



Beech Class

January 2026

Dear Beech Class Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year!

It has been lovely to see all the children coming back into Beech Class, buzzing with wonderful memories from their Christmas holidays. It has been a very exciting start back with the addition of snow this week! With the expected cold weather, please ensure children come to school with appropriate winter clothing for being outside. If possible, please ensure items of clothing are named to save things getting lost or accidentally taken home by someone else. Along with this letter, you will find Pick 'N' Mix and our topic web, which outlines the learning children will be doing this term.

Theme:

Our theme this term will focus around being a historian where we will be learning about the Anglo Saxons. During our History unit, children will be learning about the reasons why the Anglo Saxons came to Britain and how England was divided into different kingdoms. As historians, children will develop an understanding about why the Vikings threatened the Anglo Saxon ruling and how England began to unite together.

Every Wednesday afternoon, Beech class will return to their original year groups for Science. Year 4 will be taught by Mrs dos Santos and will be learning about living things and their habitats. Year 5 will be taught by myself (Mrs Richmond) and will be learning about forces.

Home Learning:

Children in Beech class are encouraged to read regularly for pleasure, either with suitable range of fiction from home, or from a levelled reading book from our reading scheme – Big Cats. Children will be having their book levels assessed this week with Ms Cuthbert, but please speak to Mrs Richmond if you are still concerned about their book level following this. Additionally, children are encouraged to read books of their choosing. It would be lovely to hear about some of the books children are choosing to read at home, so please encourage children to come and speak to me if they have a book recommendation for the class. If your child needs their book changing, please remind them they are able to do so independently on arrival to school each morning. Whole Class Reading sessions take place daily, focusing on developing a range of reading skills, including retrieval, inference and explanations skills to encouraging progress.

The spelling home learning will continue to go home on a Monday, with support given in school to help learn these. Spellings will continue to be a big focus in Beech Class. We will investigate spelling rules and patterns throughout the week, as well as any common spelling errors made by children in class. Children will be given spellings for the week, depending on their year group in class. Children will be tested each week on their spellings on a Friday.

We will continue to focus on improving our knowledge and speed of times tables using deliberate practice in class. Each term we will have a focus on times tables learning but the expectation is that children will need to know all these by the end of the year. If you would like support at home with times tables, then please let us know.

Pick 'n' Mix home learning will also be starting from week 2 (week commencing 12.01.26). On this grid, there is a range of home learning activities as well as activities linked to our value of Trust and Vision of Believe, Learn, Grow. Some of these home learning tasks will also promote useful life skills. Children will be awarded points for each piece of home learning they complete, with the points being tallied up by the end of the term and prizes awarded accordingly. The grid also has additional home learning to show the *Reading*, *Spelling* and *Time Tables* home learning which are compulsory.

PE:

PE will be taught on Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons. Children are allowed to wear their PE kits in school for the entire day on this day. PE for the term will be taught outside so please ensure children have clothing for the appropriate winter weather. If your child is wearing earrings (studs, no hoops), these will either need to be removed for PE or medical tape can be kept in their school bags for your child to cover them up. Please note, children will be responsible for either removing or covering up their own earrings.

Date for the diary: Thursday 12th February 2026

Beech Class will be holding an open classroom (timing tbc) where children will have the opportunity to share their Maths and English books with you, as long as holding an art exhibition to showcase their artwork from the term.

Value:

Our school value this term is **Courage**.

Carrying on when things are difficult

Overcoming fear

Understanding and facing a challenge

Risking being out of your comfort zone

Always believing in God's promises

Going for a goal

Empowered by encouragement

Thank you in advance for your support, and I look forward to an exciting term in Beech Class.

Mrs Richmond