

Elsenham C of E Primary School



2026 SUMMER NEWSLETTER: CHESTNUT CLASS

Miss Verlander

Welcome back!

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break and were able to create some lasting family memories. Chestnut class are very happy to be back together, and we're looking forward to a term filled with fun and inspiring learning opportunities, including; time in forest school, a WonderDome visit, our class assembly, sports day and much more! Thank you for your continued support, please contact me, via the school office, should you need to get in touch.

Mathematics

We begin the term finishing mass and volume before exploring multiplication and division. This consists of repeated addition and sharing a number into groups. After this, we will be delving into the topic of fractions, which will link to shape and number. We will then learn to read the time (o'clock and half past the hour). Finally, we will be exploring numbers up to 100 and preparing the class for the content that they will start learning in Year 2.

Science

In the Summer term, we will be exploring plants. At the beginning of the term, the children learn what plants need in order to grow, including, water, sun and soil. This will then help them when we will plant a range of seeds. They will observe and discuss the rate at which their plants are growing. Following on from this, the class will look at different types of plants in seasonal changes, with the focus on evergreen and deciduous trees.

And there's more!

Our first topic of the term is 'Moon Zoom', where the children will be exploring the planets and focusing on the astronaut Neil Armstrong. After half term, our topic will be 'Explorers' and we will learn about the adventures of Christopher Columbus.

P.E. lessons take place twice a week, on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Our outdoor lessons will be focusing on 3 Tees Cricket and our athletics skills so we're ready for Sports Day. Indoor sessions will involve our much loved gymnastics and multi-skills. We will be continuing with a forest school session every Wednesday so please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for both P.E and outdoor learning (trainers).

We will be expanding our creativity through woven wonders in Art and the challenge to create a nutritious fruit smoothie in DT.

In I.C.T. we will be looking at Coding and Programming, using Purple Mash to support us.

We are excited to welcome Emma Codd from 'Mind' to support us in emotional regulation through a 6-week programme called 'Emotional Explorers' - we look forward to having you in too, during our last session to show off what we have learned.

English

In our English lessons, we will be exploring the story of Beegu, which is about a lonely alien that has found herself lost on Earth. Our aim is to inspire the children to write their own unique stories, which I can't wait to read!

After half term, we will be delving into the story 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers; the children will use this to help create information leaflets about the world.

We will continue to follow our RWI programme, where children will consolidate their understanding of phonics and grammar. Depending on your child's group, they will get a reading book to 'perform' to you at home and book bag book to practise their phonics and reading-these are changed every Friday. They are always welcome to take a bedtime book from our book box to enjoy at home too.

We thank you in advance for all the hard work you do at home to help your child with their reading, as it is so important. It is wonderful to hear more children becoming increasingly fluent and using expression when reading aloud. Please use the reading record to communicate with us in school and log any books your child enjoys at home.

Phonics Screening Check

The Phonics Screening Check will be taking place in June for all Year 1 pupils, as discussed at parents evening, please take note of the sounds to practice at home that can be found in reading record books, following our last mock assessment. Past papers can also be found online on the Gov. website.