Chestnut Class Newsletter
Autumn 2026 2nd half term



English

Non- Fiction Text: Persuasive Letter based on the book 'Kick'

As a class, we will be reading part of the book Kick by Mitch Johnson about a boy working in a factory making football boots. The children will learn about child labour and will learn how to write a letter persuading someone to do something. They will include the relative clauses and modal verbs in their writing to make it as hard-hitting and powerful as possible.

Non-fiction Text: David Attenborough

We will be learning the features of a biography and the structure and language that can be found in a biography. The aim is that they will write their own Biography, in a formal tone, about a person who inspires them. In grammar, the children will be focussing on using punctuation, such as commas, brackets, colons and semi colons to add meaning to their writing. They will also be learning about the perfect tense.

Reading: we will be reading the book "FArTHER" and will be learning how to understand the meaning of unfamiliar words in a text. This will be followed by learning about structure and language features of nonfiction texts, using the book "Pirates".

Spelling: we will be developing and using our knowledge of morphemes (part of a word) to spell words with suffixes such as – ant, -ance, -ent and -ence.

Religion and Worldviews

What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?

We will be looking into life as a Muslim in Britain and digging into Islam. We will look closely at the Qur'an and its teachings on how to be a good person, and how this might impact a Muslim in Britain today. Towards the end of the half term, we will look at the Christmas story.

PSHE & Citizenship

Celebrating difference – We will learn about cultural and racial difference; we will look at bullying behaviours and will be able to understand direct and indirect types of bullying. We will learn to compare our own lives with those of people in the developing world and appreciate that some cultures may differ from ours.

Geography

Why is Exeter a city and how could it be improved?

This half term we will be exploring the location of Exeter, its physical and human features and its purpose. We will learn why it is called a city and about how it has changed over time. After a fieldwork trip into Exeter, we will be deciding if it is fit for purpose for people and decide how it could become a more sustainable city.

Science

When is a solid not a solid?

We will be continuing our learning about materials, by learning about how changes can be reversible and irreversible. In addition to this, we will investigate how glue is made and how it has changed over time. Finally the children will have an opportunity to create their own uses for a chosen material.

PE and Forest School

PE will be on a Thursday for this half term, as we have Forest School on a Friday morning. The children will be taught attack and defence skills through rugby led by trainers from Exeter Chiefs.

Maths

Multiplication and division – We will be investigating multiples and factors, as well as examining prime and composite numbers. We will also be learning about square and cube numbers and what these look like. Finally, we will be multiplying and dividing numbers by 10, 100 and 1000, and investigating what happens to numbers when this occurs moving-digit-cards is a great resource to support this at home.

Fractions – we will be revisiting unit and non-unit fractions; improper and mixed number fractions and making equivalent fractions. We will also be solving addition and subtraction problems involving whole numbers and fractions.

DT

Christmas Houses

The children will be learning all about how structures are made and how they can be strengthened using various techniques. They will also be studying some famous structures, such as the Eiffel Tower and the Severn Bridge. This knowledge and understanding will then aid them in designing and making their own illuminated Christmas Houses, using wood and card.

Spanish

This half term, we will be learning 10 different fruits in Spanish, including how to say them in singular and plural. We will practise key Spanish sounds and pronunciation through songs and videos, and learn how to say 'I like' and 'I don't like'. We will finish by conducting a class survey in Spanish!

Computing

This half term, children will learn how to create their own short videos, working collaboratively in small groups. They will develop skills in filming, editing and adding effects, using a range of digital tools. They will take their ideas from planning through to completion before sharing and reflecting on their finished videos.

Home Learning

Home learning will be uploaded to Google Classroom at the beginning of the half term. The children will be presented with 8 different questions / projects of which they will need to choose and complete 2 during this half-term to hand in on 20th November and 11th December. We will also send home weekly maths and spelling home learning. In addition to this, the children should be accessing TTRS to maintain their times tables knowledge and be reading at least 3 times a week. If your child is struggling with a task that has been set, please do not hesitate to let us know, and additional support can be provided.