

Beech Class Newsletter Spring 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to school! We hope that you have had a wonderful Christmas holiday! It has been lovely to see the children's smiley faces back again and hear all about what they have been doing in their holidays. We are looking forward to a busy and exciting term! Miss Cridland and the Beech Class team

Our topics for this term will be Epic Explorers: Space in the first half-term and Epic Explorers: Earth in the second half-term.

Where appropriate, subjects will be taught linked to these topics. We will be learning about the moon landings, the International Space Station and Polar exploration. Please see the topic web for more information.



Book Bags

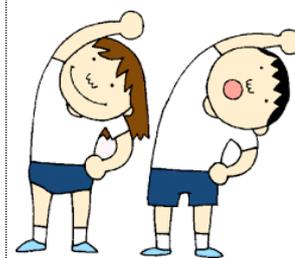


Please ensure your child brings in their book bag **every day** so that letters and pieces of work reach you safely. This also means that your child is encouraged to read daily and change their reading book regularly. To support their independence, we ask that they put their book bag in their tray in the classroom when they arrive in the morning.

PE Sessions

Beech- P.E days are Wednesday (Miss Cridland) and Friday (Mrs Heijne)

To help your child with these sessions please ensure they wear clothes that enable them to dress and undress themselves **independently**. Please ensure their clothes are **clearly named** to help us match up any left-over clothes at the end of the session. No earrings on P.E. days please. If children have newly pierced ears, please provide microporous tape so that the earrings can be covered. **Our Friday sessions will be outside this term, so please ensure that children have suitable outdoor kit and footwear.**



To follow in our whole school policy, all children need practical indoor and outdoor shoes, ideally with hard soles in case of a fire drill.



Lost Property:

Please make sure that all items of clothing are **named**. Any lost items we find in class will be put in the red wooden box in the hall.

Homework:

Children will receive a homework book which includes a spelling, handwriting and recorded English or maths activity for each week. Y2 children also have access to Times Tables Rockstars online. Homework will be sent out on Fridays and will be due in on the following Wednesday.

Due to changes in the Beech Class timetable this term, spellings will be tested each Thursday. Please practise regularly during the week.

Home School Journals

New journals for the Spring term will be sent home with your child's reading book. Please write the reading book's title, tick when the book has been read (ideally at least three times a week) and write a small comment about your child's reading.

Home School Journals are also a good form of communication between home and school, if you are unable to come in and speak to your child's teacher. **Please can we ask that any Home School Journals are checked regularly and any with messages be handed directly to the teacher in the morning to ensure a prompt response.**

All Home School Journals will be checked and signed weekly to monitor the children's reading and communicate directly with parents.



Autumn/winter weather

The weather will undoubtedly be chilly, wet and windy this term. Please make sure that your child has a **named** coat and pair of wellies or appropriate outdoor shoes in school so that they are prepared for any eventuality.

Show and Tell:

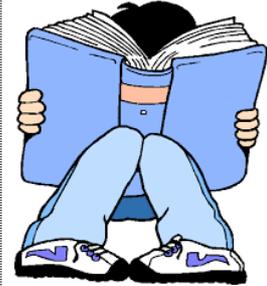
We love hearing the children talk about their learning outside of school and Show and Tell provides children with an opportunity to improve their speaking and listening skills and share things they find or do related to our topic this half-term. The show and tell timetable for this term will be sent home separately.

Please can children only bring in Show and Tell items on their named day.

Reading books

Children will be able to change their book in the mornings before lessons begin and we are trying to encourage the children to be as independent as possible in doing this. If they are frequently bringing the same book home, please remind your child as you drop them off in the morning and also let us know so we can remind them to change it too! We will routinely assess children's decoding, fluency and comprehension skills to determine when they are ready to move to the next book band but please do talk to your child's teacher if you have any queries regarding their reading progress. The children take part in group guided reading sessions to learn reading skills each week.

We also encourage children to visit the library weekly where they can choose an additional book to enjoy. Library club will be on Thursday lunchtime.



Calling all parent helpers!



We warmly welcome parents into the classroom to read with the children, help them change their books, playing English and maths games and other fun jobs in the classroom! We're always grateful for help with art projects and administrative tasks. The time commitment can be as small as 20 minutes! If you would like to help in our class, please let us know! Grandparents and other relatives are also welcome. Any help is greatly appreciated!

Teaching Staff and Timetables:

Beech Class:
Miss Cridland
Mrs Heijne- Friday am (PPA Cover)

Morning and Afternoon Routines:

We encourage children to enter the classroom through the cloakroom independently at the start of the day. There will be a morning activity waiting for them to complete in the classroom. The class teacher will be available to speak to parents at the door if you have an urgent message, but due to time constraints ask that you make an appointment after school should you wish to talk more in-depth regarding your child.

To ensure that children leave the school safely and teachers are aware of whom they have left with, we will call the children individually in the cloakroom to meet their adult.

If your child is being picked up by a different adult, please inform your class teacher or the school office ahead of time as they will not be allowed to leave at the end of the day with a different adult without your consent.