



Chestnut Park
Primary School

Dream-Achieve-Inspire

Term 1, Issue 2
2020-2021



www.chestnutparkschool.org



@chestnutcroydon

Dear Parent and Carers,

It has been an exhausting but incredibly rewarding start to the school year. We would like to thank our parents and carers for their patience when adjusting to the new entry and exit arrangements.

Our children remain incredible ambassadors of the school- their resilience has been impressive when managing the new systems and processes in place to keep them safe- we are so proud of each and everyone of them.

Our reception children are now happily settled in school. It is incredible to think we have just one year group left until the school is at full capacity of 630 children. It feels like yesterday that we had our current Year Five children in reception on the daily bus trip to Brigstock Road.

Wishing all our families a wonderful week

The Chestnut Park Team

Covid 19 update from Mrs Brooks

We are aware how frustrating it has been for families and staff who have tried to gain access to a COVID-19 test because a member of the household has symptoms.

A reminder of the rules, if your child has

- a high temperature,
- has lost their sense of taste or smell
- A new continuous cough

NHS England has provided additional advice for a cough:

a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Please do keep checking the NHS advise for updates, particularly as we move into the time of year where colds become more prevalent.

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus they must stay home and:

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1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result - only leave your home to have a test.

No child can come to school whilst awaiting a test result.

Your child can only return if a negative test is received, or after 10 days of self-isolation. The rest of the household should self-isolate until the test result is received and for up to 14 days if it is positive or no test is attained. If a member of the household develops the symptoms above, they should self-isolate for 10 days, or until a negative test is received. Everyone in the household should self-isolate for 14 days, unless a negative test is received for the person with symptoms.

The start and end of the day arrangements are starting to become easier- may I please provide a polite reminder that when waiting at the school gates we expect parents to line up in a socially distanced manner and maintain your drop off and collection time. We would like to be in a position where we have to impose additional drop off and entry times but this may become a requirement if social distancing cannot be maintained. I know our parents and carers will appreciate that safety needs to come first.

As you may appreciate, we will also be facing staff shortages where staff may have to isolate whilst they await test results for family members- we therefore may only have one member of staff at the front gates and classes maybe covered by another teacher or associate staff at times of staff shortages.

The gates, with the one way system, are incredibly busy. It is therefore imperative that parents and carers keep their children bedside them at all times.

We appreciate that we all face very challenging times when managing the current pandemic and would like to thank you for your continued support.



Mrs Brooks
Executive Headteacher

Dear Parents,

It has been another busy 2 weeks at Chestnut park but we are making good progress. The learning happening around the school is both engaging and inviting and all the children have settled well into their new classrooms and routines. It is a pleasure and gives me real joy when I walk the school see the smiling faces and hear of the learning taking place.

I would like to take this opportunity to praise all of our children on their resilience and tolerance at this time. School life is not as easy as it has been historically for our children but they have taken this new way of 'normal' on board and are certainly making the best of it they can.

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That leads me on to our parents, who I would personally like to say a big thank you to. We appreciate your hard work and your tolerance with us as a school trying to get things 'right'. We have made good progress since the beginning of the term and dropping off and collection times seem to be running a lot smoother. Thank you to those who continue to be aware of social distancing and for wearing a mask.

Earlier this week we sent guidance on home learning and remote learning in case of self-isolation, a partial or full lockdown. Please note, all children have been invited to their home learning Google Classroom which will be used for their weekly home learning. You will only be invited into the second classroom in cases of individual self-isolation, full or part closure. If you have any concerns then please raise this with your child's class teacher.

Many thanks,

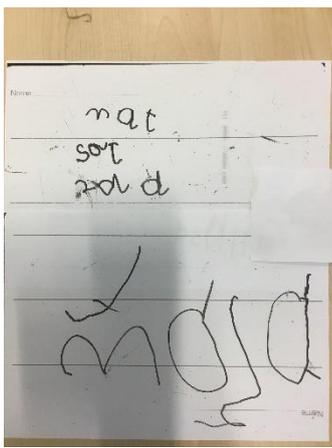
Mrs Hayley Lewis

Head of School



Curriculum Updates

EYFS



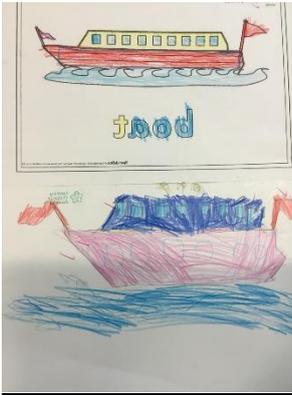
Reception are beginning to settle well into our full daily routines at Chestnut Park. This week we have begun to do phonics, learning one sound per day. We have been learning to read the sounds and form them correctly. In English, we have learnt about Captain clean and how we can keep ourselves safe on the street. We have talked about stranger danger and how to cross a road

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safely. In maths, we have been learning about size and capacity. The children have also all enjoyed their first experience of PE.

