

Chestnuts Primary School Newsletter



Friday 6th March 2026



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Wednesday 11th March - Y2
Rashford Class Bookshop Trip
12.30pm - 3.00pm

Friday 13th March - Donaldson
Class Assembly 9.15am

Friday 13th March - Y4 Bookshop
Trip - 1.30 - 3pm

Tuesday 24th March- Drum
Concert 2.30pm - 3.30pm

Wednesday 25th March - Parents
Evening (Reception - Y6)

Friday 27th March - LAST DAY OF
TERM 1.30PM FINISH.

Monday 13th April - All Years
return back to school

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last two weeks have been a wonderful start to the half term, filled with energy, creativity and curiosity across the school. KS1 threw themselves into our Lunar New Year dance workshops, bringing such joy and movement into the hall, while KS2 celebrated World Book Day with fantastic enthusiasm. The costumes were brilliant, but even more special were the conversations I had with children about the stories they had written based on their chosen characters – their imagination and pride were a real highlight.

We've also seen great teamwork and determination from the pupils who took part in the tag rugby tournament, and Year 6 impressed everyone with their scientific focus and maturity during their lamb heart dissections. It has been a fortnight that truly shows the breadth of learning and experiences happening every day at Chestnuts.

Please take some time to read the RSHE policy that was sent home this week and share your feedback as part of our consultation. Your views are important in shaping our final approach. And a gentle reminder to sign up for Parents' Evening – it's a valuable opportunity to see the amazing work your child has been doing and the progress they have made.

Kind regards,
Mrs Horwood

Attendance

If your child is absent please could you call/email or leave a voicemail on the school office number :

02088002362 or email



office@chestnutsprimary.com

DONATION

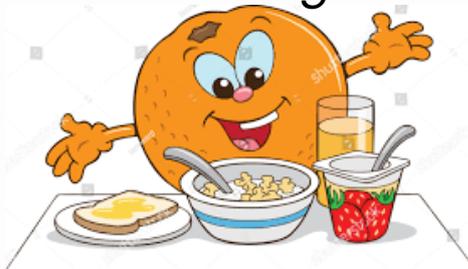
We are currently looking for a ping pong table that could be donated to the school.

If any parents or careers have a ping pong table in good condition that they would be willing to donate please email **office@chestnutsprimary.com**, we would be very grateful.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Please note that the Breakfast Club starts runs from 7.45am and the gates close promptly at 8.30am.

If your child arrives after 8.30am, they will need to wait until the main school gates open.



What we have done this week

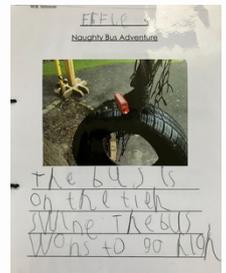
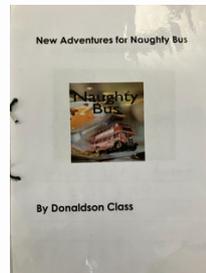
NURSERY

What a wonderful time we had on World Book Day dressing up as our favourite book characters. Our children and parents made an amazing effort at making wonderfully creative costumes, and we had some great chats about the books that inspired these. How impressive it was to have some of the children bringing in stories that they had made up themselves which we read with great enjoyment! Thank you everyone!



DONALDSON CLASS

This week we have continued to use the book, 'The Naughty Bus' to fuel exciting literacy tasks. Last week the Naughty Bus paid us a visit and had a lot of fun in our classroom when we were not there. It took us a long time to clean up the mess! Following this, we thought of new adventures for the Naughty Bus, and even made a new class book. We also took the bus on a Haringey adventure and made a map after exploring lots of local places to go on Google Earth.



AHLBERG CLASS

Ahlberg Class had a wonderful time celebrating World Book Day! The children loved dressing up as their favourite characters from their own stories and sharing them with their friends. It was lovely to see such a fantastic range of costumes and to hear the children talking excitedly about the books they enjoy. Throughout the day we celebrated our love of reading by sharing stories together and exploring different characters, making it a very special day for everyone in Reception.



