

Chestnuts Primary School Newsletter



Monday 15th June 2026



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- 16 June** Sports Day Y1-Y6
- 19 June** Benjamin class assembly
- 24 June** Sports Day Nursery & Reception
- 25 June** Year 2 trip Freightliners Farm
- 2 July** Year 4 trip to London Zoo
- 6-10 July** Year 6 residential trip to Pendarren
- 7 July** Year 5 Seaside trip
- 14 July** Year 6 Production 6-7pm
- 15 July** Year 6 Production 4-5pm
- 15 July** Celebration picnics - reception and nursery
- 16 July** Year 6 leavers disco 6-8pm
- 17 July** Last Day of Term finish 1.30pm

Dear Families,

It has been an incredible start to the half term, and we are already in the middle of a wonderfully busy few weeks. Our International Evening was a real highlight. The activities created by staff were fantastic, and the children threw themselves into every moment with such enthusiasm. The food was extraordinary, with dishes from all over the world—I certainly enjoyed sampling some delicious treats.

A huge thank you to Monisha for the brilliant music, to everyone who contributed food or support, and especially to Caz for organising such a memorable event.

Please make sure you stay up to date with all the exciting events coming up this half term. There is a lot happening, including **Sports Day on 16th June**, which we know the children are already looking forward to. You can keep an eye on everything through the calendar on this newsletter and regular updates.

We look forward to sharing more of the wonderful learning and celebrations taking place across the school in the weeks ahead.

Many Thanks
Mrs Horwood

What we have done this week

NURSERY

As the days get warmer, Nursery have been preparing our outdoor space for lots of planting!

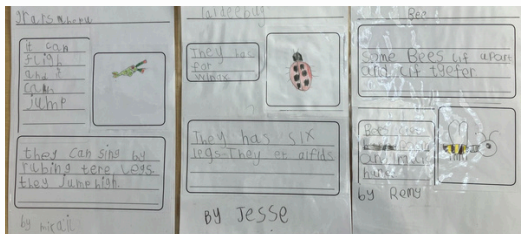
We filled our planters with fresh soil and planted some beautiful lavender and fragrant jasmine, hoping to attract the bees! We also repotted our Honeysuckle climbing plant, which is now much happier and growing beautifully!

Each of us then chose our own seed to plant in a little pot, including sunflowers, lettuce, tomatoes, strawberries, and beans. Now it's our job to help them grow by making sure they get plenty of sunlight and just enough water. We can't wait to watch our garden flourish over the next half term, and are crossing fingers that all our seeds sprout!



DONALDSON CLASS

This week we have watched our caterpillars grow and change into chrysalis's and also learned all about lots of other minibeasts. We looked at lots of non-fiction books and learnt about the features of these books. We each chose a minibeast and produced our very own minibeast fact file packed full of facts and complete with page numbers and a contents page. We also enjoyed learning a minibeast poem off by heart and performing it in key groups. Minibeasts are amazing and we couldn't live without them!



AHLBERG CLASS

It has been an exciting week in Ahlberg Class as the children have been closely observing the butterfly lifecycle. They've watched their caterpillars grow plumper by the day and transform into chrysalises, all while learning lots of fascinating facts about insects. Everyone is now looking forward to the magical moment when the butterflies appear. Alongside this, the children have been keeping caterpillar diaries, writing a sentence about each stage of the metamorphosis journey.



HADID CLASS

Hadid class enjoyed creating colourfullandscape pictures inspired by winding roads and countryside scenes. They used bright colours and patterns to make each piece unique, showing fantastic creativity and imagination.



MOZART CLASS

Mozart Class have been enjoying their English learning this week through the book *You're Called What?! The children loved discovering all the unusual animal names in the story and used this as inspiration to create their own animal fact files. They researched interesting facts, described their chosen creatures, and added labelled drawings to bring their work to life. The class were very proud of their finished pieces and showed great curiosity and creativity as young non-fiction writers.*



SEACOLE CLASS

RASHFORD CLASS

This week, Seacole and Rashford went on a fabulous trip to Kew Gardens. We explored the beautiful gardens, discovered a variety of plants from around the world, and learned about their different features and how they grow. The visit linked closely to our Science topic on plants, giving the children the opportunity to observe a wide range of plants in a real-life setting and deepen their understanding of what they have been learning in class. The children also enjoyed a picnic together in the grounds, making the most of the lovely surroundings. It was a wonderful experience that everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

This links to Article 29 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states that education should help children develop their talents and abilities and learn to respect the natural environment.

