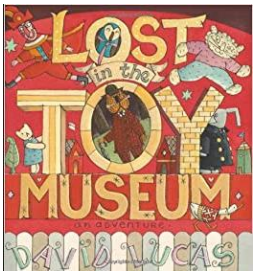
‘Toys’
Newsletter Term 2

Dear Parents,

We will be starting our term with a topic all about toys. The children will be learning about the history of toys and finding out about the changes that have occurred over time and why. Alongside this, they will be learning about the materials that are used to make toys and also design and make their own toys.

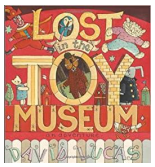
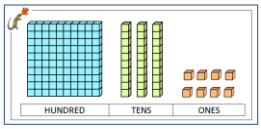
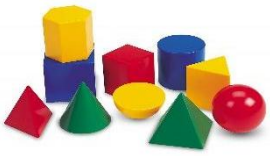
Some of the key texts we will be using for our learning are:







Learning map:

Literacy			
Maths	Number and place value 	Shape 	
History	**Toys: How was childhood different when our grandparents were our age?** • To know how to talk about the past. • To know about chronology and understand timelines • To know the different sources that tell us about the past • To know the similarities and differences between then and now • To know some different ways to learn about the past		
Science	**Plants: How do seeds and bulbs grow into healthy trees?** • To identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. • To identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees. • To describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy, and describe the impact of changing these.		
Music	**What music is about toys? What is a Nativity?** • To learn to describe music accurately. • To learn to improvise sounds to match an idea.		

Computing	**Digital imagery** • Learning how to operate a camera to take photos and videos. • Developing the skills associated with sequencing in unplugged activities. • Using a basic range of tools within graphic editing software. • Taking and editing photographs. • Developing control of the mouse through dragging, clicking and resizing images to create different effects.
PSHE	**Valuing difference** Can I use words that show respect for others? Can I identify people that are special to me? Do I understand how my behaviour can affect others? Do I know how to help someone who is feeling left out? Can I describe acts of kindness and unkindness? How does my family help me and how can I help them?
DT	**How do you make a moving toy?** • To know some differences and similarities in the design of old toys and current toys. • To know some features of toys I would like to include in my own design. • To know what materials would suit the toy I am designing.
RE	**What do Christians believe God is like?** • To learn how Christians believe God shows forgiveness. • To explore the story of the Lost Son • To learn about different types of prayer

Reminders

- Please can you make sure your child has a **named water bottle (filled with fresh water)** every day. If required it can stay in school between Monday and Friday and your child can refill it in the mornings if that is easier.
- Our PE days are **Monday and Friday.**

Homework:

Reading	Please read with your child **at least three times a week**. When reading with your child, please acknowledge the fact that the book has been read by **recording this on Boom Reader.** 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. Chestnuts are encouraged regularly to change their books regularly, please can you help remind your child when their books need changing. Chestnuts will have a separate 'special' reading book sent home on a Friday in a plastic folder. This will be the book that they have been practising during the week in their group reading sessions. It is good to read this book multiple times at home. They are then using a variety of reading skills including building decoding, reading fluency and comprehension. There is a page at the back of the book to support reading questioning. As pupils progress with their reading, they will move to Purple plus level- these are coloured book bands (Purple, Gold, White, Lime) followed after phonics has been secured. Purple plus readers will be given reading comprehension homework to take home in their folders. **This folder must come back to school on the following Wednesday to prepare for the next book.**

Phonics Year 1	Attached to the newsletter you will find our Weekly Phonics overview- please read through these words with your child at home to supplement the Phonics teaching we will be completing in class.
Year 2 Spelling	From time to time year 2 will be sent home spellings to practise. These will not be formally tested but will be useful words that we use frequently within our learning.
Maths	When appropriate, children may be sent maths sheets or activities to complete at home to consolidate learning that they have done in class. This will be done when required.

Sharing from home

Show and tell days will continue to be on Friday and must be related to the topic or an achievement out of school

Please remind your children not to bring in toys from home on other days as it is a topic about the history of older toys and how they have changed. If they need a transitional toy to support them this must be kept in their bag at all times and be no bigger than15cm.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Adams and the Chestnuts Team