



Beechwood Primary School

www.beechwoodschoolruncorn.co.uk

Curriculum Update Issue 66- Autumn Term 2016



Welcome back!

It is lovely to see the children return to school safely after the Summer break. They all look smart in their new uniforms and very grown up!

A huge welcome to all the new families and the children joining us in Reception Class.

The staff are very much looking forward to spending the next academic year working with you and your parents. There are lots of exciting activities planned for the year ahead.

Dates for your diary

Roald Dahl Celebration- Tuesday
12th September.

11th-15th September- Book Fair
after school.

Finish for half term Thurs 20th
October.

Swimming- Wednesdays

This half term, swimming lessons
will be for the children in Class 5.

Please ensure that the children have
their appropriate kits in school.

Remember, one-piece girls swim suits
and fitted swim shorts for boys.

PTA

Don't forget to follow us on
Twitter, @ptabeechwood to
keep up to date on all that is
happening.

Forest Schools

This half term the children in Reception will have their
Forest School Sessions. Mrs Woodcock and Mrs Batters will
deliver the sessions on Monday mornings.
Separate letter to follow.

Music Tuition

We are pleased to announce that there will be after school music tuition for selected pupils.
Separate letter to follow.

Reading Books

Make sure your child's reading book is in school EVERYDAY,
so that we can hear you read and change it when they have
finished it. Remember to sign their Reading Records and
children should be reading at least three times a week.

Where will your books take you this year?



"The more that you
read, the more
things you will
know. The more
that you learn, the
more places you'll
go." -Dr. Seuss

Reception Autumn term

Literacy	This term our topic is all about Percy and the park keeper, we will be reading lots of stories about Percy and all of the animals in his park and this will lead into the forest school sessions the children will begin to take part in this half term. We will also begin to look at learning our letters and sounds.
Maths	This half term we will be focusing on working with number. Children will become familiar with recognising and naming their numbers to 20 through a range of activities, including ordering numbers, matching numbers to the correct quantities and answering number problems. Children will also begin to work with shape, developing their understanding of common 2D shapes.
Knowledge and understanding of the world	Since our topic this half term is about "The history of me" children will be thinking about how they have changed since they were babies, talking about their families and creating time lines of events in their life.
RE	This term we will be finding out all about Christianity and looking at the different events they celebrate across the year.
PE	Our topic this term is dance, children will learn how to move to music in different ways and work with other children to sequence movements in time to different music.
PSHCE	We will be looking at the topic of "Good to me" thinking about how the children have settled into school life, the new friends they have made and how they are all special to our reception class.
Expressive arts	There will be lots of creative opportunities this half term as children will be engaging in a range of activities, making Autumn pictures, helping to build our Percy the park keeper role play area, painting, drawing and working with clay to create Percy making Autumn pictures, helping to build our Percy the park keeper role play area, painting, drawing and working with clay to create the characters from the story.

Year 1's Topics

English	In English this half term we will be investigating the story ' Harry and the Jaggedy Daggers' by the author Jan Fearnley. We will begin by making predictions about the story before moving on to look at the individual characters in detail. This half term we will focus on basic sentence construction and will learn to punctuate our sentences accurately.
Maths	The children will be starting Singapore Maths this term and will focus on learning the following: counting in 10s, ordering and comparing numbers and will then move onto Number Bonds.
Topic	<u>The Great Fire of London</u> The children will investigate the causes of The Great Fire of London and look at factors which enabled the fire to spread rapidly. The children will be encouraged to compare and contrast London in the past and London now.
Science	The children will look at seasonal changes during this unit and we will focus on learning the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • name the four seasons • name different types of weather • make observations about the weather • describe the weather associated with each season • collect and record simple data • make simple observations about changes across the seasons
Computing	This half term we will look at using a paint package. This Painting unit will teach your class basic painting skills in a painting application on a computer or tablet device. Children will use a simple painting program to paint with different colours and brushes, create shapes, fill areas, undo and redo and add text.
Art/DT	In Art this half term the children will be looking at drawing cityscapes. They will focus on work by the Artists Van Gogh, Monet and Metzinger before creating their own London cityscape linked to their topic work.
RE	This half term we will be thinking about Christianity and God. The children will look into the following question: How and why are some stories about God special/sacred and important in religion?
PE	<u>Beechwood does Strictly Come Dancing!</u> This half term the children will be learning a variety of dances alongside the stars of strictly. They will learn to Salsa, Jive and perform the Charleston.
PSHCE	<u>Going for Goals</u> - In this topic the children will be looking at their strengths and areas for development. We will focus on Growth Mindset and look at how this can help us achieve both our short and long term goals.

