

Beech Class Newsletter – Spring (1)

Our topic this term is, 'Our local area'.

English:

Our book focus this half term is 'Traditional Tales and Fairy Tales'. We will enjoy listening to, reading, performing, retelling and innovating our own versions of stories, including alternative versions of traditional tales.





We will also be using our Science unit of work to write our own non-chronological reports based on an animal of our choice. Children will use books and the internet to research the appearance, diet and habitat of their animal and use headings, subheadings and paragraphs to organise their findings.

Phonics sessions are a fundamental part of English within Year 1 which continues onto learning spelling rules in Year 2. In class we provide children with daily phonics or spelling sessions in which they will practise saying, recognising, reading and writing sounds which they will practise for their homework on a weekly basis (Fridays).

Reading:

Year 1 reading books will be changed every Monday, Year 2 on a Wednesday if they have been read at home. Consistent and daily reading at home is key to success-little and often. We will check reading records every Friday.

As a school, we will be continuing our new reward system. **Children will need to have read on 4 separate days (in one week) for staff to update the register towards their reward** (this will be checked on a Friday morning).

Week 1				
Day 1 ✓ Read 	Day 2 ✓ Read 	Day 3 ✓ Read 	Day 4 ✓ Read 	= staff update register in school
Note - These <i>do not</i> need to be consecutive days, just four separate days within the week				
End of Week 3				
If the above is repeated for three consecutive weeks = child wins a prize				
End of Week 6				
If repeated for a further three consecutive weeks = child wins an additional reward				

Maths:

This term we will be focusing on:

- Shape
- Multiplication
- Division

Check out the school website for some home learning packs linked to these topics.

<https://fingringhoeprimaryschool.co.uk/curriculum/maths/>

PE:

This half term, we will be participating in P.E **every Wednesday and Thursday** afternoon. Wednesday's session will be led by Miss Baker, focusing on Gymnastics skills and High Apparatus. Thursday's session will be outdoor Hockey led by our fantastic sports coach, Jordan.

All pupils are required to attend school in their full PE kit on these days. Please could you ensure your child has suitable clothing for this, in accordance with the school's uniform policy, including removing earrings.

Science:

In Science we will be looking at Living Things and their Habitats. By the end of the unit, we will be able to:

- Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive.
- Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other.
- Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitat.
- Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food.

History:

As our main topic this term is 'Our local area', we will be visiting our very own Colchester Castle to explore life in a castle as a home and a place of battle. We will explore different job roles within a medieval castle. We will also identify parts of a Castle and its purpose, for example a keep or a moat.

PSHCE:

In our SCARF lessons this term, we will be looking at the topic 'Keeping Safe'.

Children will explore:

- How our feelings can keep us safe – including online safety
- Safe and unsafe touches
- Medicine Safety
- Sleep



Computing:

Our focus for this half is 'Online Safety' which coincides with Safer Internet Day on the 6th February.

This term we will:

- Explain what is meant by online information.
- Recognise what information is safe to be shared online.
- Explain why we need passwords and what makes a strong password.
- Understand that they need to ask permission before sharing content online and explain why.
- Understand that they have the right to deny their permission to information about them being shared online.
- Say who they can ask for help with online worries.
- Use some strategies to work out if online information is reliable or not.

Music:

Our music unit of work this half term is called 'I wanna play in a band'. We will listen to appraise a range of songs, use voices and instruments to improvise with songs and finally perform and share existing and new music.

Website Links:

Maths-Top Marks: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

Phonics Play-There are plenty of free games to play on this website that the children are familiar with.
<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources>

Primary Games Arena <https://primarygamesarena.com/>

This website has games that cover lots of subjects across the curriculum.

*Don't forget our school website has lots of useful resources and information on the curriculum tab!

Art:

Our art this term will be based around 'Printmaking'.

Key Concepts:

- That we can make a "plate" from which to "print"
- That there is a relationship between plate and print: e.g. negative / positive.
- That we can use print to create "multiples"
- That we can explore line, shape, colour and texture to explore pattern, sequence, symmetry and intention.



French:

This term our topic in French is 'seasons. We will be learning how to:

- Recognise, recall and remember the 4 seasons in French.
- Recognise, recall and remember a short phrase for each season in French.
- Say which season is their favourite in French.

Religious Education:

Throughout Spring (1), our enquiry question will be 'How do Christians belong to their faith family?' Children will explore what the concept of belonging is and reflect on where they belong, for example their school community, family and extra-curricular clubs.

Christian Value: Our value this term is 'Perseverance', through assemblies and collective worship, the children will begin to explore its meaning and value. Please see the worship newsletter for additional information.