Dear Parents,

Awbridge Primary School

I can hardly believe we are already nearing the end of the Autumn 1 term! It has been such a busy, happy and successful half term in Chestnut, filled with learning, growing, curiosity and lots of lovely moments together.

This week has been another wonderful week of learning and exploring. On Monday, we enjoyed an assembly focusing on trusted adults as part of the NSPCC's Speak Out, Stay Safe programme. We talked about the importance of knowing which adults we can turn to if we need help or have something we would like to share. We also met Pantosaurus and explored the important message of keeping our privates private, helping the children to understand how to keep themselves safe in an age-appropriate and reassuring way.

On Wednesday morning, we were lucky enough to enjoy a fantastic storytelling workshop! The children were encouraged to let their imaginations run wild as they retold familiar stories, created their own imaginative adventures and explored the wonderful world of storytelling. It was lovely to see so many children growing in confidence, sharing their ideas and bravely having a go. We had so much fun bringing our stories to life!

We have also been carrying out our Read Write Inc. assessments this week. It has been lovely to see how much progress the children have made and to celebrate the individual steps they are taking on their phonics journeys. Every child is learning and growing at their own pace, and we are so proud of the effort and enthusiasm they continue to show.

Kindness has been one of our special Explore and Learn goals this week. We have been looking out for those little moments when children show care and consideration towards their friends, our classroom resources and the world around them. To celebrate these thoughtful moments, we have been giving out our special yellow hearts! These can be awarded by adults, but just as importantly, children can give them to their friends when they notice an act of kindness. It has been heart-warming to see the children recognising and celebrating one another's kindness, helping us to continue building our Chestnut family where everyone feels valued, cared for and included.

This week, we have also been exploring the exciting world of computing! The children have been learning about algorithms and what this word means. We discovered that an algorithm is simply a set of instructions that helps us complete a task. The children had great fun thinking about the different steps involved in everyday activities and creating their own algorithms. We thought about our morning routines, getting ready in the classroom, brushing our teeth, making toast and even our bedtime routines! It was wonderful to see the children thinking carefully about the order of their instructions and sharing their ideas with one another. We are beginning to understand how important it is to put instructions in the correct order so that our tasks can be completed successfully. Who knew our everyday routines could be such an exciting way to learn about computing?

From,
The Chestnut Team