Connaught
Junior School
"Caring, Confident, Committed"

November 2026

Dear Year 3 Parents and Carers,

The children have settled in brilliantly to life at Connaught Junior School and we can all be incredibly proud of them for making such a wonderful start. Autumn 2 is an extremely exciting term as we prepare for our **Christmas production**: this is a fantastic chance for the children to show off their talents to the rest of the school, and to you! Over the next few weeks, we will be allocating roles and beginning rehearsals. Parts are allocated based on the children's preferences, how confident they are feeling and how well they can project their voice. There will be a range of parts, from main speaking parts to acting only, and we are able to adapt the script so that everyone can get a part that they are happy with. Once parts have been allocated, please support your child to learn their lines and song lyrics at home when you can. More information on the dates and times of the Christmas production will be sent out soon.

This is our second curriculum letter which comes out every half term, accompanied by a theme overview. This is designed to give you some information regarding the key themes we will be covering and some more detail on this term's topic.

Curriculum

Our topic this half term looks at the local history and geography of our very own village of Bagshot. Our topic, **'Bagshot: A Local Study'**, looks the physical and human geographical aspects of the area, as well as the history of the village and how it has changed over the years. During our Launch Day, the children arrived to a classroom ransacked by the infamous Bagshot Highwayman himself! We read his cryptic clues and tracked him down using a map of Bagshot village, as well as creating a 'Wanted' poster to capture the bandit! This topic is so useful in helping the children understand what we have available in our local area, as well as introducing children, who are not necessarily Bagshot locals, to our wonderful village. We will be looking at the British Isles and the countries that the British Isles are made up of, where Bagshot is located in relation to these countries, how a county differs to a country and the county that Bagshot is in, the physical and human geographical features of Bagshot, and comparing Bagshot to another place in the UK.

English

In our English lessons, we will be writing adventure stories based around the legend of the Bagshot Highwayman from our Launch Day – I am sure they will be jam-packed with suspense and drama! We will look at the art of 'Show, not tell' in our writing to develop from telling the reader what is happening, to helping the reader picture the scene in the minds through detailed description. We will then turn our attention to the seasonal aspect of the half term – Christmas! The children will explore a new genre of writing: letter writing. They will look at how a page is laid out differently to a story and use these features to compose their own letter to Father Christmas. We might even get a reply! We will also be producing some shorter pieces of writing and using various images and videos to inspire us.

In our Grammar lessons, we will be focusing on subjects, verbs and objects, helping children to understand how sentences are structured. We will then explore proper nouns, different sentence types and conjunctions. To finish the year, we will learn about pronouns and how they can be used to make writing more cohesive and avoid repetition

Mathematics

In Mathematics, the children will be finishing off our unit on **Addition and Subtraction** by learning to subtract large numbers, first using counters and dienes, before learning the formal method of column subtraction, both with and without exchanging. We will then begin our unit on **Multiplication and Division** where we will be using sharing and grouping to develop a firm understanding of exactly what it means to multiply and divide numbers. At school, we are continuing to solidify the 2, 5 and 10 times table. Times tables underpins all of our maths topics and it is important that our children are confident in quickly recalling both the multiplication and division facts in any order: we hope that they continue to use Times tables Rockstars, as well as any other methods they enjoy, to practise their times tables at least 5 times a week.

PSHE

In PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economics) this term we will be Celebrating Differences. We will be talking about different types of families and recognising that although they are all different, families are important. We will also be learning about disagreements and conflicts that might happen in family and friendship groups and the ways we can help to solve them. Lastly, we will be recognising that some words can be used in hurtful ways and what the consequences of this might be.

PE

PE is still timetabled for Tuesdays and Fridays. As the weather gets colder, please ensure your child has suitable outdoor footwear for their PE lessons and warm clothes to wear for PE. Again, please name **all** items clearly as things can sometimes get lost during the school day and please do remind your children to take care of their items throughout the day. We do also recommend keeping a spare pair of socks in your child's bag in case their own get wet whilst on the field.

And finally...

As always, we are always outside at the end of the day and available if you need a quick chat. If you would like more time, a phone appointment or meeting can be arranged at a mutually convenient time. Please remember that the class email accounts are regularly monitored and this is often the best way to pass on quick notes or to ask questions. We always aim to foster positive relationships with our parents so if you have a question about anything at all, approaching us directly is the best way forward to ensure that you get the most accurate information possible.

Kind regards,

Mr Weeks Miss Butler Miss Knight Mrs Youle