

St. Nicolas' CE Combined School Taplow

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Chestnut Class Curriculum News

Summer 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to what is the final term of Early Years teaching. Please find below the curriculum information for Chestnut class. Our topics for the summer term include '**Village life**' and '**Lighthouses**'.



This term, we will continue with our action packed timetable of learning through fun, play-based activities. Therefore, please keep arriving at school allowing plenty of time for your child to: settle in, organise their belongings and greet friends. **Learning sessions will start promptly at 8.45am after registration.**



Our PE day will be on a Friday. **Your child should come to school wearing their full PE kit on this day**, bringing them in line with the rest of the school and ready for their transition to year 1 in September.

Our library slot and changing of reading books will be on a **Wednesday**. Please try to ensure your child has their reading books with them each day as their RWI reading book may be changed at a different time to this.



One of the most important things **you** can do at home, is to keep sharing stories, as this will increase your child's knowledge of language and new vocabulary.

Please ensure each reading book has been read and dated in the record book. Thank you.



Please continue to allow your child to bring a special item to school for show and tell. We love sharing these in class and will try our best to keep on top of them! It is a great opportunity for developing confidence, speaking and listening and questioning skills.

Please remember to speak to us if you have any questions or concerns, you can contact the school office for an appointment, send an email or catch us at the school gate.

Kind regards,

Miss Dennis and the EYFS team.

Please note our class assembly is Tuesday 16th June.

Chestnut class curriculum overview summer term 2026

Village life

Lighthouses

Communication and Language

We will read regularly and immerse children in a range of story language. Children will be encouraged to practise their speaking and listening skills through circle time, show and tell, whole class teaching sessions and during play. We will be learning lots of new vocabulary related to our topics.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will follow the whole school PSHE scheme and talk about the topics 'being my best' and 'growing and changing'. Children will get to know our year 1 staff, through play, to ensure a smooth transition.

Understanding the World

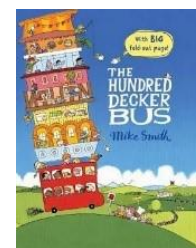
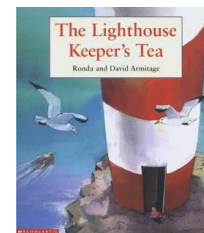
- daily weather watch
- signs of spring
- St. George's day
- Taplow village study
- visit to Bekonscot
- plant seeds
- sunflower lifecycle
- process of growing plants
- transport – past and present
- bee-bots & programming
- lighthouses - Grace Darling & lifeboats
- materials & properties
- where are the Farne Islands?
- the seaside
- aerial views on Google Earth

Mathematics

We will use positional, directional and movement language (under, left, turn etc) and recap days of the week, months and seasons of the year. Mastering number sessions continue daily, and we will: develop counting skills, arrange doubles in a 10-frame, compare quantities and numbers, develop conceptual subitising skills including when using a rekenrek, know 'one more than' and 'one less than' numbers within 10, continue to identify when sets can be subitised and when counting is necessary. We will explore maths through play, making and testing predictions about length, weight and capacity. We will use 2D shapes to continue, copy and create repeating patterns, combine 2D shapes to make new shapes and build with 3D shapes.

Literacy

Children will experience a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books relating to our topic and themes. Including atlases, Bible stories, traditional stories and fairy tales from the UK and around the world, nursery rhymes, poems and rhyming books. Children will have various mark making opportunities in response to role-play stimulus (e.g. train station and lighthouse). Phonics will continue in ability groups, where everyone will learn to read and write sentences, forming letters correctly and using past, present and future tenses.



Physical Development

- Gross motor – throwing and catching skills, running, balance bikes and parachute games will develop core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility.
- Fine motor - activities to build strength and hand-eye coordination for writing. Using a range of small tools for play dough, paper, arts and crafts, digging, mixing and exploring utensils in the mud, sand and water.

Expressive Arts and Design

- flower observational drawings
 - flags
 - artist study – Claude Monet
 - sea shanties
 - observational drawings of homes
 - lighthouses - joining materials, colour and pattern
- Opportunities for junk modelling, collage, colour mixing, printing, mark making patterns, drawing, joining materials, loose art with natural materials, shape, pattern, texture and colour. Small- and large-scale construction with a variety of materials. We will sing regularly, dance and have musical sessions. Role play will encourage us to be imaginative.