

# Term 1 and 2 - Marvellous Moments in Chestnut

## Learning about World War II

Year 5 and 6 celebrated their World War II topic through a 'VE Day' afternoon tea and a visit to the Soapbox Theatre. They performed various songs from the 1940s as well as a range of musical theatre pieces about the lives of evacuees. All children made a fantastic effort to put together their own evacuee costumes for both events. They spent some time in an Anderson air raid shelter which was a scary experience and made the children think about how lucky they are today. A large part of the theatre visit was based on the Plymouth Blitz. The children were amazed at the devastation of the city and how it has been rebuilt since the war.



## Nest Building STEM Challenge

As part of our ongoing Crest Award activities Chestnut Class had the opportunity to get back to nature and create a bird's nest from natural material. The crest award is a STEM initiative involving a range of hands on, problem solving activities. The class spent time in the natural environment collecting a variety of materials to build a suitable nest. They had to work together to ensure that their nest was a stable structure and could withstand a range of weathers. The children used a range of techniques, including weaving grass, to make their nests as hardy as possible. The children then tested their nests by resting them in the trees and then shaking the branches. Children were selected as the winners based on their creativity, team work and strength of their nests.

## Nuffield Health Workshops

Throughout the second term we worked alongside the Nuffield Health to help improve and raise awareness for the health and well-being of children in year 6. As a cohort they looked at 4 different topics; 'How I eat', 'How I move', 'How I sleep' and 'How I feel'. Children were given 2 hours every week to examine their emotions, their routines and their current amount exercise. The Nuffield Health were fantastic at not only explaining the importance of all these elements of a healthy lifestyle but also offering amazing techniques and strategies to get better sleep, eat healthier, exercise more and most importantly relax when feel stressed or nervous. This was evident in some of the responses from the children "When I can't answer a question at school, I use the breathing technique to calm me down before trying again" and "I didn't watch TV in bed before I went to sleep last night, and I had the best sleep. I feel great today." The Nuffield Health coaches really enjoyed being a part of the year 6 team.

