

The Chestnut Chronicle

As we come to the end of this busy and exciting half-term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on all the wonderful things the children have achieved. It has been such a pleasure to see how much they have grown in confidence, independence and enthusiasm for learning over the past few weeks. A big focus for Chestnut Class has been learning our new routines and expectations, and I am thrilled with how the children have embraced this and worked so hard.

In English, we have enjoyed exploring a variety of traditional stories, learning to sequence them and write exciting and descriptive sentences. The children particularly enjoyed writing their own retelling of the story of Rapunzel and making wanted posters for the curious and cheeky Goldilocks, who made a surprise visit to our classroom, leaving it in quite a mess! The children have been developing their reading fluency and practising using prosody when reading aloud, as well as participating enthusiastically in the phonics lessons.



In Maths, we have focused on building a strong understanding of number and place value, as well as practising addition and subtraction strategies, additionally, we have looked at money and measure and applying this in real life contexts. The children have worked hard to explain their thinking and use practical resources to solve problems. Their growing confidence has really shone through in our lessons, and I have loved watching them independently practise these skills in our challenge and forest school time.

Our topic work and science this half term has taken us on some exciting adventures. From learning about the impact of the changing seasons on our local area and park to

discovering new facts about animals, including humans, looking at their life cycles and their habitats, the children have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm. In computing, the children have been learning about keeping themselves safe online and roleplaying scenarios with their peers. We have a class of budding artists, and the shelves are full of beautiful artwork linking our science topics and the autumn season - the classroom has been full of colour and imagination!



In RE, the children have been looking at thankfulness, learning what it means to be thankful and how this can be shown in our daily life and through religion. They looked at how Christians celebrate harvest and how Jews celebrate Sukkot, reflecting on why thankfulness is important in different contexts.

Beyond the classroom, we have also spent time developing social skills, kindness and teamwork. It has been heartening to see friendships flourish and to watch the children support one another.

Next half term promises to be just as exciting, with plenty of opportunities for learning, creativity and fun as well as our preparations for the nativity!