Year 1



Year 1 have settled in well and are continuing their learning about 'How we will travel in 20 years' time.' We have enjoyed looking at unusual modes of transport such as a submarine and dune buggy. In Science, we have begun talking about properties of everyday materials describing how they feel and look. During our English, we were amazed to see our classrooms turned into a complete mess! We have since been learning from the book 'The Naughty Bus' making wanted posters and story sequencing. In Maths, our focus has been on doubling and halving numbers.

Year 2

For each of us, the start of this academic year has been very different to that of which we are used to. In Year 2 we have continued to adapt to new routines and reproach our learning within the classroom with determination and interest.

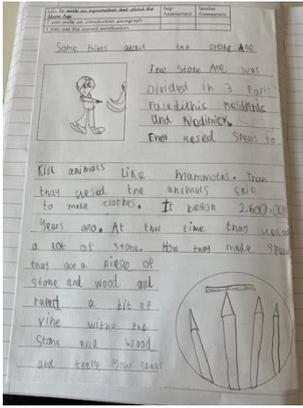
In English we have been continuing to recite 'The True Story of the Three Little Pigs' along with actions and lots of expression. This week we have begun writing this story, working hard to include synonyms for the words 'went' and 'said' (because these words are far too boring J). Our teachers have been really impressed with our enthusiasm and they have really enjoyed seeing us apply some of the new skills we have been taught. We are all trying our hardest to remember to use finger spaces, full stops and capital letters as for some of us, it has been a while since we have written a narrative. In Phonics, we have been recapping Phase 2 sounds and continuing to learn new sounds from Phase 3. We are trying our best to apply these sounds to our spellings so please do remind us when we are writing at home.

In RE we are learning all about the Islamic faith. We always enjoy learning about different religions, individuals, families, communities, and cultures as it sparks up lots of interesting discussions in the classroom. This week we are focusing on the 5 Pillars of Islam. In Computing, we are beginning to learn how to create algorithms in order to move a sprite (character) across the screen. This has been very exciting as lots of us love to play computer games!

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Year 3

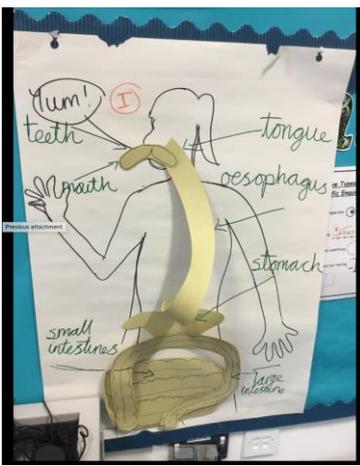


In Year 3 our topic this term is the Stone Age: Who were our ancestors? We have been learning about how people lived during this time and how their lives are different from ours today!

In Art we will be looking at the basic shapes of Stone Age objects and animals before we begin to draw them. In English, we are learning about the features of a non-fiction text and have been writing our own fact files about the Stone Age! For Maths, we are learning about place value. We are developing our understanding of what each digit in a number is worth to help us add and subtract.

Our topic in Science is 'The Human Body'. We have been identifying the different parts of the body and thinking about their purposes. This included a science investigation where we predicted which parts of the body we would use for a certain exercise. We then tried the exercises during PE to check if our predictions were right!

Year 4



In Year 4, we have continued our learning about the rainforest, finding where they are in the world on world maps. We performed a rainforest poem using actions before writing our own. This helped us learn how to use some great adjectives, adverbs and prepositions. In science, we

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have been learning all about our digestive system. There have been lots of giggles along the way, and we have shown good understanding of what each part of the digestive system is for. In maths, we have been counting in tens, hundreds and thousands - don't forget to quiz us at home! We have been learning about how Muslims pray and practising the best ways to catch a ball. We've been practising the Spanish alphabet and ask us what pulse and rhythm in music are!

Year 5



Year 5 made flying start on their new topic: The Great, The Bold and The Brave! They were set the challenge of creating famous structures out of cardboard boxes and masking tape. The pupils worked really well in their teams, had great fun and produced some very impressive structures too!

Our Science topic; Properties of Materials is also underway with the children thinking about materials in school and their purpose. The children are very inquisitive and we are all looking forward to investigating more.

In Maths, the children have made great progress with understanding place value and rounding with 4-digit numbers.

In English, they have wowed with their entertaining and descriptive diary entries.

PE has been a real highlight with the children demonstrating some solid passing and catching and skills and again, good team-work skills.

