

**WELCOME BACK CHESTNUT CLASS!** I hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday and are fully rested and ready for the year ahead *being the best that you can be*. This term we will be focusing our learning around the topic of 'They Made a Difference' and we have some exciting visits planned to support this (please see the key dates section). If you can accompany us on any of these please let us know.

We will also celebrate Harvest festival, Poetry Week and Black History Month. As always, everything we do will be underpinned by our core values of **Respect, Responsibility and Relationships**.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or any other aspect of Chestnut Class life, please do not hesitate to come and see me before or after school. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Regards, *Miss Macdonald*

Class Teacher – Miss Macdonald

Support Staff: Ms Lewis, Miss Rebbeck, Ms Brown

<b>English</b>	We will begin the term by reading 'The Heart and the Bottle' by Oliver Jeffers. We will use this to inspire our own writing including character descriptions and short dilemma stories. We will then move onto poetry and will focus on the book 'Hot Like Fire' by Valarie Bloom. We will finish the term by reading the biography of Olaudah Equiano. We will write our own biographies of significant people. <b>Grammar</b> will be embedded within these literacy sessions. <b>Spelling</b> will be taught in small groups. Spelling lists will be sent home on Mondays and tested the following week. We will continue to focus on the Year 3/4 spelling rules and patterns.
<b>Reading Records</b>	The children will bring home a book from the class book corner or the school library every night. Please read and discuss the book with your child. Children should record in the reading records every time they read at home. Please note that children are required to have their reading record and book in school every day.
<b>Maths</b>	In Numeracy pupils will be learning about place value and recognising the value of each digit in 3 & 4 digit numbers. We will learn to read, write, order and compare numbers within and beyond 1000. We will use formal written methods to solve addition and subtraction. We will then focus on properties of shape and measuring angles. Children will continue applying their mathematical knowledge to a range of reasoning and problem solving tasks. We will develop times table knowledge and quick recall of number facts as part of our Maths Fluency sessions. <b>Please ensure that your child learns number bonds to one hundred and all times tables and related division facts (1-12)</b> —it is vital that children know these in order to progress in numeracy.
<b>Science</b>	Our topic this half term is Animals including Humans. We will be learning about the nutrition humans need. We will learn about the functions of skeletons and muscles in different animals.
<b>Computing</b>	We will be focussing on word processing, formatting different types of documents and e-safety this term.
<b>IPC</b>	This term our IPC theme will be 'They Made a Difference.' We will be finding out about famous people who have made a significant difference to the lives of others. The children will learn using a variety of historical sources and create timelines.
<b>Design &amp; Technology</b>	We will be studying a famous artist, Shen Zhou. We will create our own art work in his style.
<b>P.E.</b>	For the few weeks of this half term, Chestnut will have PE on a Friday afternoon. After that we will be taking part in the Chance to Dance scheme run by the Royal Ballet Company. Please ensure that your child/children have the following kit for PE: <b>Black</b> tracksuit

	bottoms, a <b>white</b> t-shirt and <b>black</b> trainers or plimsolls.
<b>Music</b>	We will have ukulele lessons from a specialist teacher on Wednesday morning.
<b>R.E.</b>	This term we will be learning about the Hinduism and the environment.
<b>Modern Languages</b>	Spanish will be taught by our specialist teacher. The children will be focusing on asking and answering basic questions and giving some simple information about themselves in Spanish.
<b>P.S.H.E. &amp; Citizenship</b>	Our focus this half term will be “Being me in my world” where we
<b>Homework</b>	A variety of <b>cross curricular homework tasks</b> will be assigned at the start of the half term. Each week your child will select one task to complete, to be returned by Tuesday. Children should continue to learn their <b>times tables</b> , which will be tested on a regular basis. Children can practice using Timestable Rockstars, for which they have their own login. Additional maths homework will be assigned on the <b>Mathletics</b> website, for which each child also has their own username and password. Children should also learn <b>spellings</b> which will be sent home every week and tested the following week.
<b>Key dates</b>	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September– Meet the teacher meeting at 3:55pm Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September – Harvest Assembly at 9:20am Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September – Chance to Dance demonstration at Theatre Peckham Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October– Black History Month Assembly at 9:20am Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October - Educational visit to the National Portrait Gallery. <i><b>More details for these events will be given closer to the time.</b></i>