



## Chestnut Class

### Autumn Term 1: Wriggle and Crawl

Welcome to Chestnut Class, we have such an exciting half term ahead. Over the first few weeks we will establish lots of important routines that will make life easier in the classroom. The children will discuss the **class charter**, and this will help them; focus on their work, look after each other and the resources around them and ensure that they inspire to become creative and imaginative learners.

School life is a little different this term. We want your children to feel happy, safe and excited about coming to school to learn. Regular updates from the school will help you feel involved in your child's learning. Please remember to send your child in with a coat, water bottle and lunchbox (if needed). A piece of fruit will be provided for their morning snack but if they want to bring their own, then please make sure that it is in a small named container. The classroom is set up in rows and all children will face the front. No toys or stationery is to be brought into school. Regular hand washing throughout the day will happen along with thorough cleaning of tables, surfaces, equipment and door handles.

**Our topic** for the first half of the Autumn Term is **Wriggle and Crawl**. The children will love heading outside on a minibeast hunt. They will identify minibeasts in their natural habitat and enjoy making their own micro habitat. We will become scientists; asking questions, exploring and recording evidence.

Our **English** lessons will give us ample opportunities to read excellent books and chances to plan, write and edit our work. We'll write a guide book for other children to use on a minibeast hunt, create minibeast stories and poems.

**Reading** is essential for all aspects of the curriculum. Guided reading sessions will take place; these will be carried out in small table rows and as a whole class. A love for reading is so important and in year 2 we will create time to help the children flourish and enjoy reading. Listening to your child read is vital and a delight, please try to spend a short amount of time with your child and their book. Presently we are not able to send reading books home. Please try to find books to engage your child, you can access free e-books on: [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk) and you may be able to get books from the local libraries. We will endeavour to hear your child read during school as much as we can.

**Spellings** will be set weekly via seesaw; they will be set on a Monday and tested on Fridays. We want children to learn their spellings and use them in their writing. During school we will teach the spelling rule / pattern for the week and reinforce it in many ways. The spelling test will include a few spellings from previous weeks, just to ensure that they are retaining the words.

**Phonics** will be a key priority and taught in short-structured sessions throughout the day. Under the guidance from the government every Year 2 child will have a phonics test in the Autumn 2 Term. There will be opportunity to re-sit the phonics test in June if required marks are not achieved. Please do not worry, we will update you with details about how this will be administered in the coming weeks.

Year 2 will be taking their **SATs** test in the summer term. Again, there is no need to worry about this. All aspects of the work will be taught in class and we will update you with further details nearer the time.

During our **maths** lessons the children will focus on a deep understanding of place value, addition and subtraction, time and multiplication and division. The fast-paced lessons will keep the children on their toes!

**Music** lessons will be integrated into our topic. Children will have the opportunity to play percussion instruments, varying the rhythm and dynamics.

Our **PE** lessons are scheduled on a **Tuesdays and Fridays**. **Please ensure that your child comes into school in their PE kit on those days**. Any ear-rings must be taken out or covered for the lessons and hair is to be tied up with a plain band. The first half term we will focus on dance and athletics.

We will look at drawing techniques in our **Art** lessons. The children will work hard on pencil control when draw minibeasts and start to understand how to shade and add texture to their work. They will also design a new minibeast and have a chance to make a model using different materials.

Our **RE** lessons will look at the big question: What do Christians believe God is like? A chance to ask questions and explore God's character.

**Homework** will be coming home soon. There will be weekly spellings and topic work. A choice of activities based on the topic will be given, this can be completed throughout the first Autumn Term (plenty of time to be creative). Please ensure that any written work is completed in pencil. The topic work will be sent out via Parentmail and a copy will also be stuck in their homework book. You can either send the topic homework in electronically through seesaw or do the work in the homework book – whatever is easier for you. The homework needs to be completed by **Friday 16th October**. The homework books are only to be brought in on Friday 16th, with all the work completed. I can then leave the books over the weekend before marking them, thank you.

If you have any concerns about your child, please remember to speak to me, currently it is best to contact me via email. Many thanks for all your support.

Mrs Collins