Year Two's Topics

<p>English</p>	<p>Beegu In English we will start to read Beegu written by Alexis Deacon. It is a story about an alien named Beegu, who is not supposed to be on Earth. She is lost. She is a friendly little creature, but the Earth People don't seem very welcoming at all. However, so far she has only met the BIG ones. The little ones are a different matter... The children will have an opportunity write a character description, design and make their own alien cookies and then write instructions using verbs. We will also look at the format for writing letters. The children will continue to have handwriting practice and magical spellings.</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>This year we will be following the Singapore approach to maths. We will start by focusing on recapping counting to 100, place value, number bonds and comparing numbers. We will then look at subtraction, addition and multiplication focusing on 2x, 5, and 10x tables. The children will use concrete objects to start to understand these concepts moving onto you pictures and finally applying their knowledge to the abstract.</p>
<p>Topic</p>	<p>This term we will be gripped by this significant historic event from the 17th Century - the Great Fire of London! We will compare and contrast fire-safety from the past with today. Study the buildings of the period and we will then create our own Tudor buildings. We will also study the rhymes and songs of the time including: London's Burning and Ring a Ring o'Roses. The children will also have an opportunity to learn about the food of the time and bake bread.</p>
<p>Art/DT</p>	<p>This term we will start explore how to use oil pastels and create our very own scenes from the Great Fire of London using silhouette. We will then study St Paul's Cathedral and make sketches, prints, clay sculptures and 3D models inspired by this great building and learn what happened to it during the great fire. The children will also make 3D models and 2D collages of Tudor homes.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>In science we will work out what's alive and what's not? The children will collect specimens and sort them into categories and investigate habitats and food chains. They will then design and make a bug hotel made up of different microhabitats to encourage a variety of creatures that we will investigate!</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>This Term Year 2 will learn how to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others. They will review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. They</p>
<p>PE</p>	<p>This term the children have the opportunity to learn from gymnastic coaches. They will learn how to develop balance, flexibility, strength, technique and control. They will compare their performances with previous ones and demonstrate improvement to achieve their personal best.</p>
<p>RE</p>	<p>In RE our topic is Christianity, we will investigate how and why is celebrating and remembering important in religion and worship. What do people think is important to do daily, [weekly, monthly]? [Why] are these important? Why do some people have religious rituals?</p>
<p>PSHCE</p>	<p>In PSHCE our topic is going to be Good To Be Me. We will talk about the positive qualities that we have and how we can find good qualities in other people. We will talk about our talents and learn how to persist and apply a growth mind-set to new skills.</p>

Year 3's Curriculum

English	This term we will be working our way through some of Roald Dahl's famous books; using these as inspiration for our writing. We will be continuing to develop our skills as writers by increasing the variety of fronted adverbials we use, as well as making sure our writing is engaging with accurate sentence punctuation. We will be developing our skills of understanding hidden meanings in stories and summarising paragraphs in a non-fiction text. This year, we will all be using the Magical Spelling method to improve our spelling skills.
Maths	Year 3 will be starting Singapore Maths. Together, we will be looking at counting in different amounts (100s and 50s), Place Value, and Number patterns. After that, we will be moving on to addition and subtraction.
Science	<u>Rocks</u> This term we will be learning about the different types of rocks and how they were formed. We will be using our knowledge of their properties to decide why different rocks do different jobs.
Topic	<u>London:</u> In this term's topic, we will be looking at the how London became our capital, some of the many disasters the capital has encountered such as the Plague. We will also look at the Geographical features of the capital city; such as the many famous landmarks. Also, we will use the River Thames to teach us about the features of a river.
Computing	This term we will be focussing on the skills of using specified search engines to search for information and use this to create multi-media presentations.
RE	<u>Christian Bible</u> Our first topic this year will be the Christian Bible. We will be looking at some of the important stories it contains and the influences the Bible has on Christian people.
Mandarin	<u>你好 (Nǐ hǎo) - Hello</u> For those of you who are new to learning Mandarin we will be learning basic greetings as well as looking at the basics of the language including those tricky tones! For those in your second year of Mandarin, we will revisit and learn some new greetings vocabulary with a greater focus on the characters and writing them from memory.
PE	<u>Dance</u> This term we will be taking inspiration from Strictly and looking at different dance styles!
PSHCE	This half term we will be looking at Healthy Lifestyles. We will be looking at the different food groups and how we can create a healthy, balanced diet.
Music	This year, the children and I will be working with a specialist music tutor to develop our musical abilities.

