



# Newsletter—February 2026

## Welcome Back!

What a wet January we have had this year! It has been one storm after another. The children have been making the most of the elements and enjoyed splashing in puddles, exploring the muddy conditions and mixing up imaginative delights in the mud kitchen. As you know we still like to get outside everyday whatever the weather so appropriate kit is important. Don't forget to name/label your children's waterproof suits and wellington boots though as it can be hard to keep a track of who's is who's when everyone is changing at once.

Outside we have been feeding the wildlife—including the worms in our worm-bag farm, and the birds. The worms have been enjoying scraps from our snack food waste and the birds have been treated to seeds mixed with lard and made into hanging cakes.

As we move into February our topics and books will change. For the weeks leading up to half term we will be thinking about kindness and celebrations including Valentines Day, Shrove Tuesday, Lunar New Year and Kuwait National Day. If you mark anything special celebrations at home do let us know about them as sharing them it is a fantastic way for our children to learn about and understand different cultures.



### Important information

As you are aware we use Tapestry to share information with you both about your child and school life - including unplanned school closures and key events. It is important that all families are committed to using this system. Tapestry can be downloaded as an app on your phone and you can set it to alert you to any messages. Please check you have this set up so you do not miss any important messages.

### Ideas for sharing activities at home

This term we are excited to have scheduled two visitors to Chestnut Nursery School. Our visitors will be sharing information and activities which will help to support our message of sustainability.

Our first visitor is Sophie Moore, from South West Water. Sophie will be talking to the children about where water comes from, where it goes after we flush it away and why it is an important resource.

Our second visitor is from Resource Futures and they will be coming in to talk about compost and look through our compost bin with the children. They will be finding out what lives inside the compost bin and why it is an important and useful resource in our garden.

To support this learning you can talk to your children about the water they use at home. Look for taps and drains in the local environment, spot areas of flooding (easy to do in our current weather!) and talk about what things are waterproof, not waterproof.

You can also talk about your food waste and where it goes. Maybe leave an apple core out in the garden so you can watch it decompose and talk about the changes.

# January's Gallery



# Other news

## Settling in Reviews

If your child has recently started nursery an appointment will be made for you to come in and talk to one of our teachers, Emma or Liz, about how your child has settled into Chestnut Nursery School. During the review we will talk about our prime areas of learning— Personal, Social & Emotional Development/ Communication & Language/ Physical Development and how your child is presenting in these areas while they are at Chestnut. The review is also a chance for you to share information about your child and ask any questions you may have since they started. Working together helps us to fully understand your child's interests and know how we can best support your child's learning and development at Chestnut Nursery School and at home.

## New staff

Welcome to Lindsey, our new key worker, and also, welcome back, to Sofia, our playworker who has returned to work at Chestnut after a break.



Lindsey



Sophia

## Dates for your diary

**Ongoing— every Monday Baby and Toddler Group—9.30-11.00am (Term Time Only)**

**Tuesday 10th February** - South West Water visitor for the children

**Thursday 12th February** - Toilet training workshop @ 9.15—10.30am, do join us if you would like some tips and support

**Monday 16th February—Friday 20th February** - Half term holiday—nursery shut

**Wednesday 25th March** - Kuwait National Day—cultural sharing day for the children

**Thursday 5th March** - World Book Day—details to follow

**Tuesday 10th March** - Gardening Club @3pm-4pm, come and join us with some gardening jobs

**Wednesday 25th March** -Just One Tree Day—details to follow

**Tuesday 31st March** - Compost Workshop for the children

**Thursday 2nd April** -Last day of term

