

Curriculum Newsletter

Chestnut Class

Spring Term



As geographers, the children will be learning about how climate change is affecting the world. They will learn about why communities in the Gambia are being affected by changes in weather patterns associated with climate change, the impact of changing weather patterns in Southeast Australia and the way coastal communities are planning for floods and rising sea levels. They will also learn about sustainable and renewable sources of energy and how to reduce their carbon footprints and greenhouse emissions.

As mathematicians we will use White Rose resources to support our learning.

Year 5 will be learning about Multiplication and division, fractions, decimals and percentages, perimeter, area and how to use and interpret statistics.

Year 6 will be learning about ratio, algebra, decimals, fractions, percentages and statistics and revisiting area, perimeter, volume and statistics and building on prior learning on these concepts to involve more complex reasoning.

The children will continue to consolidate their times tables weekly using Times Tables Rock stars and challenges.



As engineers, we will be learning about textiles and combining different fabric shapes. The children will produce a 3D textile product from combining pattern pieces, fabric shapes and different types of fabric. The children will look at how fabrics can be strengthened, stiffened and reinforced where appropriate.

As computer engineers, the children will be bloggers, looking at the way blogs are constructed and used. They will also be considering different ways of writing texts and looking at computer networks. The children will also use their computer skills across the curriculum to produce powerpoint presentations and word documents.

As authors, the children will be studying the text 'The Dam' by David Almond. The children will immerse in drama, write in role as the different characters showing empathy through their writing, create non-fiction texts, free narrative writing and debate about current issues. The children will also be learning the grammatical structures required for each genre of writing and a deeper understanding of the different punctuation used. The children will continue to learn their spellings weekly, including words from the statutory lists and practice their handwriting.



As musicians, the children will be introduced to Blues music and learn about its history. They will identify the key features of Blues music and its cultural importance. The children will produce an improvised piece. The children will explore the music and composers of the Baroque Period and investigate the structural and stylistic features of their work.

As scientists, the children will be learning about properties of materials. This will include dissolving mixtures and changes of state, separation by filtration and separation by evaporation. They will look at properties that are hard, transparent, and magnetic as well as those that are thermal or conduct electricity. They will also investigate material that are flammable and acid and bicarbonate of soda. As well as properties of materials the children will investigate how light travels.



As athletes, the children will be practicing their skills using Real PE. This will include looking at different types of physical activities to keep our bodies fit and healthy. We will also continue to consolidate the skills required for ball games particularly volleyball. Children will also be furthering their dance skills thorough our Real Dance programme.

As artists, the children will be learning about and producing 3D Art in the form of paper maps. They will be investigating making a 3D form using mouldable materials. They will create work which is open to interpretation by the audience that will include both visual and tactile elements in their work. We will look at works by Elisabeth Lecourt and Matthew Cusick.



As philosophers, the children will be learning about Keeping safe in their PHSE lessons. This will include internet safety, sharing images and personal information, looking at the use of drugs and alcohol. They will then consider rights and respect including looking at democracy, caring for the environment and considering other people's viewpoints.

In RE the children will be learning about Humanism and their main beliefs and the Crucifixion leading up to Easter and consider free will or determinism,



As historians our enquiry question will be 'The story of the Trojan Horse; historical fact, legend or myth?'

The children will learn about the main events in the siege of the city of Troy during the Trojan War in Ancient Greece. They will study archaeological evidence and make conclusions as to whether the story of the Trojan Horse is in fact, legend or myth and the 'historical' evidence regarding the existence of the lost Kingdom of Atlantis.

As linguists, the class will be revising the grammatical constructs of Latin and considering the derivations of the English language. For example, Mater in Latin means mother and we can use this to understand maternity and maternal.

The children will work on decoding and reading Latin, translation and grammatical challenges linked to etymology. This includes understanding the different word endings linked to masculine/feminine and tenses. The children will use Minimus and Secundus Latin text books to support their learning.



As readers, the children will be engaging with extracts from high quality texts and considering why authors use certain vocabulary to engage the reader. The children will be practicing answering different types of questions about the text and using their dictionaries and thesauruses to investigate language.

The class readers for this term will be 'Tom's Midnight Garden' by Philippa Pearce and 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo.