

# The Chestnut

## Chronicle

As we come to the end of the first half of the spring term, I would like to take the opportunity to celebrate all the fantastic learning that has taken place in Chestnut Class. The children came back to school rested, full of energy and enthusiasm and have worked incredibly hard. It has been a joy to see.

This half-term in English, we have been using the beautiful books *I Am Henry Finch* and *Beegu* by Alexis Deacon to inspire our writing. The children have enjoyed writing narratives, poetry, instructions and an information leaflet. A particular highlight for me was their leaflet writing about *'How to Think Well'*, where they shared thoughtful ideas and tips to calm busy brains and think positively. However, I can say without a shadow of a doubt that for the children the highlight was the crash landing of Beegu on the school field!



In Maths, Year 1 children have been developing confidence with number bonds, addition and subtraction. They have also begun learning about time, mass, fractions and counting in 2s and 10s. Year 2 children have been strengthening their calculation skills using known facts, as well as learning more about time, mass, fractions, shapes and developing their understanding of multiplication and division



In Geography, the children have been using the book *Hike* to learn about the key features of mountain and forest environments, and exploring how different places around the world compare to our local area using maps and weather data. We have also been learning about the continents and oceans of the world.

In RE, the children have explored the importance of remembering: learning how Jewish people remember the story of Passover and why it is such a special celebration. A real highlight was the children's wonderful Passover assembly, which they performed confidently for the rest of the school.

Throughout the rest of the curriculum, the children have been busy showing curiosity, resilience and teamwork. In computing, they have been learning about programming, including writing clear algorithms and debugging when things don't go quite to plan. Dance has been a huge success this term. The children have loved learning new moves, developing control over their body movements and performing short routines with energy and confidence. Through our PSHE work and the story *Harold Has a Bad Day*, the children have been learning how behaviour can affect others and how we can make positive choices in our relationships.

One of the most exciting days this term was our Design and Technology smoothie day. The children learned about fruits and vegetables, where they grow, and how to prepare them safely. They then designed and created their own delicious smoothies. The classroom was full of enthusiasm (and some very tasty combinations!).



Thank you for your continued support throughout the term. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back for more exciting learning.