**Chestnut Class Summer Term Newsletter 2024**

**History and Geography**

During the first half of this term, we will be studying WW1 and WW2; learning the key dates from each war and researching the impact of WW2 on citizens. Next half term, our Geography topic will be “Are we damaging our world?” Where we will be looking at the impact of climate change on our planet.

**Science**

Firstly we will be learning about light. Our second topic of the term will be properties of materials.

**RE**

We shall begin the term by focussing on Buddhism; answering the question ‘How does the Triple Refuge help Buddhists in their journey through life?’

During the second half term we shall focus on Humanism; answering the question ‘Why do Humanists say that happiness is the goal of life?’

**Maths**

We will start this term by learning about decimals and percentages and by applying our knowledge of the four operations to calculate the perimeters and areas of shape. Towards the end of term we will cover the topics of statistics and shape.

**English**

This half term, we start by writing a biography on a famous scientist. This will be linked to our Science topic of light. Next the children will be practising their letter writing skills. These will be written as WW2 soldiers which links to our history topic.

Next half term, we will focus on writing an informal set of instructions based on the text ‘Bullies, Bigmouths and So-Called friends.’ Towards the end of the term the children will be given time to work on their own personal writing projects.

**Welcome back!**

Welcome back after the Easter season to the Summer Term.

We hope you have had a wonderful time over the holidays and that the children are refreshed and ready for their new learning in school.

Mrs Diwan will now teach Chestnut class Monday-Friday. Sycamore Class will still be joining Chestnut for their learning on Fridays.

Chestnut Class will now be going swimming on Wednesday mornings and will still have music lessons and PE on a Friday.

We have many exciting things planned for this term, including an African dance workshop, sporting events, a residential trip and a visit to the local church; so please keep checking school communications and keep updated with what we have been up to by visiting the ‘Latest News’ section on the school website.

We look forward to working with the children and yourselves this term.  Thank you for your continued support.

**Home Learning:**

Please support your child’s learning at home. This makes a huge difference!

Weekly Maths homework will be given out on a **Monday** and collected in the following **Monday**. Please ensure your children complete this every week to consolidate their learning.

Knowledge Organisers and Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs) are on our class page on the school website. Please support your child to engage with these as it will support their learning during lessons.

Weekly spelling lists will be posted on Spelling Frame each Friday for the following Friday’s test.

***Reading continues to be a real priority, both in school and at home*.** Children should read at home a minimum of 5 times a week. Answering questions and talking about the book is as important as reading the words. Please make sure this is recorded in their reading record as for every 20 minutes they read, the children will get another star in their reading challenge. We encourage wider reading too, e.g. comics, newspapers, non-fiction, recipes and books from home.

**We want to foster a love of reading as it is so important across all of the curriculum!**

**Outside Education:**

To ensure the children continue to enjoy the experience of learning outside, we have many lessons planned that will be taking place in our school environment.

During History we shall spend time outside re-enacting the emotional impact of air raid sirens on citizens and the swift actions they had to take when they heard them.

During Maths we shall be spotting and measuring shapes in our environment; including using protractors to measure their angles.

In Science, we shall carry out investigations on light using the natural light outside as well as completing a material walk to research what types of materials are best used for different objects and why.

As the weather gets warmer, there will be many opportunities for the children to use the school environment as inspiration for their writing in English. The children will be able to spend time both writing and performing outside.