



# CHESNUT LODGE SCHOOL

## *School Newsletter*

**Spring (2) 2022**

[www.chesnutlodge.net](http://www.chesnutlodge.net)

For regular updates, check the school website, or follow us on Twitter@chesnutlodge

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into Spring, staff and students are busy planning many exciting activities indoors and outdoors to celebrate the warmer weather and the opportunity to plant seeds and enjoy the marvel of growth. We are also planning activities to celebrate Red Nose Day. This year's focus is "It's all about you" celebrating individuality, resilience and diversity, raising awareness of poverty, violence and discrimination. As a whole school we will be dressing in our favorite clothes (£1 "fine") for this. Also the Rights group will be selling Red noses as soon as they arrive in school, these are £1.50 each. Please watch out on Parent app. for further information.

As mentioned on Parent app. last week, the government's guidance on living with Covid 19 has recently been updated for the general public. As Chesnut Lodge is a special school with many pupils who are clinically vulnerable there are different rules to those found in mainstream schools. For now this means that there will be no changes to our current Covid regulations in terms of testing and we will be continuing as before. This will include pupils of secondary age being asked to continue twice weekly lateral flow testing if they are able and pupils awaiting test results, or testing positive for covid 19, to remain at home until they have had two negative test results 24 hours apart. If you require more lateral flow tests to enable this please let us know. We are cautiously starting to allow more meetings to take place in school, with this being closely monitored. If you have an Annual Review this term, you will be asked if you would prefer to meeting in school, or to have a virtual meeting on Microsoft Teams. Please can I ask that you take a lateral flow test before attending a meeting in school and that you do not attend if you are displaying any of the key symptoms or feeling unwell.

Thank you to the parents who are encouraging their children to complete their weekly homework either on Seesaw or through resources being sent home by class. We are seeing some really good progress by the students who engage regularly in home reading and homework so your efforts are definitely paying off.

Kind regards

Mrs H Austin and Governors

### ***Primary 1***

In Spring 2 our topic is 'Toys' and we are going to be exploring lots of different toys and developing our early play skills. We are going to enjoy weekly massages related to our theme of toys for our sensory story sessions. In Design Technology (DT) we are exploring glove and pop up puppets and then making our own. In Religious Education (RE) we are going to be looking at symbols of Easter like eggs, chicks and the cross through different art activities. We will continue to work hard on our Communication, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy targets too and enjoy our weekly Music and Computing sessions.

### ***Sensory Base***

In Sensory Base, the Theme for this term is Food. In Communication, Language and Literacy, the children will be participating in Julia Donaldson stories before following instructions to create a variety of things, eg. Creating a potion from 'Room on the broom' and following simple verbal instructions to create a Gruffalo crumble! In Maths the children will be focusing on colours and patterns through their own Individual Cognition targets. In addition to this, the children will be exploring Africa and this will be linked with Maths when looking at Africa's beautiful brightly coloured art work. Furthermore in Design Technology, the children are going to be creating weird but wonderful recipes that we will be sending home for you to taste! Finally the children will continue to work on their individual targets for physiotherapy and Speech & Language which continue to be implemented into the children's curricular sessions.

### ***Secondary 4***

Another busy half term for Secondary 4. This half term we will be learning about money in Maths. This is a really important life skill. Parents/carers, please

### ***Foundation Stage***

Our topic in Foundation Stage for this half term is "Roots, shoots and muddy boots" in literacy we will be basing our topic around growth linked to 2 stories - "Jaspers Beanstalk

support our money work by encouraging pupils to complete their homework and giving them the opportunity to handle real money when shopping. In English our topic continues to be Travel through time. We are using wordless picture books to spark discussion and inspire our writing. We will finish our work on the book Flotsam by David Weisner and then read Zoom by Istvan Banyai. We enjoyed looking at lots of David Walliams books as part of World Book Day. Pupils may be interested in listening to some of his books at home perhaps as audio books (there are people reading them aloud on Youtube for free).

Our Science topic will be Light where as usual we will be doing lots of experiments. Our Art topic will be an AQA unit award called 'Skin and scales' and our Humanities will be Geography looking at the weather in Britain.

Please encourage pupils to complete their homework on Seesaw. Two pieces are set every Friday due in on Wednesday. Please contact me if you need another copy of the QR codes to access Seesaw. Thank you, Mrs Colville

" and also "The life of a sunflower seed" We have lots of seeds to explore and grow including, sunflowers, green beans and cress. Our science will be based around this topic and we will all be involved in the care needed to help a seed grow into a plant - maybe even a Beanstalk or 2! with lots of exploration, predictions and observations along the way. In maths we will be looking at length - long and short - we will hold a competition to see whose Beanstalk will be the longest.

Our role play area is becoming a greengrocers and we will be selling fresh fruit and vegetables, again linked to our topic of growing.

Cooking will be based around fresh fruit and vegetables including fruit salad and soups.

We are hoping to spend a lot of learning time outdoors during this topic giving us an opportunity to engage in the changing seasons and what the school grounds has to offer. Finally in the last week we will hold our Easter celebrations and we have lots of fun activities in mind which we will share with you nearer the time.

