

Beech Class Newsletter – Summer (1)

Our topic this term is, 'Zoom to the Moon'.

English:

This half term, we will be using our History unit of work to write our own 1st person recounts based on a significant figure (Neil Armstrong or Mae Jemison). Children will use books and the internet to research why these individuals are recognised as key figures in history within the field of space travel.

We will also be using stories involving space to practise key skills, for example using the correct punctuation, sentence structure, spelling rules (including tricky/common exception words) and grammatical features that are integral to the National Curriculum expectations for KS1.

In addition, we will be writing explanations to coincide with our Science topic of plants, linking to prior learning of Jack and the Beanstalk.

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 Tuesday 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
Note - these do not need to be consecutive days, but four separate days within the week			
end of Week 1			
if the above is repeated for three consecutive weeks = child wins a prize			
end of Week 5			
if repeated for a further three consecutive weeks = child wins an additional reward			

History:

As our main topic this term is 'Zoom to the Moon', we will be studying the lives of significant individuals in the past (namely Neil Armstrong and Mae Jemison) who have contributed to national and international achievements. We will compare aspects of their lives and how their work has helped us in the modern world.

Maths:

This term we will be focusing on:

- Multiplication and Division
- Measure (Length and Height)
- Fractions

Additional homework will continue to be given to children on a Friday at the end of the above units to help consolidate the learning they have been doing in class. Extra marbles will be awarded for this.

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 Sports Day skills. Thursday's session will be Athletics led by our fantastic sports coach, Mr Osborne.

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 and long hair tied back.

RE:

Our Enquiry Question this half term is '**Why do people have different views about the idea of God?**'

By the end of the unit, children should be able to:

- Give a reason why a member of at least one other religious community might believe in God.
- Give a reason why a person might not believe in God.
- Give an example of what a member of a religious community might believe about God.
- Make connections between people's beliefs of right and wrong and their belief about God.

Our half termly Christian Value this half term is '**Service**'. Children will engage with this value through stories and hymns as part of our daily Collective Worship.

Art:

Our art this term will be based around 'Playful Making'.

Key Concepts include:

- That when we make art in 3 dimensions, it is often called Sculpture.
- That we can generate ideas through playful exploration.
- That we can build understanding of the properties of materials through manipulation.
- That making sculpture is a partnership between materials, ideas, hands and tools.
- That we can reflect upon our intention when we see our ideas made physical.

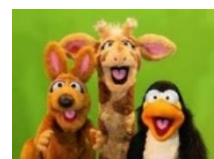


PSHCE:

In our SCARF lessons this term, we will be looking at the topic 'Being my best'. This unit of study is based around having a 'Growth Mindset' and keeping healthy.

Children will be able to:

- Name a few different ideas of what they can do if they find something difficult.
- Say why certain foods are healthy.
- Explain why it is important to eat at least five portions of fruit and vegetables every day.



Computing:



Our focus for this half is 'Programming'. Pupils will be able to:

- Explore a new application independently.
- Explain what the blocks on Scratch Jr do and use them for a purpose.
- Recognise a loop in coding and why it is useful.
- Use a code to create an animation of an animal moving.
- Use code to follow *and* create an algorithm.
- Program code to run 'on tap'.
- Explain the role of the blocks in a program they have created.

French:

This term our topic in French is 'Jungle Animals'.

We will be learning how to:

- Recognise and recall seven jungle animals in French.
- Recall numbers 1-5 more easily in French.

Children can practice vocabulary learnt in our French lessons this year by logging into the Language Angels App or desktop website.



Music:

Our music unit of work this half term is called 'The Friendship Song'. 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. We will learn how they can enjoy moving to music by dancing, marching, pretending to be animals or pop stars. Children will also discover how songs can tell a story or describe an idea.



Important Dates:

13.04.2026: First Day of Summer Term

22.04.2026: Beat the Street Ends

29.04.2026: SCARF Event in the Life Space

04.05.2026: Bank Holiday Monday

22.05.2026: Last day of this half term (Summer 1)



Science:

In Science we will be looking at 'Plants'. Key Objectives include:

- Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants.
- Find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.

