



Chestnuts Primary School



NEWSLETTER



Friday 20th December 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the Autumn term, I am filled with pride and gratitude for what has been an incredibly successful and eventful term at our school. The last few weeks, in particular, have been a celebration of our children's talents, with outstanding performances that truly showcased their confidence, passion, and joy.

From the delightful singing and speaking in the EYFS Nativity, to the confident solos and speaking roles in the KS1 Nativity; from the creative play written in collaboration with the Old Vic and beautifully performed by Year 3, to the magical carol concert by KS2—each event has left me in awe of the children's abilities and enthusiasm.

It is a privilege to be the Headteacher of such a wonderful school community, and I want to thank our children, staff, and families for making this term so special.

Looking ahead to January, I want to let you know about a small but important change for our KS2 children. From next term, only fruit and vegetables will be allowed as snacks during playtime. This decision has been made with two key priorities in mind: ensuring the safety of children with nut allergies and promoting healthy eating habits. I truly appreciate your support in helping us implement this change for the wellbeing of all our pupils.

Wishing you all a joyful and restful Winter break. I look forward to welcoming you back in 2025 for another exciting term.

Warm regards,
Mrs. Horwood



Be Safe
Be Engaged
Be Respectful
Be Ready

Dates for your Diary

Monday 6 January 2025 - INSET DAY– School closed to children

Tuesday 7th January 2025 - Reception - Y6 return back to school

Wednesday 8th January—Nursery return back to school

Thursday 9th January—Year 5 to St Ann's church

Friday 17th January—Year 1 trip to Tower of London

KS1 are looking for parents who play a musical instrument to join and showcase their skills during our Thursday afternoon music assemblies. This will start in Spring 1.

Please email Ms Arkin if interested. Rashford@chestnutsprimary.com

Nursery

Our focus artist this term is Giuseppe Archimboldo. Archimboldo was an Italian painter best known for creating imaginative portrait heads made entirely of objects such as fruits, vegetables, flowers, fish and books. This week we have been cutting out fruits and vegetables to stick on our photos to create our very own self portrait inspired by his work.

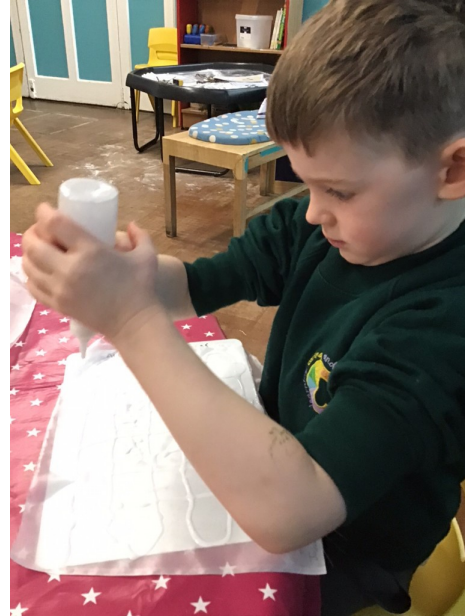


What we have done this week

Ahlberg

Donaldson

For Art Week, Reception learnt about batik art. We looked at different materials and discussed the patterns. The children made a pattern on silk using PVA glue. They had a lot of fun spraying their material with coloured dye. We then added the pieces together to create bunting in class!

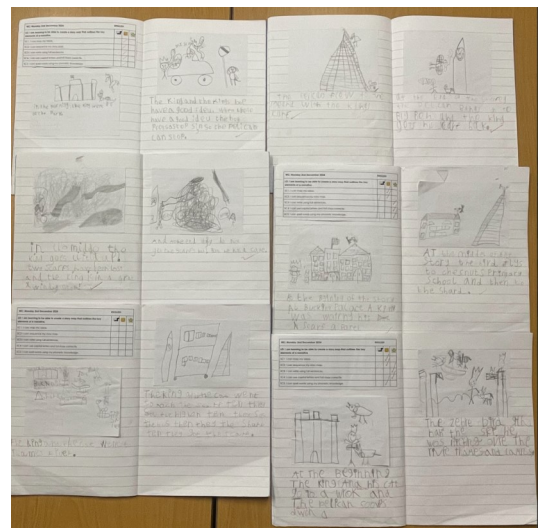


Mozart

Hadid

This week in History, we continued exploring the life of Queen Elizabeth II and the events of World War II. We learned about the Blitz and then created our own Blitz artwork using paint and black silhouettes of buildings.

This week in English, the children have been rewriting *The Queen's Hat* by Steve Anthony. They have been working on sequencing the plot for their new version, *The King's Scarf*, looking at the beginning, middle and end.



Seacole

Seacole class got into the wintery spirit by making some art work of the aurora borealis. We used chalk and smudged it to make a shimmering aurora in the sky, then drew a snowy scene underneath. The results were stunning!



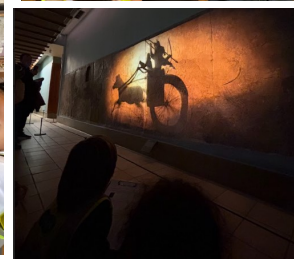
Rashford

Year 2 have made some beautiful artwork based on the Great Fire of London. The children used red yellow and orange tissue paper to recreate to look of fire and then placed black strips over the top to make a tudor house.



