2:45pm. We are also hoping to arrange a beach trip. More information to follow.



At the end of June we will be making the final decisions regarding your child's outcomes in the seven areas of learning against the Early Learning Goals. Your support is invaluable in helping your child to achieve these outcomes. Please continue to read with your child and go through their pink sound book regularly. In order to make progress in reading it is essential that all children are reading at home regularly. Some children are still not confident reading their 'tricky words' or spotting digraphs and trigraphs within longer words. Please remember to write in your child's reading diary each time you hear them read and please aim for 3 times a week. Children also need to be able to use their phonic knowledge to independently write simple sentences that can be read by themselves and others. Please practise this at home where possible as we will be having a big push on this, ensuring correct letter formation and encouraging independence.

Our PE lessons will be outside as much as possible this term so please ensure that your child has a pair of trainers/plimsolls in school each day. The Chestnuts will continue to have woodland sessions on a Friday, so wellies are needed then. All children also need a named drink bottle in school every day. Please double check that your child's jumpers and cardigans are still named, as last term there were a number that were not. As the weather improves your child will need a named sun hat in school for playtimes. Please apply sun cream at home in the morning before sending your child to school. This should provide adequate protection without the need for applying at school. It is important that your child has their book bag in school each day and that they are kept tidy. Please

remove drawings and paintings that your child brings home and check regularly for letters. Please ensure sound books, sharing books and reading diaries are kept in book bags when not being used.

The school summer fair and 150th celebration is being held at school on Saturday 20th June 2:00pm-6:00pm. Our class stall is a jar tombola (jolly jars). We are asking parents to fill a jam jar with items such as stickers, craft supplies, stationery, beauty products, sweets etc. Jars can be decorated to make them look nice. We would be very grateful for any donations of filled jars. Please remember no nuts. Thank you.



This term we will start talking to the children about the transition to Year 1. The children will spend time with their new teachers and spend some time in the Year 1 classroom during transition visits. We make this a very positive experience to ensure a smooth transition.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or problems.

Yours sincerely

Miss Tucker and Mrs Byers