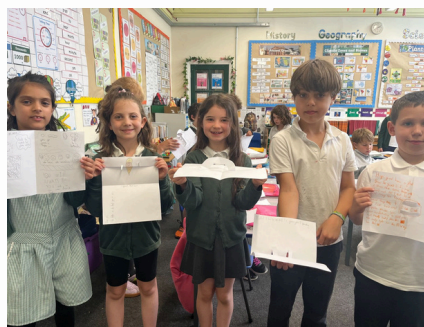


BENJAMIN CLASS

Benjamin Class thoroughly enjoyed their PSHE lessons with Mr Williams this term. The sessions were highly interactive, engaging, and reflective, providing pupils with meaningful opportunities to share ideas, discuss emotions, and learn from one another in a supportive environment.

As part of their learning, the children took part in a thoughtful activity where they wrote letters to Year 2 pupils, offering advice, encouragement, and support. This encouraged them to think interpersonally, develop empathy, and build emotional awareness while promoting the importance of expressing and understanding feelings.

The class also wrote letters to their future selves, reflecting on their personal journeys, achievements, and aspirations. Through these reflective activities, pupils deepened their understanding of themselves and others while reinforcing our whole-school values of respect, resilience, compassion, and wellbeing. The children demonstrated maturity, kindness, and thoughtfulness throughout, making these sessions both enjoyable and impactful. These learning experiences also supported the principles of the UNCRC. In particular, pupils exercised their right to express their views and feelings (Article 12) and their right to freedom of expression (Article 13) through discussion, reflection, and letter writing. The activities promoted pupils' mental and emotional wellbeing, reflecting Article 24, which recognises every child's right to health and wellbeing.



ATTENBOROUGH CLASS

Attenborough Class launched their new text, *The Boy Who Biked the World* by Alastair Humphreys, with a brilliant WOW lesson that sparked curiosity and imagination. To step into the shoes of Tom, the children brought in items they would take on a round-the-world bike adventure; from practical essentials like water bottles and tools to special objects they felt emotionally attached to. However, once they began planning their journey, they quickly realised that travelling by bike with just one backpack meant making tough choices about what to keep and what to leave behind.

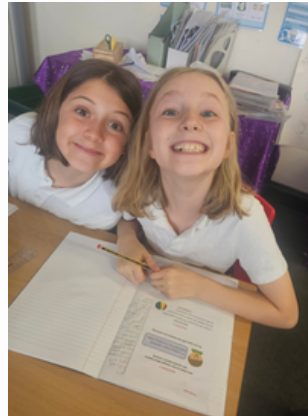
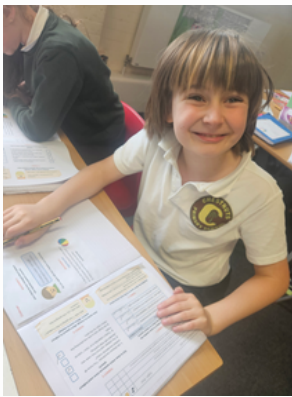
This led to thoughtful discussions about essential survival items and what really matters on a long journey. The class also explored maps and predicted the countries Tom might cycle through on his route from London to South Africa. It was an inspiring start to the unit, and the children are already excited for the adventure ahead.



FIBONACCI CLASS

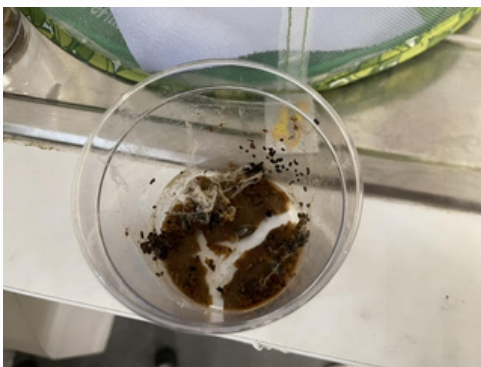
Our Year 4 learners have had a brilliant week exploring direct speech and indirect speech. Using examples from stories and real conversations, the children learned how to spot each type of speech and how punctuation helps bring characters' voices to life. They were especially proud of identifying direct and reported speech in sentences and explaining the changes needed when turning one into the other. This was a skill they were eager to show off during class discussions.