Year 4's Topics

English	Year 4 will be recapping the basic skills of writing a sentence before moving onto the more technical aspects; much of this will be done through using the text <i>The Twits</i> by Roald Dahl. Year 4 will also be learning how to take part in Reciprocal Reading where they will have the opportunity to work together to explore and navigate through a range of texts. And to start the year off as we mean to go on, we will also be continuing the <i>Magical Spelling</i> method to crack those tricky words!
Maths	To kick start the year we will be exploring all things number with a particular focus on Place Value; counting in multiples, counting backwards through zero and rounding numbers. When we have this cracked, we will apply these skills to addition and subtraction. Alongside all of this will be the common thread of Problem Solving where the children will be required to reason and explain their answers...not as easy as it sounds! Please ensure <i>Maths Monsters</i> are practiced at home as this will help in class.
Science	<u>Rocks</u> This term we will be learning about the different types of rocks and how they were formed. We will be using our knowledge of their properties to decide why different rocks do different jobs.
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PSHCE	This half term we will be looking at Healthy Lifestyles. We will be looking at the different food groups and how we can create a healthy, balanced diet.
Music	This year, the children and I will be working with a specialist music tutor to develop our musical abilities.

Class 5 Year 4's Topics

English	Year 4 will be recapping the basic skills of writing a sentence before moving onto the more technical aspects; much of this will be done through using the text <i>The Twits</i> by Roald Dahl. Year 4 will also be learning how to take part in Reciprocal Reading where they will have the opportunity to work together to explore and navigate through a range of texts. And to start the year off as we mean to go on, we will also be continuing the <i>Magical Spelling</i> method to crack those tricky words!
Maths	To kick start the year we will be exploring all things number with a particular focus on Place Value; counting in multiples, counting backwards through zero and rounding numbers. When we have this cracked, we will apply these skills to addition and subtraction. Alongside all of this will be the common thread of Problem Solving where the children will be required to reason and explain their answers...not as easy as it sounds! Please ensure <i>Maths Monsters</i> are practiced at home as this will help in class.
Science	Rocks This term we will be learning about the different types of rocks and how they were formed. We will be using our knowledge of their properties to decide why different rocks do different jobs.
Topic	London This topic will last two half terms which means the children will be able to learn in depth about London, our capital city. We will initially look at some of the history of London include The great fire and the plague and will also be looking at how London has changed over time. The children will then use their geography knowledge to find the source of the River Thames and will look at some of the export and imports. As part of a DT project the children will be creating similar houses to the fire of London and will also be developing their sketching skills further to produce a range of work on the landmarks.
Computing	Programming and control This term the children will be looking at a variety of computing skills, they will be beginning by focusing on movement and control. In order to start this topic, we will develop our understanding of the importance of control and programming and how this links to computer games and coding. We will eventually be creating our own games using coding.
RE	What do God's stories teach us? In this unit the children learn about the bible stories and will begin to create their own stories too. The children will look at morals and how these are represented through story. This topic allows the children discussion time to reflect on their opinions about the bible and the different stories told.
PE	Gymnastics We will be focusing on linking a range of movements together using different ways of travelling, we will also be thinking about different variety of balances and using our partners body when creating a range of counter-balances. We will then progress to create short well performed sequences.
PSHCE	Going for goals This term's topic is entitled 'going for goals' in this topic the children will be looking at setting their own targets and goals for both the short term and the long term. The children will study different ways in which they can reach their gals and the traits that they need to use to do use.
Music	The children will continue to receive weekly instrument lessons on a Thursday morning. During this time the children will be learning a range of notes and songs. They look forward to performing for you on a number of occasions this year so that you can see the progress they have made.
Mandarin	欢迎回来 (Huānyíng huílái) - Welcome Back Now that we are into our second year of learning Mandarin, we will revisit the greetings vocabulary that we learned way back at the start of last year, as well as introducing some new ones. We will focus on the characters involved in these greetings and will learn to write some from memory.

