

What makes animals unique?

Year 1 and 2 Newsletter Term 3 2024

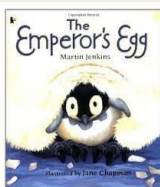
Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a restful and healthy Christmas break.

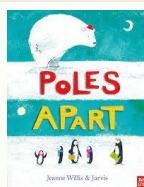
We are very excited that our new topic will be *What makes animals unique?*

We will be learning about different animals; **what** they are like and **where** they live. We will also be identifying characteristics of animals and grouping these accordingly.

Some of the texts we will be using for our learning are:



Instruction writing



Non-fiction



Story writing



If you would like a learning activity to complete at home this term with your child, you could choose from one of these activities:


- Have an animal story time with your child favourite book including animals.
- Can they create an animal puppet?
- How about making a fact file for your child's favourite animal.
- Could they make a diorama with their favourite animal's habitat?
- Can they make a collage of their animal using old magazines?

The learning map attached to this newsletter outlines the areas we will be learning about and some of the work we will be doing in teacher-focussed activities and group work.

Helping to enrich our topics

It is always great to have items that support our topic, so if anyone has any items that may help us with any of the work above that we could borrow, we would love to see them. We will have a topic-based 'show and tell' weekly on a Friday.

| | | | |
|-----------|---|---|--|
| Literacy |  <p>Instruction writing</p> |  <p>Non-fiction</p> |  <p>Story writing</p> |
| Maths | <p>Place Value and + -</p>  | <p>Money</p>  | <p>Statistics</p>  |
| Science | <p>Investigations</p>  | <p>Animals including humans</p>  | <p>Questioning</p>  |
| Geography |  | <p>Animals around the world</p>  |  |
| Music |  <p>Exploring Percussion</p> |  |  |
| ICT | <p>E-Safety</p>  |  | <p>Questioning</p>  |
| PSHE |  | <p>Hopes and dreams</p> |  |

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|----|---|--|---|
| DT |  | Clay and salt dough |  |
| RE |  | Islam  |  |

Home Learning

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|---------------------------|---|
| Reading | <p>Please read with your child at least three times a week, even if it is just for 5 minutes. When reading with your child, please acknowledge the fact that the book has been read by <u>signing and dating in the reading record book</u>.</p> <p>During reading sessions, please discuss the story with your child and ask them questions about what they are reading. These questions will help to develop their understanding of what they are reading as comprehension and discussion are key reading skills in Year 1 and 2. Children can change their books as frequently as they need to on the way down to Chestnuts class in the morning. Please remind them at drop off if their books need changing.</p> |
| Phonics | <p>Most children in Chestnuts will be sent home with a phonics homework sheet on a Monday which will share the sounds, sentences and spelling we will be covering during the week. The children can share their learning with you. There will not be a formal spelling test for Chestnuts, however there will always be 5 words at the bottom of the sheet that they have learnt in school that week and it would be great to practise these at home too! Their phonics and spellings all fit in with the reading scheme.</p> |
| Purple Mash/ Lexia | <p>This term we will start setting 'To Dos' on Purple Mash. These are activities that the children can complete at home if they want to boost their learning.</p> <p>All Year 2s have Lexia logins that they can use at home. This is an amazing reading and spelling resource, tailored to their individual needs. Please try to access this as much as possible.</p> <p>Any issues with logging in to these programmes, please send an email to the office and we will endeavour to send support to access these.</p> |

Useful information and reminders:

- Please can you make sure your child brings in a **water bottle** and their **book bag** each day. We use their books daily so these need to be placed in a box as they come into the classroom.
- The children will need a **named coat, hat and gloves** in school as the weather starts to get colder and wetter.
- Our PE days are **Mondays and Fridays** so please send your child into school in their PE kit on these days.

We hope you all have lovely term supporting the children in their learning. Please do not hesitate to come and speak to us if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support.

The Chestnuts Team