



Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow

Beech Class - Summer Term 1

April 2025

Dear Beech Class Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after what was hopefully a delightful Easter break. I hope you were all able to enjoy some of the lovely sunshine we had. It has been lovely to see the children back in school and I have been so impressed by their engagement and enthusiasm towards their learning so far. Although short, this term promises to be a busy one, filled with lots of learning and creativity. We will be aiming to finish the term with an open afternoon, allowing the children to share their learning. As soon as a date has been finalised, I will let you all know.

Topic:

Our topic this term will focus around being a geographer where we will be learning all about economic trade and activity. As geographers, we will be gaining an understanding about what we trade and who we trade with, before conducting research into fair trade and the global economy. Towards the end of the term, children will be thinking about how trading has changed over time.

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 animals including humans. Year 5 will be taught by myself (Mrs Richmond) and also 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 Cat. 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. Please send your child into school each day with their reading record and levelled reading book as Mrs Richmond, Mrs Butler and Mrs Darragh will be trying to read with individuals on a regular basis. 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 differentiated spellings for the week, depending on the level they are working at in class. Most children will be given around 10 spellings but others might have less. Please use the look, say, cover, write and check format to practise the words at home, as well as the techniques like 'silly sentences', 'pyramid writing' and other strategies which will be explained to your children. Spellings will be taught during the week, followed by a test on 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 this week. On this grid, there is a range of home learning activities as well as activities linked to our value of Friendship 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. Mrs Richmond will celebrate Pick 'n' Mix every Thursday afternoon. It was delightful to see more children engage with Pick 'n' Mix during the spring term and I hope that this continues into the final two terms of the year. During this time, children will also be given the chance to celebrate their own successes in class by selecting a piece of work to upload to Seesaw to share with people at home. If you need another Seesaw code sent home, please contact the school office.

PE:

PE will be taught on Tuesdays and Thursdays this term. Children are allowed to wear their PE kits in school for the entire day on this day. 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.

Swimming:

For children in Year 4, and some Year 5, swimming will commence on Tuesday 29th April. Separate communication has already gone out via Parent Mail for this. If your child is going swimming, they are welcome to wear their swimming costume/trunks underneath their school uniform. However, if wearing their swimming costume/trunks into school, please make sure children have a pair of underwear packed in their bag for afterwards.

Value:

This term's value is Friendship.

Finding things to do together

Relying on each other

Impossible on your own

Enjoying being together

Never selfish

Depending on someone else

Sharing hopes and dreams

Happiness and laughter

Including others

Precious

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

Mrs Richmond