Meet some of our new staff

Ms L Campbell

My name is Mrs Campbell and I am currently the Year 1 teacher for Panda class here at Chestnut Park primary school. I am looking forward to welcoming all the children here at school and getting to know all the parents through this academic year.

Mrs M Farr

My name is Mrs Farr have previously taught years One and Two at another school. Since moving to Chestnut Park School, I am enjoying teaching Zebra Class



Mr N Takyi

My name is Mr Takyi and I am the new teacher of Ruby Class. I am extremely excited to be joining the team at Chestnut Park and have loved my start to the term.



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	<p>in Year 1. I look forward to getting to know the children and staff and being part of the school community.</p>	<p>This year in Ruby Class, I am looking forward to helping establish a safe and fun environment where the children enjoy learning. I am especially looking forward to the Science topics, as this was my favourite subject I school.</p>
<p><u>Miss A Wilkinson</u></p> <p>Hello, my name is Miss Wilkinson. So nice to be a part of Chestnut Park and meeting you all I am from Croydon too and it is lovely to be able to teach here in a diverse and welcoming community. My favourite saying is "Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today" and having achieved my ambitions to work and travel around the world, I cannot wait to spark that curiosity and drive within the children in Opal Class</p> 	<p><u>Mrs R Dickens</u></p> <p>My name is Mrs Dickens, I the new teacher in Mercury class, the Year 5 (and 6), and one of the English leads in school. I have loved getting to know the Year 5 pupils this last couple of weeks. We have had a great deal of fun with our learning and I am very impressed with how they have settled so quickly into our new routines and systems. I am excited to be part of their journey in this new era and look forward to seeing them progress and shine.</p> 	<p><u>Miss J Chandler</u></p> <p>Hello, my name is Miss Chandler, and I am the teacher in Mars class (year 5). I am also the key stage 2 maths lead. It has always been a passionate of mine to be a teacher and so far, I have enjoyed every minute of it. I enjoy teaching maths and English but my favourite subject to teach is P.E. I am a big Crystal Palace and look forward to hopefully soon getting back into the stadium to watch them play. I am looking forward to the year ahead at Chestnut Park and feel very proud to be part of this school's community. I hope to inspire all children in my class to not only aspire and dream but to also achieve their full potential.</p> 

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Miss S Banner

Hello, my name is Miss Banner and I am excited to be



beginning my teaching journey here at Chestnut Park. My background is in psychology, but during maternity leave from university, I began working in a Croydon secondary school within the SEN department. I loved this experience so much that once graduated, I enrolled into a teacher-training course - but this time at primary school level. During my training year I was based as a Y6 teacher in a local primary school, which despite being very hard-work, was extremely rewarding and enabled me to understand first hand where students should be by the time they transition to secondary school. This year I am honoured to be working as Y5 teacher at Chestnut Park, alongside a brilliant team of teachers and support staff. My goal for the year is for each child in my class to not only fulfil, but also surpass their individual potential, whilst creating a classroom environment that is stimulating, supportive and memorable for all students within it.

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Safeguarding



Research has shown that Covid-19 has had children dreading the return to school and we have seen an increased concern and discussion around bullying. On Monday 28th September all children across the school will take part in the 'The big Assembly 2020'. The big assembly consists of a number of celebrities joining forces with The Diana Award and Nationwide Building Society to host the first ever virtual anti-bullying assembly. The children will then have a chance to follow this up with a discussion within their classrooms.

Open day

If you are looking at a Reception place for your child for September 2021 then please visit our website and under the admissions tab you will find further information and a link to register your interest for one of our virtual open days.

Or please use the link below to complete the form and register your interest.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdD6rS1AtJLsr7aISR9SwovX3N22tomHr1X9nYbAsYoOtF4Yg/viewform>

Arrangements for Parents Evening

Parents evenings will be held on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October. These will be held virtually and we are currently looking into a remote booking system. More information will follow at a later date. If you have any concerns in the meantime then please do email your child's class teacher.

Dates for the diary, Autumn Term- (Please note dates may change and these will be communicated with the parents with prior notice)

Week beginning 21st September	Meet the teacher/class information Loom videos will be sent to parents this week.
19th October	Virtual Harvest festival - Year 2
Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October	Parents meetings
Friday 23rd October	End of the first half of Autumn term

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Monday 26 th - Friday 30 th October	Half Term
Monday 2 nd November	INSET Day
Tuesday 3 rd November	Children return to school
Week beginning 2 nd November	Handwriting parents' workshop to be sent out to parents
Dates to be confirmed	Virtual Christmas Nativity - Year 1
Dates to be confirmed	Christmas songs - Year 3 and 4
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Jumper day
Friday 18 th December	INSET Day
Monday 4 th January	INSET Day

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