



Chestnut Class

Spring Term 2: Band, Beat and Boogie

Welcome to the second half of the Spring Term, I do hope that you are keeping well. Let us hope and pray that all children can safely return to school in the coming weeks.

The **topic** for this term is Band, Beat and Boogie; a big focus on music! We will explore how music is put together and have hands on experience with percussion, drums and tuned instruments. As a class we will look at pulse, rhythm, pitch, melody, tempo and dynamics. Lessons will be exciting as we investigate how to play instruments, control and change sounds. There will be plenty of opportunities to design and make different instruments. Performances will help children grow in confidence and learn how to work with others.

Much of our reading will be around familiar nursery rhymes, we will embrace the traditional tunes and add rhythm to them. The story behind the Grand Old Duke of York will provide a great structure for a newspaper report and enable the children to examine the layout and **writing** style required. They will learn about the features of a newspaper report: headlines, orientation, quotes, paragraphs and reorientation. Then they will explore the story of The Steadfast Tin Soldier and look at alternative endings. Finally we will focus on synonyms and put together our own lyrics for songs. So much for a half term!

A love for **reading** is vital for the children to flourish and explore all subjects. Reading text and learning how to answer comprehension questions will play an important part this term. At home please spend time enjoying a book with your child, a few minutes of reading a day soon adds up to an hour of reading. We are still not able to send reading books home. You can access free e-books on: www.oxfordowl.co.uk.

Spellings are set weekly on Monday and tested on Fridays. We want children to learn their spellings and use them in their writing. The spelling test will include a few spellings from previous weeks, just to ensure that they are retaining the words. The spelling overview will be attached to this letter. Your child will be set 2, 3, 4 or 5 spellings a week and I will send them out at the weekend on your individual seesaw account. I keep a running score of the test results and make changes, when needed. The spelling patterns are taught in school along with all of the words. This gives every child the opportunity to access a whole variety of vocabulary.

Our **Maths** lessons will start to explore statistics and will look at tally charts, pictograms and block diagrams. It is important for the children to read charts, record information and interpret them – evaluating and drawing together conclusions. This term we will also investigate fractions; fractions of shapes and numbers.

Science lessons will continue to look at materials, focusing on changes in materials. We will also explore sound and how the air around or inside instruments vibrate.

Chestnut class have PE lessons on Tuesdays and Fridays. **Please ensure that your child comes into school wearing their PE kit on Tuesdays and Fridays.** Any ear-rings must be taken out or covered for the lessons and hair is to be tied up with a plain band. This half term we will look at ball skills; catching, throwing, passing, retrieving and team work.

During **art** we will listen to a variety of music and use our drawing and painting skills to interpret and express the melody or story behind the music. Our **RE** lessons will focus on the events leading up to Easter and look at Salvation. Such a wonderful opportunity for discussion and story-telling. **PSHE** (Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education) lessons will be centered around well-being and friendships.

When your children are in school, please remember to send them 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. Please remember that no toys, drawings or stationery are to be brought into school. Regular hand washing throughout the day will happen along with thorough cleaning of tables, surfaces, equipment and door handles.

Topic Homework will be coming home soon. A choice of activities based on the topic will be given, this can be completed throughout the second half of the Spring Term. Please ensure that any written work is completed in pencil. 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 26th March**. The homework books are only to be brought in on Friday 26th, with all the work completed. I can then leave the books over the weekend before marking them, thank you.

If you have any concerns, you can reach me via email. I will pick up emails after school. Many thanks for all your support.

Mrs Collins

Week	2 Spellings	3 Spellings	4 Spellings	5 Spellings	extra
1 22.02	key, donkey	key, donkey, monkey	key, donkey, monkey, chimney	key, donkey, monkey, chimney, valley	money, honey, parsley, alley, journey
2 01.03	want, watch	want, watch, wander	want, watch, wander, quantity	want, watch, wander, quantity, squash	Waffle, wand, wasp, squabble, swallow, quarter, wallet
3 08.03	word, work	word, work, worm	word, work, worm, world	word, work, worm, world, worth war, warm, towards	Workshop, worship, worthwhile, woolly, worse
4 15.03	vision, usual	vision, usual, treasure	vision, usual, treasure, television	vision, usual, treasure, television, measure	usually, decision, pleasure
5 22.03	son, sun	son, sun, bare, bear	son, sun, bare, bear, one, won	son, sun, bare, bear, one, won, to, too, two	I, eye, hair, hare, poor, pour, see, sea
6 29.03	be, bee	be, bee, blue, blew	be, bee, night, knight, blue, blew	be, bee, night, knight, blue, blew, by, to buy, bye, eight, ate	our, hour, know, no, meat, meet, here, hear

Common exception words: *could, should, would, who, whole, any, many, clothes, busy, people*