

Spring Term News

Chestnut Class

This term our topic is:
OUR BLUE PLANET



Happy New Year! I hope you've all had a lovely break and are looking forward to what 2026 has in store for us.

This term all of our learning will be based around the topic 'Our Blue Planet'. We will hopefully be able to arrange a trip to visit the Sea Life Centre to enrich this learning and provide us with a further stimulus for our writing in English.

Below are a few notes about what we will be doing in each subject this term.

English



We will begin by watching the movie 'Song Of The Sea' and follow up with our own writing linked to part of this film. We will explore non-fiction books and use our findings to produce our own information texts about animals that live under the sea. We will read a range of stories with an ocean or sea theme (such as *The Rainbow Fish*, *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch* and *Commotion In The Ocean*) and also make a Travel Journal. We will be reading every day as part of our guided reading sessions and will continue with daily phonics.

Maths

We will begin the term learning about addition and subtraction with increasingly large numbers. The focus for Year 1 children is to try and help them learn more and more number facts fluently by heart as well as a secure understanding of the principles of addition and subtraction. Year 2 children will learn different strategies to add and subtract, making use of their known facts. After that we will move on to multiplication and division. Year 2 children will need to learn the 2, 5 and 10 x tables off by heart so feel free to start trying to practise these in advance! Numbots is still a really useful resource to support their learning at home (and Year 1 children should keep going with this!) but Year 2 children will also be given username and log in details for TT Rockstars. This online resource is designed to help children develop rapid recall and fluency with both times tables facts and related division facts.



Science

In Science we will develop our understanding of animals, thinking about the sea as a habitat. We will identify and name a variety of common animals, develop our scientific vocabulary and recognise that animals have babies. We will group animals in different ways and use vocabulary like mammal, amphibian, bird, fish, carnivore, herbivore and omnivore.

Computing

During Computing lessons, children will be computer programming using the software Scratch Junior. This is a free app which you can download onto devices at home should you wish your child to have further opportunities to develop and rehearse the coding skills being learnt in school.



Theme (History, Geography, DT and Art)

During our Theme lessons, we will be learning about the world through the topic 'Our Blue Planet'. We will locate and name the oceans and continents on a map and think about what the different places are like. On our class trip to the Sea Life Centre, we will make investigate different animals that live in the sea and we will be using textiles to create artwork linked to our theme. We will learn about weaving and develop skills in this area with different materials. To develop our historical skills we will be looking at seaside resorts (in particular Morecambe), investigating what they were like in the past compared to what they are like now. We will learn about Punch and Judy shows, bathing machines and the history behind a promenade.

Music

Mrs Pell will teach the children music and we will continue to learn the recorder! Please encourage your child to show you what they have learnt and to fully cover the holes with their fingers.

RE

Our focus religion in the first half term will be Islam and we will explore how Muslims obey their god. After the holiday, we will study Christianity. We will learn that Easter is a time to remember Jesus' death and what this means to Christians.

PE

PE sessions will take place every Thursday and also alternate Wednesdays. We will focus on gymnastics, learning a range of jumps and rolls and trying to improve our balancing. Please keep PE kits in school at all times (with names in!).

Learning At Home:

You will find some things in your child's book bag to help them with their learning.

Reading book: Please listen to your child read a small amount (5 mins) every night.

Phonics book: Practise reading and writing words linked to the phonics your child has learnt that week. This may include a list of spellings to learn for a weekly quiz.

Maths learning journey: Play games to practise the targets that your child is working towards.

It's also great if you can chat to your child about what we have done in school. Please remember the door is always open if you need to talk about anything to do with your child.