



CHESNUT LODGE SCHOOL

School Newsletter

Spring (1) 2022

www.chesnutlodge.net

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all managed to have a good Christmas Break.

It is with great sadness that I have to begin the new year by informing you of the death of one of our support assistants - Jane Stevenson. Jane was a valued member of the team here at Chesnut Lodge for a number of years and will be sadly missed by everyone who had the pleasure of working with her. Students and staff who worked closely with Jane are being supported at this difficult time.

Floor damage update:

All new flooring has been laid over the Christmas Break and the redecoration is almost complete. Replacement of damaged resources is well in hand and the meeting room is now back in use.

Covid-19 update:

For the latest Covid-19 guidance, please see the Government website.

As always, any parents requiring further Lateral Flow Test Kits to use with their children, please contact the school office and we will make sure these get sent home.

Retirements

Miss Denise Fay who has worked at Chesnut Lodge for 42 years has announced that she will be retiring at Spring Half Term (February 2022). We would like to thank Miss Fay for her dedication to Chesnut Lodge and wish her many years of health and happiness.

I would also like to inform you that after 29 years at Chesnut Lodge I will be retiring at the end of this academic year (August 2022). The Governors have begun the recruitment process for a new head teacher and we will inform you when the new head has been appointed.

Kind regards

Mrs H Austin and Governors

Primary 1

In Spring 1 our topic is 'We're going on Safari' and we are going to have lots of messy fun with creating our own djembe drums from papier-mâché, making clay snakes, painting our own traditional mask and making African Textile bags. We will be making some tasty traditional African dishes developing our skills of chopping, mixing, pouring and peeling. We will be enjoying our weekly instalments of our sensory story 'We're going on Safari', looking for the Lion in the lake, mud and swishy grass. In RE we will be having experiences related to 'Islam', exploring special artefacts and focusing on the celebration of Eid. We will continue to work hard on our

Sensory Base

This term, the children will be exploring the world looking at different aspects of our planet. In Communication, Language and Literacy, the children will be participating in stories and poems from other countries. In Maths the children will be focusing on size through their own individual cognition targets. In addition to this, the children will be exploring natural materials through our senses and experimenting what natural materials can be used to grow our own healthy fruit and vegetables. We will also be exploring the wider world and how we can care for animals beginning with creating bird feeders for our RSPB Big Garden bird watch. Furthermore in Design Technology, the children are going to be creating weekly dishes from around the world including the Chinese New Year in February! Finally the children will continue to work on their individual targets for physiotherapy and Speech & Language which

<p>Communication, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy targets too and enjoy our weekly Music and Computing sessions.</p>	<p>continue to be implemented into the children's curricular sessions.</p>
<p><u>Secondary 4</u></p> <p>In English our topic is Travel through time. We will be using wordless picture books to inspire our writing. Please encourage reading for pleasure at home and writing for a purpose, this could be helping write a shopping list or writing a letter/ email.</p> <p>In Maths we are learning about fractions. You can support this at home in real world contexts for example talking about the fractions that food is being shared into.</p> <p>In Science we are learning about Rocks. We will be developing our investigation skills.</p> <p>We are also learning about the Industrial Revolution in History, Natural and Manufacture forms in Art, research skills in Computing, Christianity in RE and circuit training in PE.</p> <p>PE continues to be on Mondays and Swimming on Wednesdays. Please make sure kits are in school on these days. Travel Training is still on Tuesdays so warm coats, hats and gloves are particularly needed on that day.</p> <p>Please encourage pupils to complete their weekly homework on Seesaw. Thank you for your continued support.</p>	<p><i>Foundation Stage</i></p> <p>This half term Foundation Stage will be setting off on the seven seas as Pirates! We have lots of exciting opportunities for learning, we will look at lots of Pirate stories/songs and rhymes in literacy. In maths we will be exploring numbers and using lots of resources to develop our counting skills including pirate treasure! In science we will be baking pirate biscuits and also making boats using different materials to see which floats best and which sinks!</p> <p>Developing our role play will involve lots of dressing up opportunities and puppets to help to reenact stories and rhymes we have enjoyed.</p> <p>Finally, within our PE sessions we will be exploring lots of different islands such as the isle of bubbles, the isle of cold things, the isle of music etc. Making sure we make it across the shark infested water safely to arrive at each one!</p> <p>Special celebrations for this half term will include Chinese New Year and the year of the Tiger! This will be on the 1st February, we will learn all about the Chinese culture and how they celebrate with decorations, food, gifts of red envelopes and the dragon dance! We will end our Chinese week with a Chinese banquet within school.</p>
<p><u>E-safety day 2022</u></p> <p>This year E-safety day will be held on the 8th February 2022. The theme for the day this year will be 'Together for a better internet'. Each class will be focusing on this on the day, and if you would like to further the learning or find out more information for yourself visit www.saferinternetday.org and you will find a range of resources and information to help.</p>	
<p><u>Secondary 2</u></p> <p>The pupils will be learning about the world we live in, this will include our local communities and different cultures from around the world.</p> <p>As part of literacy we will be reading stories and poems from around the world.</p> <p>In PSHE we are going to look at the work of charities especially those supporting animal care and the children have already expressed a great interest in taking part in some fundraising events for these charities.</p> <p>In Art we will be looking at various artists who use natural materials to make sculptures and pictures and then making our own sculpture or picture, using materials we can find in our local environment.</p>	

Primary 2

Greetings from Down Under!

