



Welcome to Chestnut Class! I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful summer, and that the children are ready for another school year. Please find below details of the weekly timetable and information around homework and other ways in which to support your child's learning.

### **PE**

PE will be on Thursdays and Fridays. Please ensure children have the correct kit at school, including trainers, as our lessons will be outside this half term. Children should take their PE kits home each Friday and bring them back the following week.

### **Student planners**

Your child will have received their student planner, which will be used to record homework and spellings they have been set, and in which you should record when you have heard them read.

### **Spellings**

Spellings will be tested on Wednesdays, and children will be expected to achieve 8/10. In addition, children will be set words from the 100 word list which will be tested on a half termly basis.

### **Times tables and mental maths**

Times tables form an integral part of the maths we cover in upper key stage 2, and children should be fluent in their times tables and related division facts by the time they join the class. There will be weekly mental maths tests on Wednesdays which will build upon and develop mental strategies beyond simple multiplication facts, and children will be expected to achieve 15/20. Additional support will be provided for children who have not finished learning their times tables, but please work with them at home to support them in catching up as soon as possible.

### **Reading**

Reading will be taught following the *Destination Reader* approach across the school. This will ensure your child has the opportunity to read on a daily basis, and will read both within groups and individually. Reading strategies will be taught and practised in class, and it is really important that you continue to hear your child read at home regularly, as regular practise will help them develop into confident readers who understand what they read. Talking about what they have read and asking questions is a great way to help engage with what they have read and to boost their comprehension.

Please try to hear your child read at least 4 times a week, and initial or comment in their student planner to show that your child has read - planners will be collected in every Monday morning. Children who read four or more times will be entered into a 'reading raffle' with prizes drawn at the end of each half term, and there will be additional reading for children who don't read at home.

## Homework

Homework will be set on a Friday to be handed in on a Wednesday. Children will receive maths and English homework which will link with what they have been learning in school that week. Children will be given workbooks from which work will be set, and will record the pages they are to complete in their student planners. They will additionally have a homework book in which to stick any sheets or complete other homework. Whilst children are encouraged to work independently on this, please support them as necessary, and let me know if there are any problems with understanding. If your child is unsure how to complete homework, they should let me know on the Monday so I can make time to explain or provide further help.

If you have any questions about anything that we will be covering this term, don't hesitate to come and ask!

Thanks,

Mr. Singleton