Year Five's Topics

<p>Literacy</p>	<p>In Literacy this half term we will be using the story of <i>The secret of platform 13</i> by Eva Ibbotson as our focus. We will be reading this book as a class and then creating a range of writing focused around this story. We will be completing drama and hot seating activities as well as writing letters from a character's perspective and writing detailed setting and character descriptions. We were being to look at arguments and how they can be biased and balanced, using a different viewpoint. This year the children will be continuing with a big focus on spelling, therefore the children will be given a spelling sheet on Friday which will have spellings for them to practice, they will then be tested on these spellings the following Friday. However, they will also have a range of alternative words which they will be working on using their magical spelling method.</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>Number We will begin the year with a focus on number ensuring that all children have a secure understanding of place value and the variety of calculation methods. This will include beginning to apply these skills to problems and showing their good understanding. The children must continue to work on maths monsters and their time tables in order to support their learning as the year progresses.</p>
<p>Topic</p>	<p>London This topic will last two half terms which means the children will be able to learn in depth about London, our capital city. We will initially look at some of the history of London include The great fire and the plague and will also be looking at how London has changed over time. The children will then use their geography knowledge to find the source of the River Thames and will look at some of the export and imports. As part of a DT project the children will be creating similar houses to the fire of London and will also be developing their sketching skills further to produce a range of work on the landmarks.</p>
<p>Computing</p>	<p>Programming and control This term the children will be looking at a variety of computing skills, they will be beginning by focusing on movement and control. In order to start this topic, we will develop our understanding of the importance of control and programming and how this links to computer games and coding. We will eventually be creating our own games using coding.</p>
<p>RE</p>	<p>What do God's stories teach us? In this unit the children learn about the bible stories and will begin to create their own stories too. The children will look at morals and how these are represented through story. This topic allows the children discussion time to reflect on their opinions about the bible and the different stories told.</p>
<p>PE</p>	<p>Gymnastics We will be focusing on linking a range of movements together using different ways of travelling, we will also be thinking about different variety of balances and using our partners body when creating a range of counter-balances. We will then progress to create short well performed sequences.</p>
<p>PSHCE</p>	<p>Going for goals This term's topic is entitled 'going for goals' in this topic the children will be looking at setting their own targets and goals for both the short term and the long term. The children will study different ways in which they can reach their gals and the traits that they need to use to do use.</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>The children will continue to receive weekly instrument lessons on a Thursday morning. During this time the children will be learning a range of notes and songs. They look forward to performing for you on a number of occasions this year so that you can see the progress they have made.</p>
<p>Mandarin</p>	<p><u>欢迎回来 (Huānyíng huílái) - Welcome Back</u> Now that we are into our second year of learning Mandarin, we will revisit the greetings vocabulary that we learned way back at the start of last year, as well as introducing some new ones. We will focus on the characters involved in these greetings and will learn to write some from memory.</p>

Year Six's Topics

English	<p><u>Macbeth</u> In English, we will be studying the famous Shakespearean play - Macbeth. We will be conducting our own murder mystery investigation into who killed King Duncan and will explore the world and language of Shakespeare along the way. We will be continuing with our magical spelling technique so it is important that students continue to practise their high frequency words.</p>
Maths	<p><u>Number and Place Value / Written Calculation Methods</u> In maths, we will be focusing on number and place value for the first half term. We will look at place value in numbers up to 10,000,000 and will apply our knowledge and facts to number and practical problems. We will also revisit written methods for all four number operations, focusing particularly on long multiplication.</p>
Topic	<p><u>London</u> Our first topic of the year will be London. We will be learning all about our capital city, looking at aspects of its human and physical geography. We will use maps to navigate our way around London and will plan our own commute using the tube. We will also look at how London was founded and how it has developed to become the influential city it is today. For our art focus we will look at solid structures, designing and building famous London landmarks.</p>
Science	<p><u>Living Things And Their Habitats</u> In science we will explore living things and their habitats. We will look at how living things are classified into groups and will create our own creature to fit into one of these groups. We will also study the work of Linnaeus and how he has influenced classification systems.</p>
Music	<p><u>Soundstart (Band)</u> This year, Year 6 will be learning band instruments. They will be given an instrument to practise at home and will work with our specialist music teachers on a Thursday to learn to play together.</p>
PE	<p><u>Gymnastics</u> Our focus for PE this half term will be gymnastics. We will be developing flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance through different gymnastic techniques.</p>
RE	<p><u>Is Life Like A Journey?</u> This half term we will be looking at how Christians worship God. We will discuss the journey Christians take in their devotion to God focusing on their arrival and the significant events that take place along their journey.</p>
Mandarin	<p><u>欢迎回来 (Huānyíng huīlái) - Welcome Back</u> Now that we are into our second year of learning Mandarin, we will revisit the greetings vocabulary that we learned way back at the start of last year, as well as introducing some new ones. We will focus on the characters involved in these greetings and will learn to write some from memory.</p>
PSHCE	<p><u>New Beginnings</u> In PSHCE we will be focusing on the transition into Year 6. We will discuss the responsibilities we will face this year and how we can set a good example to the rest of the school. We will talk about any worries for the year and how we can support each other in overcoming them.</p>