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Chestnut Class Newsletter – Spring 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas break. Before introducing what we are up to this term, I wanted to say a huge thank you for the messages, cards and gifts that I received at the end of last term; it was extremely kind of you all.

As we welcome in 2026, we have a very exciting Spring Term ahead. Some of the highlights include Scratch coding, swimming lessons, Science Week and our residential at Culmington Manor.

Curriculum

This term, our topic is 'UK Explorers'. For more information, please view our Topic Web, which will also be available on the school website.



Homework

The 'Enriching Learning' homework sheet will be posted on the school website with the expectation that one piece is to be returned to school, completed, every **Monday**. This can include playing the games on the Times Tables Rock Stars app/website.

Please look out for the weekly spelling/phonics pattern sheets, which will be provided by your child's spelling/phonics teacher every **Thursday**. Your child will be tested on words connected to this rule or pattern on the following **Thursday**.



Reading records will be checked every **Monday**. Please try to encourage your child to read regularly throughout the week. 5-10 minutes of extra reading daily, with an adult or independently, will really support the work that we do within school. Please make sure that each entry includes the title of the book, the page numbers read and a comment.

P.E.

This term, the children will continue to have P.E. lessons on Mondays and Tuesdays. P.E. kits should remain in school at all times, apart from when needing to be taken home to be washed. All children should have indoor and outdoor kit, including a house t-shirt, shorts, tracksuit bottoms, a warm long-sleeved top and trainers. **Please make sure that your child's P.E. kit and school uniform is clearly named.**

After February half-term, we will also be attending our very first school swimming sessions. These will be every Monday. Please look out for a separate letter on this.





Parents' Evenings

There will be formal parent / teacher meetings on the 16th and 17th of March, where we will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress. More details will be available nearer the time.

Important Dates

- WB 19th January – Poetry Week
- WB 26th January – RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch
- Tuesday 10th February – Safer Internet Day
- Wednesday 11th February – Visit to Oxford Story Museum. See separate letter.
- WB 16th February – Half Term
- Monday 23rd February – Swimming lessons begin. See separate letter.
- Monday 23rd February – Parents' Meeting for our residential at Culmington Manor – straight after school
- WB 2nd March – Book Week, including Film Night on Monday 2nd March
- WB 9th March – Science Week, including CSI Workshop on Monday 9th March. Further details to follow.
- Tuesday 10th March – School photographer (class photos)
- Monday 16th March – Parents' Evening (3.30-7.00) *Note different date from other classes.
- Tuesday 17th March – Parents' Evening (3.30-6.00)
- Friday 20th March – Comic Relief
- Monday 23rd March to Wednesday 25th March – Residential at Culmington Manor
- Thursday 26th March – Easter Church Service (pupils only)
- Friday 4th April – Easter Egg Hunt / Free dance workshop with Northern Ballet / Last day of term



****Please note that a Chestnut Class Worship on Friday 27th February was incorrectly listed on the website. Instead, there will be a Culmington Sharing Worship on Monday 20th April at 2:30pm, which you are warmly invited to. We will also have a class sharing worship on 12th June.***

News on these and further events will be communicated with you via email. Please note that dates are provisional at this time and subject to change. Please keep an eye on emails from the school office for further updates.

Contact

If you wish to make contact with me, there are a number of ways that you can do this.

- You could send a message (written or verbal) with your child.
- You are able to phone the School Office, who will be able to help you or pass on a message.
- You could send an email to the school office (office.3082@chesterton.oxon.sch.uk), who will forward your message on to me if necessary, and you can expect a response within 3 working days.
- Alternatively, I will usually be available at the end of the school day once all of the children have been collected and this would be a good time to have a quick conversation. A longer meeting can then be arranged at a mutually convenient time if required.

Reminders

- Water Bottles – Please make sure children have a clear, named water bottle with them every day (separate from any drink in their lunchbox) as this allows access to water as and when they require it. Please note, there should only be water in these bottles (not squash, juice, flavoured or fizzy water).
- Outdoor Ready – All children should be prepared for outdoor play by keeping wellies and a warm, waterproof coat in school.



Kind regards, Miss Crockett



Below are reminder sheets to help encourage independence in your child. You could put it on the fridge or your child's bedroom door so they can ensure that they have everything they need each day.

Term 3

Day	I need to take to school my...	Key events are...
Monday	PE Kit Reading Record Water Bottle Homework Book	PE Homework Checked Reading Record Checked
Tuesday	PE Kit Reading Record Water Bottle	PE
Wednesday	PE Kit Reading Record Water Bottle	
Thursday	PE Kit Reading Record Water Bottle	Spelling Test
Friday	PE Kit Reading Record Water Bottle	

Term 4

Day	I need to take to school my...	Key events are...
Monday	Swimming kit PE Kit Reading Record Water Bottle Homework Book	PE – Swimming Homework Checked Reading Record Checked
Tuesday	PE Kit Reading Record Water Bottle	PE
Wednesday	PE Kit Reading Record Water Bottle	
Thursday	PE Kit Reading Record Water Bottle	Spelling Test
Friday	PE Kit Reading Record Water Bottle	