

CHESTNUT CLASS NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM 1



Dear Parents and Carers,

7th September, 2018

Welcome back to a new School year at Longleaze! It has been lovely to welcome the children back for what promises to be an exciting term.

Year 2 is a very important year for your child. The skills they acquire this year lay the foundations for their time in Key Stage 2. If you were able to attend our Class Meeting, you will appreciate just how high the expectations are. If you weren't able to attend, you may wish to look at the slide show on the website under 'Chestnut Class'. Despite the increased expectations, we want the children to have fun and enjoy their learning. To this end, our good friend Percy the Park Keeper will be visiting soon! He will be helping the children to explore our topic, 'Whatever the Weather'. Please see the topic web on the reverse of this letter for details of the curriculum areas we will be covering this term.

There is a very strong focus on spelling, grammar, handwriting and punctuation in year 2 and these basic skills will be taught daily. You will receive a term of spellings at a time in your child's homework book. The children need only practise a week at a time, but they will be tested on a Friday. This will soon become clear when you see the homework books!

Homework will be given out on a Friday and should be returned on the Wednesday of the following week, as last year. We very much appreciate you supporting your children with their homework and their reading. Creative homework will be set once a term, as before.

Mr Yeo will teach PE on a Tuesday afternoon this term and Miss Lawrence will take the children for Superstars PE on a Friday for this term only. Therefore, could you please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day from Monday to Friday. Mrs Rose is our invaluable teaching assistant in Chestnut once again this year, and Ms McAlroy joins Chestnut Class each morning to provide further support.

We are in the process of assessing the children's reading. When determining book levels, it is important to remember that, although children's decoding (reading the words) may be very good, their understanding of the text needs to be at a high level too. There are some questions stems on our School website – under 'Curriculum' - which can be used to question your child about what they have read, which you may find useful. If you feel you would like some help with supporting your child at home with other aspects of the curriculum, please don't be afraid to ask.

With regard to 'housekeeping', the children will have a choice of fruit each day for snack and they will be allowed to keep water bottles in the classroom (please only put water in these as anything else can get very sticky!). Could you also please ensure name labels are in all the clothing your child has in school, particularly jumpers, cardigans, coats and PE kits as we appreciate how expensive these things are to replace – thank you.

If you have any worries or concerns about your child, please do speak to me after school or to Mrs Rose or Mrs Boraston, if you need to leave a morning message.

With best wishes,

Lise James

Chestnut Class Teacher