Attenboough

Year 3 had an exciting time at the British Museum, where they explored the fascinating world of ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia! They were amazed by the incredible artefacts, from mummies to statues of pharaohs, learning about Egyptian history and culture. It was a great way to celebrate the end of our History unit and brought all their learning to life.



Benjamin



Year 3 had worked with The Old Vic theatre on an exciting production of *The Present* by Laura Dockrill. This thrilling partnership has allowed the children to develop their acting skills, explore character work, and bring the story to life with professional staging techniques.

The enthusiasm and hard work of the students have been extraordinary, revealing some truly incredible talents among the cast. From perfecting lines to rehearsing dynamic scenes and designing the backdrops the children have poured their hearts into the project.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all the parents who supported their children, whether by helping them learn lines, creating imaginative costumes, or cheering them on throughout this creative journey.

This collaboration has been a memorable experience for everyone involved, and we hope you enjoyed watching the magic unfold on stage!



Fibonacci

This term, in Science, we have been learning about how sound travels through mediums such as air, liquids and solids. We carried out an investigation on how vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to our ears and discovered that sound travels through different mediums at different speeds. We also designed and made ear defenders to explore how some materials absorb sound as an insulator.



Gandhi

The children have worked so incredibly hard this week on all their various tests and synoptic tasks. I am so proud of not only how focused they have been but how much knowledge they have been able to show. One of the synoptic tasks was an essay about the nativity, our recent trip to St Anne's church really helped solidify their knowledge. On that day not only did we get to see inside the beautiful building, but everyone sat in pews as they checked their understanding of the story. There were even large models of the key characters to move around in front of the altar to help - best revision lesson ever.



Pankhurst

We had such a lovely morning watching Park View's Winter Bonanza. We watched different bands, dancers and singers perform. We also performed our Christmas Carols to Park View and other Haringey primary Schools. We had so much fun!

Thompson



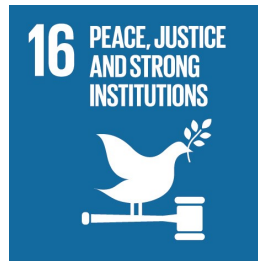
Mandela

Malala

To conclude our exciting writing unit on The Highwayman, we created newspaper articles outlining the events of that infamous night - when Bess and our eponymous hero were gunned-down by the King's soldiers.

We explored the structural and language features of a news article; explored bias within texts - specifically looking at how vocabulary can dramatically alter someone's perception of events; and discussed Feminist Critical theory through active and passive voice.

To bulk out our articles, we interviewed two special guests - Lieutenant George (who was in charge of the troop) and Bess' sister Beth. Both gave their accounts of events, but who could we trust? Who did we believe? Whose side we took will be clearly evidenced within the paragraphs of our reports through direct and reported speech.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Art Classes



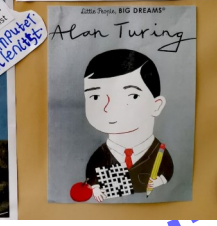
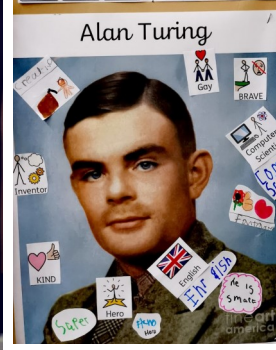
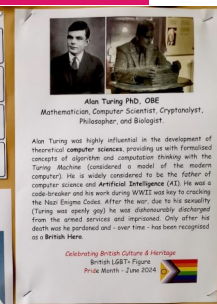
Look at these amazing clay ammonites! The year 3 children looked at how the Fibonacci sequence can be seen everywhere in nature then they used tapered coils of air dry clay to create these 'fossils'



Turing group

This term, Turing Group has been focussing on our room's namesake - STEM Hero - Alan Turing. As an outcome, we have created wonderful collages of all the words and phrases that come to mind when talking about this incredible British scientist:

- British Hero
- Scientist
- Inspirational
- Love Wins
- Inventor
- Puzzles
- Secret Messages
- Brave
- Decoding
- Gay
- Bombe
- Prison



Attendance



If your child is absent please could you call or leave a voicemail on the school office number :

02088002362 or email office@chestnutsprimary.com

Chestnuts School Council

Chestnuts Cheers:

Matilda, Year 3: My class is excited that we're going on a school trip tomorrow.

Tyna, Year 3: My class really enjoys learning about gems and rocks.

Amberly, Year 5: I like that we get to do the Winter Fair..

Cleo, Year 5: I like that we get to have really nice class trips.



Food Bank Aid



Thank you to everyone who donated food .

It was an amazing amount of food.

The next collection will be **Monday 13th January 2025**. Please bring your donations to the school office

2024

PSA NEWS

Thank you all for your support this half term. We've done baking, music, clay, skating, hula-hooping, wreaths, forest school and more.

The Winter Fair made a profit of
£6,590.48!

This term we've raised **£11,063.16.**

The PSA has given the school
£5,246.18.

This was spent on yoga mats and a wormery as well as visits from writers, musicians, Shakespearean actors and a pantomime.

See you next year!

2025

