

# Horse Chestnut Class Newsletter

April 2017

Welcome back Horse Chestnut class.

I hope you had a relaxing holiday and are ready for another busy half term!

We will continue to focus on improving our spellings this half term. By the end of Year 1 the national expectation of spellings is to accurately spell the days of the week and to spell most of the common exception words. For Year 2 the expectation is to be able to read and spell all the words in the support for spelling pack. We have been working on the spellings we send home each half term in school, if your child has been practising them at home as well they should be well on their way to achieving these expectations. Any practise you do at home will make a significant difference.

Our school topic for this half term is: Dinosaurs

Our enquiry question is: If you could be a dinosaur, which one would you be?

## English

This half term we are going to focus our work around the story of Katie and the Dinosaurs. We will use the book to write own stories. We will be making sure we use the correct tense when writing and use adjectives to give our sentences more detail. We will of course make sure we use capital letters and full stops as well!

## Maths

We will be learning to use units of measurement to find quantities of weight, capacity and length. We will be consolidating our calculation skills through solving word problems and will be focusing on telling the time. Please keep practising this at home!

## Topic

Our first week back was filled with Science investigations (which of course also required our amazing Maths skills!) such as creating dinosaur swamps and trying to make a piece of paper longer than a Brontosaurus!  
As part of Design Technology we are going to design and make a moving picture using sliders. We will be learning about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores and investigate dinosaur food chains.

## PE

This half term we will be carrying on with Gymnastics. We will be consolidating our individual movements on the floor and on the apparatus before working with a partner. This will include shared balances and mirror work. We will also start to create a sequence of Gymnastic skills and link them together with different movements.

## PSHE and RE

Our PSHE focus this half term will be on Health and Wellbeing: We will be learning about the impact a healthy diet and exercise has on our bodies. We will also think about positive and negative behaviours in relationships.

In RE we will be learning about learning about Buddhism and comparing the beliefs and worship to Christianity.

## How to Support at Home

Writing a weekend diary is an excellent way for your child to practise their writing. This will involve using many key skills such as punctuation, using the correct past and present tense, connecting sentences using conjunctions and applying spellings.

## Reminders

Mathseeds is a valuable homework resource which supports the work covered in class. If you haven't logged on for a while (or yet) please do so as it's a fun way to learn!  
Don't forget to write in your child's reading contact book every time you read a book together.

## Class Dates

Year 2 Writing Cafe  
Mon 24<sup>th</sup> April 9:05am

Class Sharing Assembly  
Fri 5<sup>th</sup> May 9:05 am

Year 1 Maths Cafe  
Mon 8<sup>th</sup> May 9:05am