



# Chestnut Class

*E-Newsletter*



## IMPORTANT DATES:

- February 1st - Chinese New Year (Year of the Tiger)
- February 6th - 10th - Children's Mental Health Week
- February 13th - 17th - Bahrain Sports Week
- February 14th - Valentine's Day
- February 20th - 24th - Half Term Break

## Chesnut Class

Teacher: Nicky Visagie

Welcome back Chestnuts to an exciting and fun-filled Term 2! It's hard to believe that these little ones have already been in Reception for a whole term now! They are all fully-fledged members of the Kindergarten community, and their progress and confidence is clear to see in their enthusiastic play, excited conversations and eagerness to learn more every day.

Unit of Inquiry - What's it Made of?

Our new unit of inquiry kicked off in the New Year with STEAM week, where the children explored shape, strength and measurement to create their own structures. We have been busy exploring different kinds of materials that objects are made of, and are testing their suitability for a variety of projects.

## Mathematics

The children have been excited to continue practising their counting skills with some new additions to the classroom, and are really enjoying using different construction materials such as lego and wooden blocks to experiment with shapes and structure. We have started identifying numbers on a number line, and can talk about which numbers come before or after, relating this to the vocabulary of “more” and “less”.

### Top tip for learning:

Ask your child to count small objects such as pasta pieces, lego, buttons or counters at any opportunity. Make sure they move the object with their finger as they count, rather than just saying the numbers as quickly as possible. This reinforces one-to-one correspondence, which ensures they are counting accurately. If they find this easy, split the objects into 2 groups - how many ways can they make 5, 6 or 7?



## English / Phonics

The children have been introduced to traditional tales this month, and have enjoyed stories such as “The King’s Wish” and “The Gingerbread Man.” We are starting to understand that words go together to form sentences, and can discuss our likes and dislikes of stories confidently.

We have now completed Phase 2 sounds, and have begun to learn Phase 3 sounds - j, v, w and x so far. We pause and recap regularly to consolidate our learning, and have also started learning tricky words l, the, no, go, to and into with actions to help us!

### Top tip for learning:

Ask your child to identify sounds they know in their story books at home. Can they spot any tricky words? Encourage them to blend CVC words at every opportunity, e.g. d-a-d, and then put the sounds together to read the word, dad. Even if your child cannot do this accurately, regular practise is key!



### *French*

The Chestnuts are learning how to say simple greetings and singing songs to help them along. They are a lovely class and especially enjoy dancing!

### *Arabic*

We started the second term by learning about the New Year and 2022. We learned how to celebrate the New Year and had fun colouring the New Year numbers, learning about the months, and singing songs to help us remember the names of the months. We learned to count numbers from 1 to 30 and we had a great time learning to read the alphabet and identify the things that start with each letter.

