



Chestnut Class

Autumn Term 1: Wriggle and Crawl

Welcome to Chestnut Class, I hope that you had a wonderful summer holiday and are excited about Year 2. 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. We have a fantastic opportunity to work with Chichester Harbour Conservancy. During September, in school time, we will have the chance to explore the harbour area.

We want your children to feel happy, safe and excited about coming to school to learn. Regular updates from the school and via seesaw 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. No toys or stationery are to be brought into school. We will still continue to do regular hand washing throughout the day along with thorough cleaning of surfaces and equipment.

Our topic for the first half of the Autumn Term is **Wriggle and Crawl**. The children will love heading outside on a mini beast hunt. They will identify mini beasts 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, edit and review our work. We'll look at guide books and, as a class, will start to put our own together. There will be wonderful stories and poems giving inspiration for creative writing. A key focus will be on vocabulary, the children will discuss new words and expand their understanding.

Reading is essential for all aspects of the curriculum. Guided reading sessions will take place; these will be carried out in small groups 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. Books will be sent home shortly. You can always access free e-books on: www.oxfordowl.co.uk and obtain 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.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Spellings</i>
<i>1 Sept 6th</i>	<i>badge, edge, bridge, dodge, fudge</i>
<i>2 Sept 13th</i>	<i>age, huge, change, charge, bulge</i>
<i>3 Sept 20th</i>	<i>gem, giant, magic, giraffe, energy</i>
<i>4 Sept 27th</i>	<i>jacket, jar, jog, join, adjust</i>
<i>5 Oct 4th</i>	<i>race, ice, cell, city, fancy</i>
<i>6 Oct 11th</i>	<i>knock, know, knee, gnat, gnaw</i>
<i>7 Oct 18th</i>	<i>Assessment of the half term words</i>

Phonics will be a key priority this term and taught in short-structured sessions throughout the day. Under the guidance from the government every Year 2 child will have a phonics assessment in the Autumn 2 Term.

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!

Our **PE** lessons are scheduled on a **Tuesdays and Thursdays**. **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. Our school is involved in the scheme 'Real PE' and will follow an exciting program throughout the years. The first half term we will focus on core skills and dance. These will enable the children develop strength skills, apply them in small activities and then review / discuss how they got on.

We will look at drawing techniques in our **Art** lessons. The children will work hard on pencil control when draw mini beasts and start to understand how to shade and add texture to their work. They will also design a new mini beast 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 There will be weekly spellings and reading. A choice of activities based on the topic will also be given (see below), 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 is being sent out via Parentmail but a copy will also be stuck in their homework book also to refer to. 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 15th October**.

If you have any questions or concerns about school life or your child, please remember to speak to me, currently it is best to contact me via email: lcollins@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk
 Many thanks for all your support.

Mrs Collins



Chestnut Class Homework Activities

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Please choose 3 out of the 8 following Topic activities to complete:

<p>Go on a mini beast safari to find out what creatures live in your local environment. Take photographs or draw the mini beasts that you find, then identify them using your previous knowledge, books and the internet.</p>	<p>Choose a favourite mini beast and write sentences about its habitat (home).</p>
<p>Draw a detailed sketch of a mini beast using a pencil. Use information books, online images or first-hand observation as inspiration.</p>	<p>Use natural and man-made materials to make a mini beast hotel. Create small holes, tunnels and dark spaces for the mini beasts to hide. Put your mini beast hotel outside and leave it for a few days, then carefully observe to see if any mini beasts have moved in.</p>

<p>With an adult, use the internet to research amazing mini beasts found in other parts of the world, such as the Borneo walking stick or the Goliath beetle. Make an information poster to showcase the facts and information that you find.</p>	<p>Use information books and the internet to find out about the life cycle of a butterfly. Draw a diagram to show the stages in the right sequence. Write a sentence about what is happening at each stage.</p>
<p>Design and make a 3-D model of a mini beast. Collect and use natural materials, such as leaves, twigs and bark, and a range of craft materials, including googly eyes, pipe cleaners and coloured pompoms. Place your creature outside in its natural habitat and take photos with a camera or tablet.</p>	<p>Paint or make a collage picture of the woods. Add in any mini beasts that you may find.</p>

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 15th October**.