

Chestnuts Chronicle



Edition 2 October 2017

A World Class School

**Encourage, Enable, Empower
The Chestnuts Way!**

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A note from the Headteacher...

Half term is upon us already and everyone has been very busy!

There have been lots of exciting things happening this term, such as trips to the lake, a ball, a book night and cooking! You will be able to read about many of these things in the rest of The Chronicle.

This terms clubs are in full swing and the children are enjoying a whole range of activities, such as sports clubs, keyboards, reading activities and jewellery making. It is thanks to the hard work and dedication of the staff that all of these things can take place.

We have begun our work to develop the children's learning skills and resilience in the face of challenges. We will be updating you on our progress as we go so keep an eye out for this feature each time.

Everyone has been challenged to learn new things in the first half of the autumn term. This is exciting but can also be tiring so please enjoy half term and quality time with your children, if you are lucky enough to get it. Next half term, we will be ready for all the new opportunities it will bring.

Curriculum News



Managing
Distractions

Growth Mindsets and Learning Skills



Collaboration

At Chestnuts, we are introducing the children to a set of learning skills that will help them face challenges and develop their resilience to have a go! This half term we have started speaking to the children about the skills of Managing Distractions and Collaboration. These are words that you may start to hear at home. We will be celebrating and praising the children who can show us these skills in all aspects of school life. We would love it if you would support us by discussing these skills at home too.

If you are managing your distractions, you are aware of what distracts you, try to minimise these distractions, know what conditions help you to learn best and settle back to learning quickly after an interruption.

If you are collaborating, you are aware of other people's points of view, respect others when you work with them, share information and resources willingly and are able to be part of a team.

Mandarin

Nǐ hǎo! (hello)

This term, Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed exploring Chinese culture through watching Mulan. Year 4 have discussed the role of the dragon in Chinese culture and compared these Chinese views with British views. In Years 5 and 6, children have been verbally forming sentences related to family members.

Zàijiàn (goodbye)



Sports News

Sport.

We are kicking off next term with the yearly cross country event where a selected team of runners, both boys and girls, from Years 4, 5 and 6 have been chosen to represent our school. We are very excited and looking forward to the challenge. We welcome parents to come and cheer our runners along!

We also have many other events coming up. These include a Fit and Fun festival, several tournaments and an indoor athletics event. Some of the events are shown below:

4th November – MKSSA Cross Country – Mixed – Years 4 to 6 – Milton Keynes Bowl – 8:30am

6th November – Basketball – Mixed – Years 5 & 6 – Denbigh – 3:45pm

15th November – Fit & Fun Festival – Mixed – Years 1 & 2 – Venue TBC – 12:30-2:45pm



Freaky Friday

Bletchley Leisure Centre is hosting a Halloween event, including games, a costume competition and time in the pool too.

They are also hosting a range of other events throughout the week.

For more information and to book, please have a look at their website. <http://www.hertsmereleisure.co.uk/bletchley-leisure-centre/childrens-activities-in-milton-keynes/holiday-activities-at-bletchley-leisure-centre>



Chestnuts Primary School

'Encourage, Enable, Empower'

Governing Body Update

Anyone that knows Chestnuts Primary School, knows that it has an amazing teaching team, great leadership and a strong positive culture. We have experienced many changes in the last year with the school growing, people leaving and the move to join a multi-academy trust. Please join me in congratulating Miss Skillings and her team for taking on these challenges, whilst continuing to drive the school forward.

The Governing Body has also experienced some changes of late as many members have come to the end of their tenure or found their personal circumstances have changed, leading to them having to step down. Having done an excellent job, guiding us through these changes, Silvana Mengoni has resigned her role as Governing Body Chair and I have taken over. I joined the board a few years ago as a parent governor to 'give something back' to the school by supporting its development and performance.

Now, we are looking for a new parent governor to join the team. Could this be you? We are looking for someone who is confident and able to provide constructive challenge. If you would like to make a difference, please leave your details with the office and who will ask one of the governors to get in touch. We would love to hear from you!

Wayne Scott

WE ARE
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



FOC Update

Macmillan Coffee Morning

FOC organised and ran a coffee morning in support of Macmillan Cancer Support. It was lovely to see lots of you there, supporting this fantastic charity. The total raised was **£150.**

Upcoming Events



Halloween / Guy Fawkes Disco—3rd November

WE NEED YOU!

FOC support Chestnuts with a wide range of fund raising activities. In the past, these have included Christmas and Summer Fetes, discos, bingo evenings and coffee mornings. The FOC meet once a month in order to plan these

events. **They desperately need you!** There are two ways you can support FOC. You can opt to be a committee member and agree to attend the meetings. Alternatively, you can be a parent helper and help with running events as they come up. If you are interested, please leave your contact details with the office who will pass them on to the FOC team.





Dates for your diary

30th October – INSET day

31st October – Y6 Secondary school application deadline

31st October – Back to school

1st November – Year 1 local walk

1st – 8th November – Book Fair

7th and 8th November – Parents' Evening, 15:30-19:30

8th November – Year 1 cinema trip

9th November – Year 5 cinema trip

10th November - Year 3 cinema trip

15th November – Year 6 cinema trip

16th November – Year 2 cinema trip

17th November – Children in Need

18th November – Year 5 Space Centre trip

22nd November – Reception cinema trip

23rd November - Year 4 cinema trip

24th November – Year 3 and 4 sleepover

28th November – Year 5 Space Centre trip

Harvest Festival

We would like to thank everyone for their very kind donations of harvest gifts.