The next topic for Primary 2 is Australian Adventures. We will be looking at all aspects of Australia. Animals, lifestyle, food and drink and habitats. We will be comparing landmarks both in Australia and here in England, particularly looking at the Sydney Opera House and the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

In art we will be looking at aboriginal art and also making outback animals and making boomerangs that will hopefully come back!

In class we have "The Outback shack shop" which is full of all Australian supplies you might need from "TIM TUMS" to VEGIMITE. This is to reinforce our maths work which is working on money.

The boys will be greeting you with a lovely "good day" now as they are learning some Australian lingo!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

Primary 2 staff.



Dates for your diary

Tuesday 1st February 2022

Chinese New Year

Monday 7th to Friday 11th February 2022

Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 8th February 2022

Internet Safety Day

Thursday 10th February 2022

Parents' Afternoon / Evening - 2pm to 5pm

Monday 21st February to Monday 28th February 2022 HALF TERM

Monday 28th February 2022 Inset Day

Tuesday 1st March 2022

Students return to school

A new opportunity for your child/ young persons' mental health and well-being

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to let you know that we have been given a great opportunity for the children's well-being here at Chesnut Lodge. We have been chosen to take part in a project which will focus on low level mental health and well-being needs, and we are really pleased to tell you about it.

The Halton Mental Health support Team will be working within our school to target children who have been identified as needing some support by school staff and parent/carers. They will be given an individual program of support tailored to their needs by our own allocated Senior Educational Mental Health Practitioner, Rebecca Ratcliff, who will be based in school for her sessions.

This is very new and exciting as we view the children's well-being and mental health as a priority. We can't wait to tell you more about it and get some ideas from you, and for you to meet with Rebecca. We will be holding an information coffee session on the 31st January at 10am and another at 1.30pm the same day. However, due to COVID restrictions we will need you to book a space so we can keep you safe, if these prove popular we will look to make a third date available.

If you would like to book on one of these sessions, please could you let us know either via the office or in the children's home school books before **Thursday 27th January**, we will call you on the Friday to confirm your place.

Thank you

Clare Kinch-Smith- HLTA and Mental Health Lead"

Primary 3

This term, P3's topic is the Great Fire of London, we will be learning all about the events that occurred, acting them out, dressing up and sequencing events. We will be adding this to our ongoing class timeline as a visual for children to compare when significant events or people we have learnt about have happened. In maths, we will be revisiting number and challenge ourselves to find halves and quarters! In science, we are studying materials and will identify different materials and discuss why objects are made from certain materials. We are excited for another great half term!

Secondary 3

This half term we are learning around the topic of 'Our World'. For this we will be looking into environmental issues such as waste, pollution of the oceans, and deforestation. We will be using this to develop persuasive writing, arguing our point in a balanced way. We will also be learning about the Transatlantic Slave Trade in history, creating fact files and trying to understand some of the effects it had both then and now. In computing we will be learning how to use programmable technology and creating games and challenges using them.

Secondary 1

This half term S1 will be learning all about our planet. In Science we will be discovering what types of materials make up our planet Earth; we will be exploring lots of different types of rock, sand, water and plant matter. Science will closely link with Geography as we study the mountain ranges of the world. We will also explore the wildlife that can be found in these areas and learn about the differences between a mountain and a volcano.

In our art lessons, we will be using lots of the materials that we have learnt about to create some beautiful and natural sculptures, collages and pictures.

Our English lessons this half term will focus on reading, particularly reading comprehension. We are going to be reading and discussing a story from a different country each week. Please feel free to get involved at home and perhaps choose a story from a different country as your bedtime read.

Maths lessons will consist of a number focussed activity at the start of the lesson, and a measurement activity for the main part of the lesson. We will be learning the appropriate terminology (biggest/smallest, longest/shortest) and identifying the biggest/smallest and longest/shortest from a range of physical and visual resources.

Our other lessons are going to be heavily focussed on how we can help our planet. We will be thinking of things we can do to support the environment and look after the planet's animals and wildlife. If you would like to do any eco-friendly activities at home then please have a look at the following website for some ideas, and remember to take lots of pictures and add them to SeeSaw!

<https://www.prodigygame.com/main-en/blog/earth-day-activities-for-kids/>