Dear Parents,

Awbridge Primary School

We hope you all had a restful and fun filled half term! We are so excited to welcome the children back and begin our Autumn 2 learning journey. This is always such a lovely term in school as we watch the seasons change, begin getting ready for Christmas and, of course, look forward to our world famous Nativity performance, which the children work so hard to put on!

Exploring and Creating

This week, we have been exploring pointillism, linking our learning to Bonfire Night and fireworks. The children have thoroughly enjoyed creating their own firework inspired artwork, experimenting with different tools and resources, including forks, kitchen roll tubes and cotton buds. It has been wonderful to see their creativity shine as they explored different ways to make marks, patterns and colourful effects.

Our new Dimensions unit this half term is called Royal Patrons. This week, we began by exploring the concept of changes over time. We looked at different timings throughout our school day and used photographs to help us think about how things change. We also linked our learning to castles, with the children enjoying designing and creating their very own castles during Explore and Learn. We have already seen some wonderful ideas!

English – New Stories, New Adventures!

We have introduced our exciting new English texts for this half term, and the children have been busy putting on their detective hats!

In Reception, we have started making predictions about what our new story might be, using a collection of intriguing clues. So far, we have discovered a star, a jar, a feather and some bottle tops. The children have come up with some fantastic ideas! Some thought that perhaps someone was collecting special things in a jar, while others wondered whether the story might be set on a beach. It has been lovely listening to their imaginations and sharing all their different thoughts and predictions.

Our new story is Star in a Jar, and we cannot wait to discover what happens!

In Year 1, our new text is Rapunzel. The children have also been exploring clues to help them work out what their story might be about. We finished the week by writing our own predictions, explaining what we thought the text might contain. It is wonderful to see the progression in the children's writing, with increasingly confident sentences and developing paragraphs. We are so proud of their efforts!

Maths – Thinking Like Mathematicians

In Reception, we have been learning all about more and fewer. Mark the Mathematician has been rather cheeky this week, comparing amounts with Owlie and regularly arguing about who has more! Thankfully, the children have been on hand to put him right. We have been practising our key phrases:

"Mark has more than Owlie."

"Mark has fewer than Owlie."

In Year 1, the children have been exploring number bonds to 10. They have been comparing amounts, finding totals and developing their understanding of the different ways numbers can be combined to make 10. We have loved seeing them build confidence and become increasingly secure with their number knowledge.

Kind Regards,

The Chestnut Team