

Whole school homework

Conkers!

This week, I'm setting a very different kind of homework. This weekend I'd love you all to go on a conker finding mission. Our annual conker competition is back in force – James White was the 2022 conker champion so he's the one to beat this year!



Search for a Horse chestnut tree, this is the tree that conkers come from.

I'm told there's a good one at Longstock park or up at Farleigh mount, perfect for a Sunday walk!



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Conkers are the seeds of the horse chestnut tree and are covered in a green spiky shell which protects the seed from the birds! If you're lucky, you'll find lots of shells cracked on the ground beneath the tree and conkers spilled out on the floor below. Watch out, the spikes can hurt!



Once you've found the perfect conker (a good, even, symmetrical one with no breaks in the shell), make a hold through the middle – you'll need a grown-ups help for this.

Thread through a shoelace or thin rope – this must be more than 30cm long to enter our competition.

No cheating and soaking it in vinegar or baking it – we will find out!

TOP TIP

To check your conker is a good one, put it into water. If it floats, it's damaged or mouldy so get rid of it!

You can sign up to join our competition all of next week. We'll start playing on Mon 9th October with finals the following week.

