

Chestnut Lane School - Spring Term Update

March 2026

Celebrating Languages

Upon returning to school after half term, we marked International Mother Language Day (21st February) with the children. We learned that 35 different languages are spoken by our school community and enjoyed using some of these in our daily routines, such as to answer the register and greet each other in assembly.



On 27th February, we were pleased to welcome families to our Multilingual Coffee Morning. This was an opportunity to celebrate the languages and cultural identities that enrich Chestnut Lane School, alongside sharing learning strategies and resources for multilingual learners with parents and guardians. Thank you to all who attended.

Chestnut Lane Book and Communication Week: 2nd- 6th March

We had a wonderful week celebrating the wonder of books and the pleasure of reading. Highlights included our after-school Book Fair and our 'Share a Story' session, where all staff who work at Chestnut Lane School read a favourite book aloud at the same time. All children chose the story they wanted to listen to and were excited to find out who would be reading it to them!



As always, we were amazed by the creative book character costumes children (and staff!) wore on World Book Day and delighted that so many parents were able to join our Read-in that day. A special thank you to the parents who joined Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 on their visits to Amersham Library. The children loved completing the book-themed flag hunt and many have been back to borrow books and collect their certificate and challenge card.

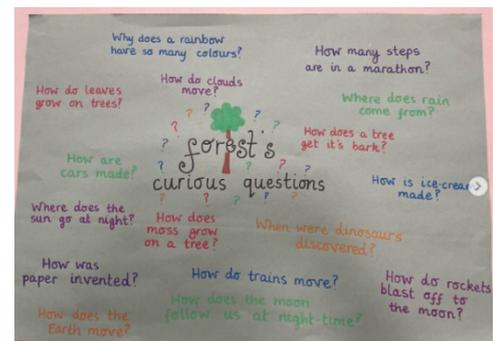
This week was also [Buckinghamshire's Early Years Communication Week](#) and so we enjoyed live streaming events from authors David Lichfield and Guilherme Karsten and poetry read by Trisha Lee.



Chestnut Lane Science Week: 9th- 13th March



To explore the Science Week theme of 'curiosity', children enjoyed creating 'Curious Questions' posters in class and presenting these to each other in assembly. They were even able to discover the answers to some of these by using their enquiry skills and investigating together.



Reception Postbox Walk: 24th March

Reception made us very proud walking to the postbox. They listened carefully to instructions, stayed with their group and showed respect to the members of the public we walked past. They enjoyed seeing the spring flowers along the way and were so excited to individually post their own card home. Reception families need to watch out for a very special delivery this week! Thank you to the volunteers who came on the walk.



Little Chestnuts Gruffalo Walk: 24th March

Little Chestnuts found a letter from the mouse in 'The Gruffalo' story in their classroom! He wrote asking the Little Chestnut children to come and find him in the deep dark wood and help him make pictures for his friends: snake, fox and owl. They had such an exciting adventure; looking for clues and finding posters hanging on the hedges which guided them to the deep dark woods. They also collected lots of natural materials to create their pictures and acted out the story. Luckily, they didn't bump into the Gruffalo but they definitely heard the mouse rustling in the leaves! Thank you to the volunteers who came on the adventure with us.



Upcoming Events - Summer Term

Please see below a list of events that we are looking forward to in the first half of the Summer term:

- Reception vision checks: Wednesday 15th April
- Music Open Morning: Friday 24th April, 9.00am – 9.45am. Parents are welcome to join their children during this time to take part in activities across the school.
- Year 2 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo: Monday 27th April. Please see previous communication sent, including how to order lunches.
- Class Photos: Wednesday 29th April
- May Bank Holiday: Monday 4th May. School closed.
- Reception Trip to Bekonscot Model Villag: Tuesday 12th May. Further communication will be sent after the break.
- Sports Morning: Monday 18th May. Further communication will be sent after the break.
- Maths Reasoning & Problem-solving Read-in: Friday 22nd May

Staff Update

Some of you will have noticed that Mrs Sarah Javaud has been absent from our school office over the past couple of weeks. She is currently away from school, but we look forward to welcoming her back in May. In her absence, Miss Ish Shafi is increasing her support for the office team and so parents and guardians may hear from her from time to time.

Lots of parents and guardians will have also seen Mrs Roxie Turner recovering from recent surgery. We continue to wish her a speedy recovery back to full health, and hope to have her back with us after the break.

It is with very mixed emotions that we will be saying 'farewell' to Mrs Suzanna Owen at the end of the summer term, after more than 20 years at the school. Her departure marks the end of an era for the school, but an exciting time for Mrs Owen as she embraces opportunities to see the world!

Our Administration Manager role is now being advertised, and if you know anyone who may be interested, it can be found on our website here: <https://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk/school/vacancies>

Wishing everyone a restful break before the children return to school on Monday 13th April.

**Mrs Gemma Rehal
Headteacher & DSL**