HADID CLASS

This week in Science, we walked around Chestnuts Park to observe the changes that happen in spring. We looked for signs of new life, such as blossoming trees, budding flowers, and animals like birds and insects. We also noticed how the weather is changing, with warmer temperatures and longer days. The children discussed what they could see, hear, and feel, using their senses to explore the season of spring. It was a fantastic opportunity to connect our learning to the world around us!



MOZART CLASS

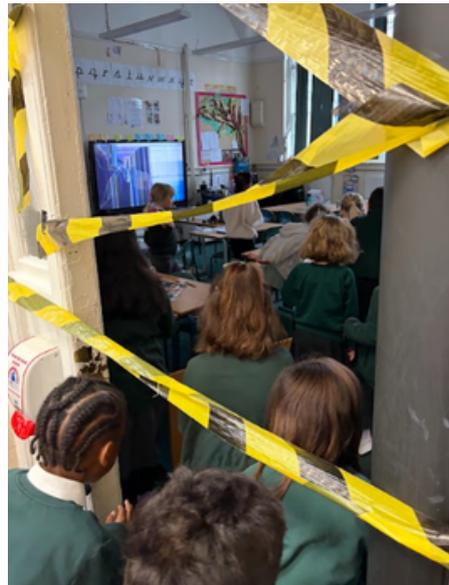
Mozart Class enjoyed a wonderful outing for World Book Day as they visited Pickled Pepper Bookshop. The children were excited to explore the shelves, listen to stories, and discover new books. Each child had the chance to choose a special World Book Day book to take home, making the experience even more memorable. It was a lovely way to celebrate reading together as a class.



SEACOLE CLASS

RASHFORD CLASS

Year 2 discovered their classrooms had become a mysterious crime scene: after taking the register outside, they cautiously entered to find overturned chairs, scattered papers, scorch marks and ash trails.. Using the clues, the children quickly linked the chaos to a visit from the dragon in *The Dragonsitter*, creating an exciting launch to our English unit. Throughout the investigation, they demonstrated our Rights-Respecting value from **Article 29**, showing respect for one another's ideas and working responsibly and thoughtfully as they explored the scene together.



BENJAMIN CLASS

As part of our English 'Wow Lesson', Benjamin class has been diving into the fascinating world of ancient Greek mythology! As part of our exploration, students learned about the powerful gods and goddesses worshipped in ancient times, including Zeus, Athena and Poseidon. We discussed their unique qualities, powers, and personalities, and how they were believed to influence the world around them.

Bringing mythology to life, students designed and created their own symbols using a variety of craft materials, inspired by the traditional symbols associated with each deity—such as lightning bolts, tridents, and lotus flowers. It was wonderful to see their creativity shine as they carefully thought about which symbols best represented the traits of their chosen god or goddess. The class especially enjoyed sharing their creations and explaining the meanings behind them. Through creative expression and discussion, students were able to enjoy their right to education (Article 28), their right to express their views and ideas (Article 12), and their right to participate in cultural and artistic activities (Article 31). Well done, Benjamin class, for your fantastic enthusiasm and creativity!



ATTENBOROUGH CLASS

Attenborough Class enjoyed a wonderful visit to the Pickled Pepper Bookshop in Crouch End this week, it was a real celebration of reading. The children explored the shelves with great enthusiasm, taking their time to look through a wide range of stories, information books, graphic novels, and beautifully illustrated picture books. With their book vouchers in hand, they chose titles that genuinely excited them, and it was lovely to see how thoughtfully they made their selections. Many of them decided to pick up extra books as well, eager to take home even more reading adventures.

The staff at Pickled Pepper were warm and welcoming, helping the children discover new authors and genres they might not have tried before. The atmosphere in the shop was full of curiosity and excitement, and it was clear that the visit sparked a real buzz around reading.

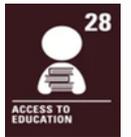
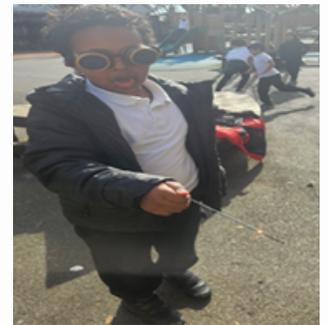
We hope the children enjoy diving into their new books over the coming weeks. With such excellent choices in their hands. Attenborough Class are well on their way to becoming avid, passionate readers.



