

# Elsenham C of E Primary School



## 2025 AUTUMN NEWSLETTER FOR CHESTNUT CLASS

— Miss Verlander

Welcome to Chestnut Class! It has been a complete joy getting to know your wonderful children and they have already settled in to Year 1 incredibly well. We aim to make the transition to Year 1 smooth and consistent for each child, so we will continue to provide opportunities for continuous provision (learning through play). Please do come along to our 'Meet the Teacher' session on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September to find out everything you need to know about life in Year 1! Should you wish to speak to us about anything, please get in touch via the office. We look forward to working in partnership with you, and are excited for a fantastic year ahead!

### Maths

In maths, we will build on the children's experiences in EYFS. We will be developing number and place value by reading and writing number names, comparing and ordering numbers and counting objects. Through play, we will be counting on and back, identifying more and less, finding pairs and doubling numbers. We will also be exploring the properties of shapes, position and direction. You can support your child by encouraging them to count sets of objects and also helping them to write numbers with the correct formation.

### Forest School

The children will take part in weekly **Forest School** sessions on a Wednesday, which will be a fantastic addition to the curriculum. Please provide welly boots that will stay in school all year round. The children should come in to school wearing comfortable outdoor clothing every Wednesday. We will provide each child with a puddle suit that will be kept in school.

### Religious Education

We will be exploring the question, 'What do my senses tell me about the world of religion?' and linking this to a Hindu shrine. Nearer to Christmas we will learn about the Nativity!

### English

In English, we will be developing the children's skills in 'Talk for Writing'; the method of learning a story orally in order to write at length. We will focus on ordering events in a story, using phonics to spell words, and also aim to include ambitious vocabulary in our writing. This term, we will be starting the reading raffle. To enter, the children must write a sentence about their reading book, and bring it into school. Each sentence is one entry into the raffle and at the end of the week a sentence is chosen at random to win a small prize! We will also continue our phonics Read Write Inc. programme of learning, which children will be familiar with from EYFS.

### And there's more!

Our topic this half term is 'Superheroes' followed by 'Dinosaurs' after October half term.

Art: As artists, we will experiment with paint to create superhero themed artwork.

Science: We will learn about 'Animals, including humans'; and become experts on life cycles of different animals.

Computing: Online safety is our focus this term; this is such an important unit of work which will educate children to share with you when they spot something worrying online.

### Additional Information

- **Reading books** will be changed at different points throughout the week, depending on your child's reading level. Children are expected to read at home on a daily basis, and we ask that you record this in their reading record. Reading for pleasure is vital, and so your child will be bringing home a 'book bag book' for you to read whilst they get to relax and enjoy your storytelling!
- Multiskills will be the focus for indoor P.E. and for our outdoor lessons it will be 'Ruggerbugs'. This term's P.E. days are **Wednesday** and **Thursday** so please ensure that long hair is tied back and earrings are removed. Children need to have a full, named P.E. kit, including trainers, in a bag which will stay in school until half term.
- Our PSHE focus is 'all about me' where children will be encouraged to share information and ask questions about themselves and their family; we will soon be sending home a request for a family photograph which can be kept in school.