



Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow

Beech Class

November 2025

Dear Beech Class Parents/Carers,

Wow! What a first term we had in Beech class! It was absolutely lovely getting to know all the children and I am so excited for the term ahead in the lead up to Christmas. It was so lovely to see so many of you share in the children's learning at the end of the term. Along with this letter, you will also receive a Topic Web and this term's Pick 'n' Mix. I hope you all had a lovely half term break. This term promises to be an incredibly busy term with Forest School, our class collective worship (11th December) and many Christmas activities. Beech class will also be going on a class trip on Wednesday 10th December – more details will follow shortly.

Theme:

Our theme this term will focus around being a historian where we will be learning about the Tudors. We have started off with an art focus: creating Tudor roses and exploring Tudor portraits. Throughout the term, children will learn who the Tudors were and why they were important to British history. We will be looking closely at Henry VIII, gaining an understanding of why he was so famous. Children will explore what life was like for rich and poor Tudors, finishing off the term by understanding how Tudors celebrated Christmas.

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 electricity. Year 5 will be taught by myself (Mrs Richmond) and will be continuing to learn about properties and changes in material.

Home Learning:

Children in Beech class are encouraged to read regularly for pleasure, either with a suitable range of fiction from home, or from a levelled reading book from our reading scheme – Big Cats. Children will have a Big Cat book each week to read to improve reading fluency as well as a 'reading for pleasure' book of their choice. Children will have also brought home a reading record. Please encourage your child to write in it each day they have read and sign it when you have either seen or heard them read. 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 encourage 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 differentiated spellings for the week, depending on the level they are working at 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 on paper 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 11th November 2024). 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. 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 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.

Forest School:

On Tuesday afternoons, Beech class will take part in a series of Forest School lessons with Mrs dos Santos. It is advised children wear old, weather appropriate clothing as they can get muddy. Children will need to bring clothing and suitable footwear, e.g. wellies, waterproof coat, sun hat etc. in case of wet, cold or warm weather on Tuesday morning in a **named** bag. Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly named.

Value:

Our school value this term is **Compassion**. As part of our Pick 'n' Mix, children have been asked to write an acrostic poem to share their understanding of our value. These will be merged together to create an acrostic poem shared in our collective worship at the end of this term.

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

Mrs Richmond