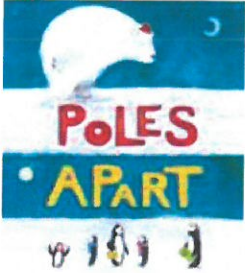





This week in Chestnut

We are here to help. If you have any questions or concerns, please talk to your child's keyworker or any of the staff.

Book of the week: Poles Apart 	Rhyme of the week: He We Go Round the Mulberry Bush 	Sign of the week: Play 	Happy Thought of the week: 
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Maths

We will be:

- Counting small sets of bears (up to 3) together, reinforcing that the last number we say tells us the *total* amount.
- Encouraging children to count aloud, point to each bear, and say how many they see.
- Comparing two groups of bears using words like *more* and *fewer*, helping children develop early understanding of quantity and comparison through hands-on play.



Phonics Phase 1 Aspect 4 – Rhythm & Rhyme

We will be:

- Exploring familiar packaging such as cereal boxes and juice cartons, encouraging children to recognise logos, name items, and talk about where they've seen them before.
- Playing a *Musical Words* game by clapping out the syllables in simple words like *apple* or *banana*, helping children hear and count the beats in words.

Inviting children to suggest their own words—like names, animals, or food—and clapping or tapping the syllables together to build phonological awareness through fun, active listening.

Learning Opportunities

We will be:

- Exploring floating and sinking through hands-on water play, predicting and testing which everyday objects stay on the surface or sink to the bottom.
- Observing how ice changes when it gets warm, using our senses and simple tools to explore melting and talk about material changes.
- Using cool and warm colours to make expressive paintings that represent different temperatures, places and experiences.
- Listening to fast and slow music and responding through large, expressive mark making inspired by Kandinsky.
- Creating bold lines and shapes using black pens, inspired by Kandinsky's artwork, and developing language around direction, movement, and form.

Help at Home

Talk About the Weather!

Observing the many changes in the world around them is the best way to teach your child about the changing seasons. Point out the difference in heavy dark clouds and explain why they look that way. Pose 'I wonder' questions such as "I wonder where the sun is when it is raining?" Ask them what they think of the frost on the car in the morning and how do they think it got there. Some of our key questions for this half term are weather questions which you could ask your children:

Is the weather the same every day?

What do I need to wear in cold weather?



Dates for your diary:

- **WC 19th January** - We are Artist's week
- **Wednesday 21st January** - Salt Pots visit
- **Wednesday 28th January** - Owl Visit