

Beech Class Newsletter: Term 1



Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, I would like to offer a very warm welcome back to school to all Beech Class families. I hope you have had an enjoyable summer break. Our topic for this first term is entitled Marvellous Me! We will be combining learning that centers on the children's immediate world: their relationships, local area and imaginations as well as reflecting on how these things can have an impact upon their well-being.

In English , we will use quality texts and visual stimuli to broaden the children's vocabulary, consolidate their knowledge of grammar fundamentals and, crucially, support the development of their reading skills. In line with our termly topic, the books we focus on will centre of the children's sense of self, family and friendships.	The maths learning will focus on 'number sense' and combine practical investigations and more formal problem-solving as the children develop their understanding of number and place value, followed by addition and subtraction strategies.	In science , the children will be finding out what sound actually <i>is</i> and exploring how humans including animals experience sound, how sound is created and the ways in which we can change the properties of sounds.
Our Geography topic will focus the human & physical features of the local area. The learning will involve the children carrying out their own mapping and fieldwork within the village as well as presenting their results.	In art & design , we will initially focus on self-portraits, before moving on to clay work. There will be a Sutton Benger theme to the children's designs as they choose to represent elements of the local area using clay techniques.	In music , our learning is based on the theme of 'sounds' and will focus on classifying instruments by the way sounds are produced as well as exploring the sounds we can make using our voices, including beatboxing!
There will be two PE* lessons each week, where the children will be developing their agility, coordination and balance through a range of multi-skills activities.	The year 3 children will be introduced to the Spanish language as they learn simple greetings.	Our PSHE learning will be focusing on creating a safe, welcoming and happy class and school environment.

* Please remember that PE kits (trainers, white t-shirt, black or blue shorts/skort) are required to be in school every day.

On Tuesday afternoons, the class will be taught RE and computing by Mrs Pitts. The **RE** learning will focus on different faiths as the children consider the question: *What can we learn from sacred books?* In **computing**, the children will develop their digital literacy and IT skills using the school Chromebooks to create, access and edit documents.

Initially for home learning, we are prioritising reading and mental maths skills. Children are expected to read a minimum of three times a week at home (with this being recorded using the Go Read app). Please see the 'Reading at home' document for further information about supporting your child's reading skills at home.

For mental maths practice, online resources such as Times Tables Rockstars and number facts challenges are available. Details regarding these will be shared in a separate communication very soon!

Thank you for supporting your children with their home learning. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to write a note in your child's diary or see me before or after school.

Kind regards,

Mr Richards