



Chestnut Class Newsletter

Welcome

Hello and welcome back to a brand-new school year. We hope you had a lovely holiday.

We had a fantastic transition period before the summer holidays, with pupils getting to know new friends and staff. We hope this makes settling back into school smooth for all. We have moved into our new temporary classroom over the summer and have tried to make it as cosy and familiar for pupils. Work is ongoing on our new classroom, and we are looking forward to moving in during this term.

This term we have lots planned, including learning all about ourselves and what are friends like. We hope to go out on a trip to a place that the pupils like – more details to follow soon.

We will be holding a coffee morning on Tuesday 6th October at 10.15-11.30am

If you have any queries or require assistance getting on EFL; please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office, in your child's home/school book or email joanne.baker@saxon.set.org
Jo, Laura, Kirsty, Liv and Isabelle

Meet the team!

Jo – I'm Chestnut class teacher!

Laura - I am one of Chestnut's TA's!

Kirsty – I am the other TA in Chestnut class!

Liv – I am Chestnut's WCA!

Isabelle – I am Chestnut's ancillary assistant!



Learning anchor

This term our learning anchor is “All about ...myself!” We will be using information from the All About Me forms, to engage in activities that enable pupils to share what they like with their friends and to communicate their preferences.

Communication, Language & Literacy

We have a wide variety of methods of communicating in class and this includes Intensive Interaction, PODD, Makaton, switches and tactile signing, known as TaSSeLs.

We also do communication through story adventures, dance massage, group Intensive Interaction and pre-phonics sessions. This term we will be focussing on environmental sounds and musical sounds.

Our myth sensory story for this term is “The funny gods came to visit”.

Thinking & Problem-Solving

During Thinking & Problem-solving sessions we use switches to control our environment and operate devices, engage in Positive Looking, Tacpac, exploring where objects are in the immediate environment and sensory workouts.

We also engage in early number activities and investigate size of objects through play-based and sensory exploration.

We will be exploring sounds and vibrations, through adapted technology, resonance boards and musical instruments.

Community & the Wider World

In these sessions we are going to exploring the features of our immediate environment and recognising familiar places through multi-sensory exploration. We will be using technology to track images and also exploring songs and stories from countries around the world.

Physical Development

Wednesday is our therapy day this year! One week we will do hydrotherapy and the next week we will do rebound therapy. To give each pupil a meaningful session in the water, we work on a rota. If you can send in a swimming kit, it would help as we only have limited spares. In rebound therapy sessions, we work on individuals' physical programmes, whilst having fun! We can only take pupils on the trampoline that have completed signed permission forms returned, and risk assessments put in place for those conditions it applies to. We continue to work on our physical skills during PE and by working on our EHCP targets each day.

Independence & Wellbeing

In PSHE this term we will be learning about “What do I enjoy?” – focussing on the word “not” and then after half term, how special people make us feel happy. If you have any questions about PSHE please get in contact. Please send in snacks, squash and thickener for your child, if needed. Drinks of water are available throughout the day, and we stop for drinks and snacks in the morning and drinks in the afternoon. We continue to develop our independence skills at mealtimes. We have daily wellbeing sessions, to work on laughter yoga, relaxation and sensory workouts.

Forest School and Cooking

Chestnut class will take part in forest school on alternate Tuesdays. Please ensure pupils have warm clothes or hat and suncream suitable for being outdoors and you don't mind getting dirty! Cooking will take place on alternate Wednesday afternoons.