



# Chestnuts Class

*E-Newsletter*



## Chestnuts Class

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- March 1st - Pancake Day
- March 3rd - World Book Day
- March 8th - International Women's Day
- March 13th-16th - Science Week
- March 14th - International Day of Mathematics
- March 17th - St. Patrick's Day
- March 18th (20th) - Holi
- March 21st - Bahraini Mother's Day
- March 22d - World Water Day
- March 26th - Spring Fayre
- March 27th - UK Mother's Day

Teacher: Nicky Visagie

Welcome back Chestnuts, I hope you all had a wonderful half term break! February brought lots of lovely themes and occasions such as Valentine's Day, where the children enjoyed discussing all of the people that we love, and how important love is. The children described their feelings beautifully and were able to identify how love feels in our bodies ("warm") and how we express it to others ("hugs"). They also enjoyed making Valentine's Day cards for their special people at home.

### Unit of Inquiry - What's it Made of?

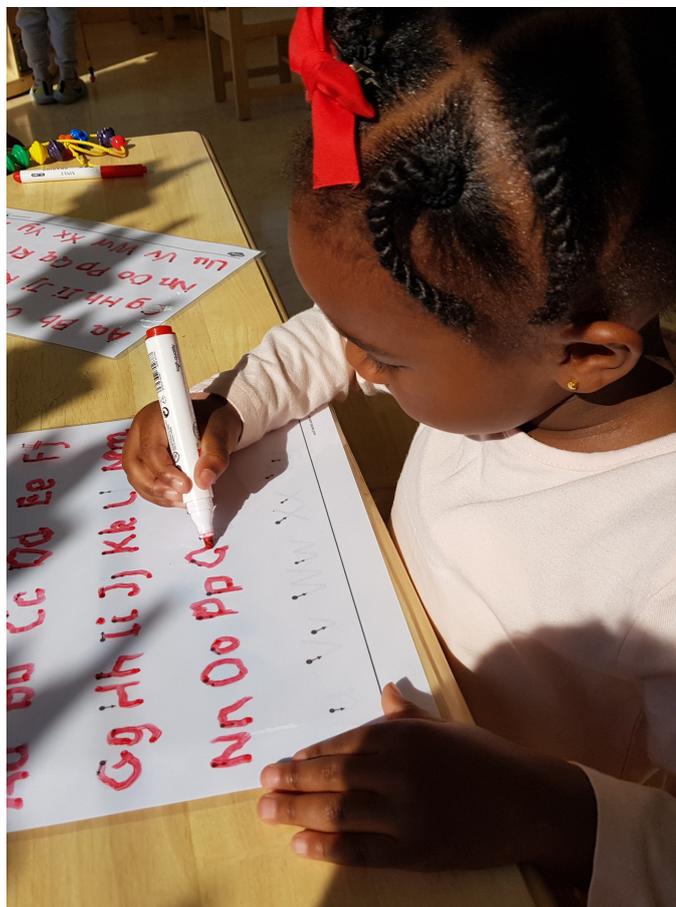
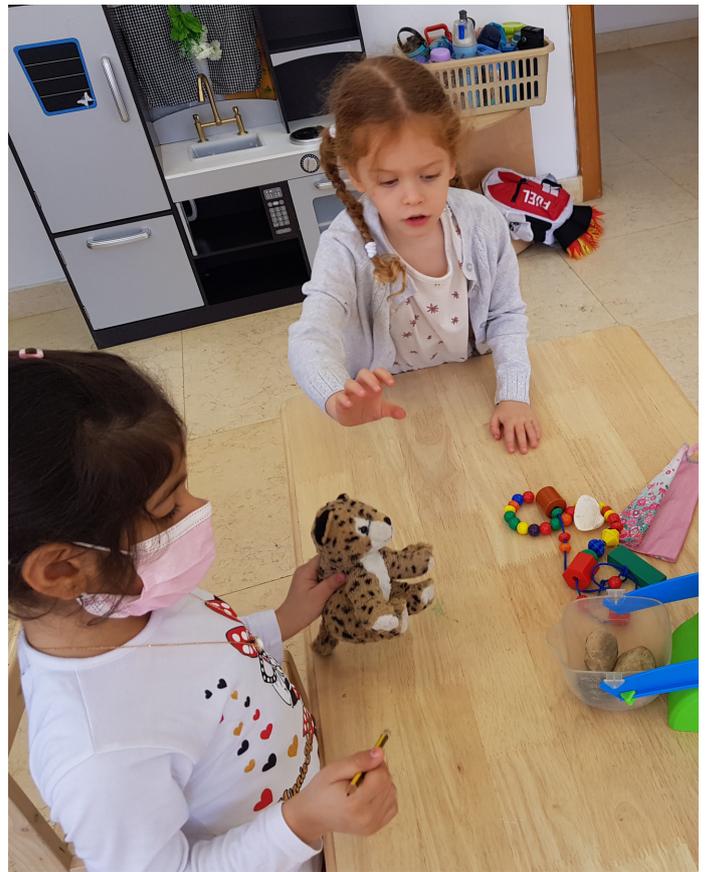
We have continued exploring materials and how suitable they are for building different structures, and have been testing the properties of different materials for our construction explorations. For example, the children have been able to identify that boxes are great for building a tower, but that they run into difficulties when they add a spherical object such as a ball!

## Mathematics

We have been using our focus of materials to explore measurement, including length and weight. We have used balancing scales to compare the weight of different objects, and children have begun using the vocabulary of “light” and “heavy”, identifying that heavier objects make the scales go down. They have also been able to apply this learning to their own play, and can often be seen recreating this learning on the see-saw outside! As always, we continue our daily practise of numbers and counting, which the children are getting better at better at every day.

### Top tip for learning:

Ask your child to hold two objects in each hand and act as a human balancing scale - which one is heavy, which one is light? Can they move their arms up or down to show this? When they are playing, ask them what material each item or toy is made of, and compare how it looks, feels and moves differently to another.



## English / Phonics

We continued exploring traditional tales this month, and have enjoyed “The Little Red Hen” which explores concepts of friendship. The children are starting to identify key events in a story and can give reasons for their answers to specific questions.

We have continued our learning of Phase 3 sounds and have now progressed onto digraphs - two letters that together make one sound. The digraphs we have learnt so far are ch, sh, th and the children are able to identify these sounds in some words. We practise our tricky words, writing our names and the letters of the alphabet every day, and as always we have lots of songs to help us with all of our learning!

### Top tip for learning:

Allow your child lots of opportunity to use their hands and manipulate different objects - playdough, painting, crafting, cutting and sticking all contribute to the strength and dexterity of their fingers, which in turn enhances writing capabilities as their hands mature. Encourage your child to write, draw, scribble and colour whenever they like, using whichever hand feels most comfortable to them - it's very normal at this stage for them to swap and change between the two hands.



### *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*

In February, we learned the definition of colors and had a lot of fun singing the song about body parts and defining the body and following the physical instructions such as close your eyes and open your eyes, stand up, walk and sit in Arabic. We love singing the song of months in Arabic and defining the days of the week. We learned new alphabet letters and the definition of things that start with each letter. Next month we will learn more Arabic words and letters and we will celebrate Mother's Day on March 21st.



# Around the World Camp Snapshots

