



'Be Ready, Be Respectful Be Safe 'To believe, achieve, succeed together'

Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Chestnut Class Letter – Autumn

It has been lovely getting to the class in the first few days and we have had a superb time with our whole school project.

Adults regularly supporting in the class along with myself are Mrs Lewis who is with us every day, Mrs Hankins who is with us most afternoons and Ms Denton for most mornings

This newsletter, along with the Curriculum overview, will give you an outline of some of the things that will be happening in Chestnut Class this term. Our topic is '**Movers and Shakers**' with a History focus. The children will learn about significant people who have had a major impact on the world. They will learn to use timelines, stories and historical sources to find out about the people featured and use historical models to explore their significance. If you have any artefacts/resources linked to any of our learning, do let us know.

Phonics/Spelling

Phonics sessions will take place daily for Y1 children. They will also be sent home a list of words to learn how to read and spell throughout the year. For Y2 Children, we use Spelling Shed for our spellings both in school and as part of homework each week.

Reading and Talking

This term we will be using lots of back-and-forth talk to develop language comprehension. A language-rich environment will be encouraged throughout each day to develop the children's skills of conversation and discussion as well as develop their understanding of vocabulary. All children will also take part in daily guided reading sessions to develop individual reading fluency and comprehension. Children who have completed the phonics scheme will be moved onto a whole-school reading programme where they will be given a book to match their reading level – more information will be sent home when necessary. By next Friday, after individual assessments have been carried out, each child will be given a reading book and reading journal. The journal is for you as parents to comment on their reading as you feel necessary. Please try to spend time each evening reading with your child.

Maths

Our focus this term is **Place Value, addition and subtraction and shape**. Each week, maths homework will be sent home using Maths Shed.

Mindfulness

We will continue with our start of the day mindfulness routine to enable the children to relate their feelings into our Zone of Regulation Station. This truly supports the adults in class recognising and addressing any worries that a child may have at the beginning of their school day. As well as this, we will follow our daily reflection on our individual wellbeing where we carry out a number of different mindfulness activities. To keep our bodies physical as well as our minds, we also have frequent brain breaks both inside and outside of the classroom.

Handwriting

We use Kinetic Letters handwriting programme, which teaches children how to form letters correctly, quickly and with confidence. In Y2, if children are ready, they will progress onto joined handwriting

PE

We will have two PE sessions every week. The first session will be on a Wednesday afternoon with myself and the second session will be on a Thursday afternoon with S4A. **Children need to have a full PE kit in school at all times.** Long hair must be tied back and earrings removed.

PPA

Mrs Lewis, Mrs Hankins and Mrs Dean will be teaching the class every Thursday afternoon as part of PPA time along with S4A. They will be teaching PSHE. Mrs Smith will also be teaching the class for one morning every term.

Homework

Weekly homework tasks will be set every Friday and should be completed by the following Thursday – this will focus on maths recall for Y1 and spelling and maths for Y2 - as well as reading for both year groups. All other homework tasks will be sent home on class homework grids, linked to our learning in class this term. These are to be shared as part of our next Gallery day which will be before the end of Term.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come and speak with me or contact me on my class email chestnutclass@croughtonschool.co.uk - thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Connor