We had a large collection of tins, fresh fruit and vegetables and other items that will be put to good use.

All of the food donated has been taken to the food bank and will be used to support people in need in Milton Keynes.

The children enjoyed sharing their learning in the assembly that we had in school.



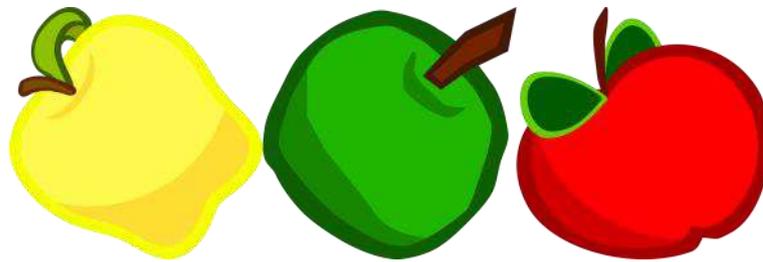
Year 1 Cinderella's Ball

Year 1 had a lovely time making sandwiches and cakes for their Cinderella's Ball. They danced the afternoon away, ate their food and enjoyed themselves. Cinderella lost her glass slipper but was eventually reunited with it at the end of the afternoon. Cinderella and the Prince lived happily ever after!



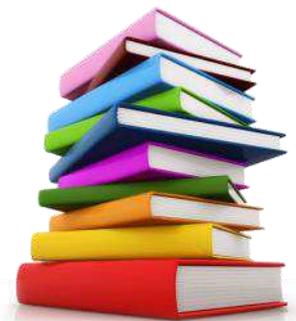
Year 3 Cooking

Year 3 have been busy making their own seasonal soup and crumble. They learned about seasonal fruit and vegetables. Following their classroom learning, the children walked to Tesco to source their ingredients. They spent a morning cooking the soup and crumbles before being able to taste what they had made. All the children tried the soup and crumble - some didn't like it while others asked for seconds!



Key Stage 1 Book Night

We have had our first Book Night of the year. The Key Stage One children had the chance to take part in an evening of activities based on George's Marvellous Medicine. During the night, they made mud slime by mixing ingredients together just like George did in the story. Everyone had the chance to feel the slime and play with it! In another activity, the children made their own potions. Each potion had a name. Some of the best were Princess Potion, Dragon's Breath and Smelly Socks. One was even called Dave! The evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all who came.



Year 4 Litter Survey



Year 4 visited our local area to look at the amount of litter that had been dropped and the different types of litter they could find. They discussed the impact of litter on the environment and what we can do to help prevent littering.

Year 6 Trip to Furzton Lake

Year 6 had a fantastic time at Furzton Lake Linear Park, where they took part in team building activities with the Parks Trust. The children had to use map reading and compass skills to navigate around the park, seeking out each activity. There was even a prize at the end! A great time was had by all the children in one of the beautiful parklands we have in Milton Keynes.



Year 3 Trip to Caldecotte

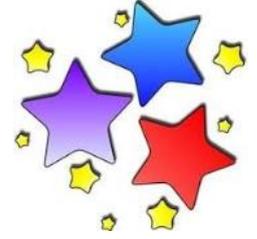
As part of Year 3's topic, they went on a trip to Caldecotte Lake. Both classes used the fitness equipment which is located at various points around the lake. All of the children took part and thoroughly enjoyed themselves! The children worked together as part of a team, showing they can use their collaboration skills. While they were there, they also took part in a scavenger hunt searching for various different items.





Wonder Work

Year 4 Writing



A poem using metaphors

The clouds are puffy marshmallows dropped
out of an aeroplane window.

The clouds are curly candy floss catapulted
into the sky.

The clouds are swirly white flumps launched
from outer space.

The clouds are squiggly white chocolate
smeared in the air.

The clouds are vanilla ice cream kicked into
the air.

The clouds are peaceful pancakes stacked up
for a giants breakfast.

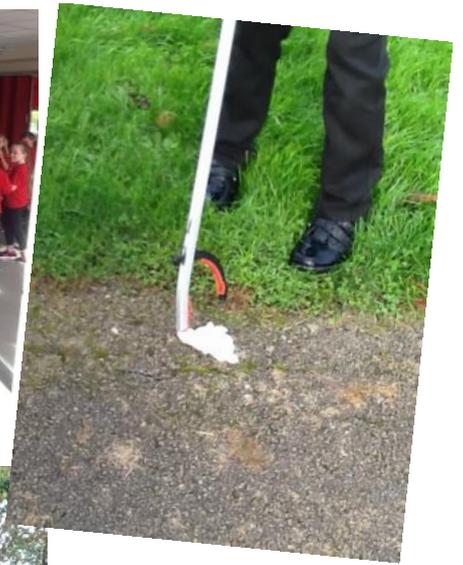
By Freya Simpkins

Cedar Class

October 2017 in photos...



Year 3 Cooking



Year 4 Litter Survey



Cinderella's Ball



Harvest Festival





Year 6 Trip to Furzton Lake



KS1 Book Night

**George's Marvellous
Medicine**