### **MOVE programme success!**

I would like to announce that Chesnut lodge has won the bronze award for the work we do throughout the MOVE programme. Our amazing children have been working hard, every week on their aspirational goals and targets for some years now and have been recognised for their efforts. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for the hard work that you have put in at home, after school and during lockdown.

Chesnut lodge are very excited to get stuck into another fun year on the programme and invite more children to sign up, as we head for the silver award this coming year. Looking forward to your continuing engagement.

Thanks again,  
Lynsey

### **Secondary 2**

Secondary 2 enjoyed celebrating World Book Day on 3.3.22, we completed lots of activities based around David Walliams books.

Although this term is a short term Secondary 2 have some fun lessons planned. Our topic is 'food'. In literacy we will be learning about instructions and we will be writing our own instructions. In Design Technology (DT) we will be following recipes and cooking some delicious dishes... we're very excited about this!! We will also be looking at recycling, Easter activities and learning about Fairtrade, as well as many more exciting lessons.

## Primary 2

All the boys have returned to school and settled back into class after half term.

This half term our topic is "The Natural World ". We will be looking at mountains, rivers and Oceans. In art and Geography we will be looking at and, making mountains and animal found in the oceans. The water cycle will also be introduced to the children and demonstrating how water flows downhill to meet the river and then lead on to the ocean. We will also have natural materials available to use in our water play including pebbles, rocks and shells.

In science we will be looking at properties and changing materials. Finding good materials suitable for clothing used to climb a mountain for example, warm, hard wearing, and waterproof. These will be tested out in class as we have tents, and camping equipment out for the boys to play in.

Continuing with changing properties cooking will also be based around this theme during this half term. Pancakes, angel delight, jelly and chocolate cornflake cakes will be on the menu.

We will also be covering lots of exciting activities in Literacy including weekly news, stories and poems. And we will be looking at time in our maths lessons.

This half term our class enterprise scheme will be making bird feeders. Hopefully we will be able to make enough to sell in school to enable us to go on a class trip next term. Watch this space!!!!

Looking forward to an exciting few weeks ahead.  
Primary 2 Staff.



## Gardening Club

*Gardening club will be starting up from Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March. The club will run weekly from 3pm to 4.15pm and will be planting seeds, tending to the sensory garden and learning about different plants and vegetables.*

*There are 10 places available and the club is open to all ages. I would suggest that you might want to send in a change of clothes for the outdoor activities!*

*If you would like your child to attend and have transport organised to pick them up promptly at 4.15pm after the club, please confirm your interest through parent app. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and you will be informed through parent app. as to whether you child has secured a place.*

### Dates for your diary

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

*Primary 3 attending the Panathlon Challenge*

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 @ 9.30am**

*Governor Training in the meeting room*

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

*Red Nose Day*

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 @ 9.30am**

*Governor's meeting in the meeting room*

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**EASTER HOLIDAYS**

*School closes for Easter with student*

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 Inset Day**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

*Students return to school*

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022**

*May Bank Holiday*

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

*Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in school*

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022**

**HALF TERM**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

*Students return to school*

## Primary 3

This half term, our theme is 'Intrepid Explorers', each week we will be studying explorers who have made a difference to our lives now, people such as Christopher Columbus who discovered America and Amelia Earhart who was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. We will of course be using this history based topic to

## Secondary 3

Secondary 3 enjoyed taking part in World Book Day this week, looking at a range of books from David Walliams. This term we will be focusing on the topic of 'Food' and learning about it across the curriculum. We will be focusing on writing recipes in English, Easter in RE, comparing countries in

write up fact files in Literacy, along with reading stories from around the world and other cultures. In maths, we are focussing on number for a couple of weeks then moving on to 2D and 3D shapes. We currently have some special visitors in class, Helen's son has kindly let us borrow his stick insect babies! We will be studying these and other various animals in science for our topic 'Living Things and Their Habitats'.

Geography, and still life drawing of fruits in art. In addition some of our class, along with others from secondary school, will be taking part in a Panathlon sports challenge, hoping to bring the trophy back to our school.

### ***Secondary 1***

This half term we are looking forward to some exciting events in school, including British Science Week, Women's History Month and lots of lovely Easter activities towards the end of the term.

S1's theme this half term is 'food'. In English we are going to be focussing on our writing; sometimes we will practice with pencils and sometimes we will practice with iPads and keyboards to write some recipes, reviews and read some food related fiction books.

We will also be looking closely at the regional cuisine of Africa, as we will be learning about Africa in Geography.

In maths this half term we are focussing on making number bonds and exploring 2D and 3D shapes.

Our Science lessons will also tie in to our theme as we explore relationships in an ecosystem, including animal and plant food chains.

Our PSE lessons are going to be all about the environment and FairTrade. If parents/carers would like to get involved and help support your child's learning please have a look at the website posted below;

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/fair-trade>

Maybe you and your child could see if you can spot any FairTrade items on your next shopping trip, or make some swaps for Fair Trade items in your basket?