FIBONACCI CLASS

The children in Fibonacci class were positively glowing this week as we launched our new class text, *The Firework-Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman. To kick off our learning, the children took part in an explosive "Wow" lesson designed to immerse them in the vibrant (and perilous!) world of Lila and her quest.

The children were mesmerized by the shimmering "sparks" and brilliant colours that mimicked the magic of a firework display. We are officially ready to follow Lila on her journey to the Grotto of the Fire-Fiend to discover the true secrets of the Firework-Makers.



GANDHI CLASS

To help the children get into the spirit of our current class book (*The Firework-Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman) we took them into the playground this week and gave them each a sparkler. We wanted them all to think about the smells, lights and noises fireworks can produce. Hopefully this lesson will have been not only fun, but it will help inspire their imaginations as we read the book about a young girl desperate to prove her worth as a firework maker. It certainly provided a barrel full of giggles and squeals, just as a good firework should.

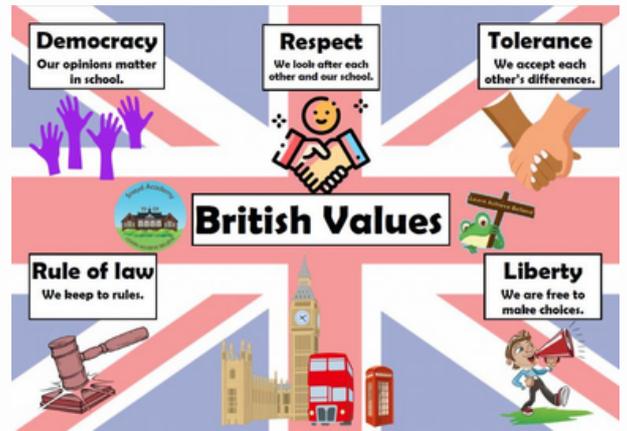


PANKHURST CLASS

THOMPSON CLASS

To start the year, Year 5 delved deep into the mythology of Aladdin – specifically Philip Pullman’s version – set in China. It just so happens, to celebrate World Book Day, we had a lovely dance workshop involving lots of movement and choreography – all based on Aladdin!

To further our love of reading at Chestnuts, we have been exploring the themes within an abridged version of Shakespeare’s Macbeth The Scottish Play. We have been unravelling – like our two main protagonists – the themes of guilt and deceit, madness and the supernatural, as well as gender roles and appearance versus reality; while looking at blood, sleep and light & dark as motifs. What an excellent way to celebrate a British Icon!



MALALA CLASS

MANDELA CLASS

During our Final Mock SATs Week in primary school, the children enjoyed an exciting hands-on enrichment experience to consolidate their learning about the circulatory system. As part of their science work, they had the opportunity to explore a real lamb's heart, bringing their classroom learning to life in a memorable way.

The children carefully investigated the different chambers, vena cava, veins, aorta and atria - identifying key features they had previously learned about. There was a mixture of curiosity, fascination and amazement around the room! Some children were incredibly brave when handling and examining the heart, while others preferred to observe closely and ask thoughtful questions. It was wonderful to see such mature, respectful and enthusiastic attitudes towards learning.

This experience links closely to the UNICEF Rights of the Child, particularly Article 28: The Right to Education and Article 29: The Right to Develop Your Talents and Abilities. Opportunities like this allow children to deepen their understanding through real-life experiences, helping them to grow in confidence, knowledge and curiosity about the world around them.



ART CLASSES

Year 2 children have mastered the double dipping technique of painting! They used acrylic paints for their royal portraits!



TURING GROUP

Turing Group have had a wonderfully creative week, taking inspiration from Ziggy in The Dragonsitter to design their own colourful 3D dragons.

The children then used their dragons to write imaginative expanded noun phrases, bringing each dragon's personality to life.

The classroom has been buzzing with excitement and the flutter of dragon wings, creativity, and plenty of dragon-themed fun.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

CHESTNUTS CHEERS:

- **Ruby:** We have enjoyed making our own newspapers.
- **Sonja:** We, as children, get to have a voice in the school.
- **Niamh:** Kathleen enjoys the karaoke assemblies and is proud to share her work.
- **Adam G:** I enjoyed the Science experiments.