What made the learning truly shine was the children's enthusiasm. They loved experimenting with their own sentences, acting out conversations, and then transforming them into reported speech. Their confidence has grown beautifully, and it was wonderful to see them so engaged and proud of their progress at recognising the difference between direct and indirect speech.



GANDHI CLASS

In Gandhi class we are watching the miracle of metamorphosis to co-incide with science. The children are loving it. They have been fascinated watching the caterpillars crawl up their tub (first picture) and turn themselves into a chrysalis. They have been noticing every wriggle all the silk produced and the questions asked have demonstrated yet again how inquisitive they are. Now the chrysalis are in the netting, we are just waiting for them to become butterflies so we can set them free.



PANKHURST & THOMPSON CLASS

What better way to end Summer 1 term, than to celebrate our Eco-School with Power-Off Day. Pankhurst class decided that we would enjoy the day by using our local resources: Railway Fields & Chestnuts Park. In the morning, we ventured out to our local nature reserve to identify and tally species in their natural environment - we even spotted some elusive Stag Beetles. As a whole year group, we performed some community outreach by litter picking outside our school. We are very lucky to have such resources so close to school.



MANDELA & MALALA CLASS

After all of the Year 6 children's hard work preparing for SATs and writing moderation, we have now shifted our focus to something truly joyful — our end-of-year performance of *Pantastic*. The children have been throwing themselves into rehearsals, refining their acting skills, learning their cues, and working together to create a show that will stay with families long after the final bow. Their energy, teamwork, and creativity are shining through, and we cannot wait to share this memorable performance with you.



TURING GROUP

Turing Group kicked off Pride Month by researching Alan Turing's life and legacy. They wrote letters to the King and Government asking for greater recognition, even typing parts on a vintage typewriter.

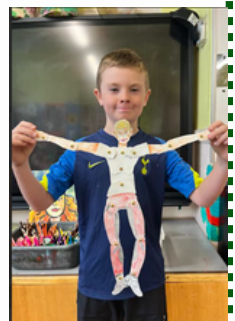
They rounded their learning with everyone proudly posting their letters at the local postbox.



ART CLASSES

Looking at body proportions was a real eye opener for the year 5 classes who made articulating characters using card and split pins in their Art lessons.

Did you know your body can be divided into approx 8 units of measurement?



SCHOOL COUNCIL

CHESTNUTS CHEERS:

- **Adam G:** We are going to enjoy the Orange Tree theatre.
- **Freddie:** I like the climbing frame on the front playground.
- **Selina:** We are looking forward to a school trip.
- **Nye:** I love what we do in Maths.
- **Gene:** I really like playtime.
- **Niamh:** We love Mr. Bloom! We like all of our sports tournaments.



CHESTNUTS MAY PLAYScheme

The children had a wonderful time at our May playscheme. They took part in a variety of fun and engaging activities, enjoyed visits to the local park and an exciting water play session.



REFUGEE WEEK

Our whole school will be taking part in Refugee Week 2026, celebrating this year's theme of Courage through a rich programme of storytelling, workshops and creative learning. Throughout the week, pupils will explore what courage looks like in everyday life — from starting again in a new place to speaking up for fairness, kindness and belonging.

Children across EYFS, KS1 and KS2 will engage with a national line-up of free live events and videos. These include Storytime with Michael Rosen (KS1), where he shares his warm and hopeful new picture book *The Big Journey*; a series of EY/KS1 videos with award-winning author Nadine Kaadan, helping younger children explore themes of home, hope and belonging; a Meet and Greet with Dina and Ayman (KS2), who share aspects of their cultural heritage and journeys to sanctuary; an interactive session with author-illustrator Ramzee (KS2), bringing *The Cheat Book* series to life through drawing and humour rooted in his refugee experience; and an inspiring talk from Giel (KS2 & KS3), a South Sudanese refugee who walked the length of the UK for charity and now shares practical ideas for building a culture of welcome.

We will also be joining A Day of Welcome, organised by Anglia Ruskin University in partnership with Schools of Sanctuary. Celebrated by over 800 schools last year, this day supports pupils of all ages to learn about migration, identity and community, helping schools foster understanding and solidarity with people seeking sanctuary.

Across the week, pupils will take part in discussions, creative activities and reflective tasks that strengthen our commitment to inclusion and diversity. This learning also reinforces our Rights Respecting ethos, particularly Articles 12, 13, 22, 29 and 30, as we celebrate courage and continue building a welcoming school community for all.

