



Beechwood Primary School

www.beechwoodschoolruncorn.co.uk

Curriculum Update Issue 73- Autumn Term 2017

Welcome Back!

We hope you have had a restful half term and enjoyed spending time together as a family.
The second Autumn Term is always a busy one as we lead up to Christmas!

Dates for your diary

1st Nov- PTA Meeting

3rd Nov- Non Uniform Day- Rec,Y1&Y2-
Chocolate KS2- Bottle

17th Nov- Children In Need- Our Charity
officers will provide further details

21st Nov- Flu Vaccinations Rec-Y4 Details
to follow.

29th Nov- Halton Play Day for selected
children

5th Dec- Christmas Journey- Details to
follow

6th Dec- Year 2 Class Assembly- Year 2
families welcome

8th Dec- Coffee afternoon and
Decorations

11th Dec-9:15am KS1 Play

11th Dec- 2:15pm and 6pm KS2 Christmas
Performance

12th Dec- 2:15pm KS1 Christmas Play

13th Dec- Snowman Drive am and
Christmas Dinner

13th Dec- KS1 Christmas Party

15th Oct- School closes for the children
at 1:30pm

2nd Jan- School opens for 2018!

Twitter

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter, to keep up to date with school life. We have two accounts, @ptabeechwood and @Beechwoodnews1. If you wish to follow us, request this through twitter, then contact us with your twitter name so that we can accept your request.

SeeSaw

Thank you to all the parents and families who have connected with their child's SeeSaw account. We hope that you are finding this app useful and enjoy seeing your child grow as much as we do!

Chester Zoo

On Monday 8th January, the whole school will be off to Chester Zoo! Luckily, we have been able to get the tickets free of charge. This means that we will only be asking for contributions towards the cost of the coaches. A letter will be sent out over the next few weeks with full details and a permission slip. Parent helpers will be needed.

Reception

Autumn term 2nd half

Literacy	This half term our topic is all about the 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson. We will be looking at rhyme and sequencing the story. This will lead onto our Christmas theme, when we will be writing our letters to Father Christmas. We will also continue to look at learning our letters and sounds and use this knowledge to build CVC words.
Maths	This half term we will be starting with number 5. Each week we will be working on a different number, visiting shapes and patterns and the language associated with position and direction and really consolidating what each number means.
Knowledge and understanding of the world	This half term we will firstly be looking at Halloween and Bonfire night. We will look at the Guy Fawkes story; finding out about events in the past. We will then be looking at different environments and exploring the natural woodland. We will be carrying out floating and sinking experiments linking to the 'Stick Man' book and also learning about the weather and the changing seasons in the story. We will also use Stick Man Bee-Bots and program them to get Stick Man back to his family using a map.
RE	This half term we will continue to look at Christianity and the important celebrations. We will especially focus on the Christmas story and about the different ways that people celebrate Christmas.
PE	The children will develop their ball skills this half term. They will experiment with one handed throws and two handed catches with beanbags first of all and then they will practise to send and receive a ball by rolling. We will develop our throwing and catching with increasing control before moving on to play simple team games with a scoring system.
PSHCE	This half term we will be addressing current news with the children and interpreting this discussing how it impacts on our lives. Each week we will have a whole school focus on a thought of the week. This will link to our core British Values which are: rule of law, democracy, tolerance, individual liberty and mutual respect.
Expressive arts	There will be lots of creative opportunities this half term as children will be colour mixing, making stick men with hair and clothes, acting out the story, and helping to create our woodland home role play area. The children will also be experimenting with making the sounds of the different story characters and events. Very soon we will be practicing for our Christmas play and learning the songs.

Class Two's Topics

English	In English this half term we will be exploring Stories from Other Cultures (The Tiger Child) and Stories that contain repeated phrases (Dear Santa). The children will explore different genres of writing this half term including Story writing and Letter writing. Our SPaG focus will remain on the correct use of capital letters and full stops and the use of 'and' to join sentences together.
Maths	During Maths this half term the children will be exploring lots of new concepts. They will begin the term by learning about positions in queues and will name left and right positions. We will then focus on learning all about numbers to 20 and this will include reading and writing numbers from 11-20, comparing and ordering numbers within 20 and exploring number patterns. After lots of exploration the children will then move on to learning different methods to add and subtract within 20.
Science	<u>Christmas</u> Our topic this half term is Christmas themed and will focus on Science. The children will learn about Everyday Materials - exploring materials and their properties. <u>Sshh!</u> - During this topic the children will look at why materials are chosen to make certain items and they will use this knowledge to help Mrs Claus with her secret mission - keeping Santa warm and dry this Christmas!
Computing	This half term, computing lessons will focus on basic skills. Children will learn how to use a computer mouse or a trackpad and how to switch on and shut down a computer. They will apply their mouse or trackpad skills by launching applications, manipulating windows and opening and saving files and folders. The children will then practice their clicking skills and learn how to drag objects, either using a mouse or trackpad.
Music	In the run up to Christmas, we will be learning and practicing songs for our nativity performance. Keep an eye on SeeSaw, to listen to our singing skills progress.
Art/DT	In DT this half term the children will be looking at preparing fruit and vegetables. They will learn how to safely use different equipment to prepare fruit and vegetables and will make Fruit Smoothies for the Elves and Santa - helping Mrs Claus keep Santa fit and healthy for Christmas Eve.
RE	This half term we will be thinking about Christianity and Jesus. The children will look into the following question: How and why are some stories about Jesus special/sacred and important in religion?
PE	PE this half term looks at Throwing and Catching. Throughout this unit your child will learn to control a ball when they are rolling and bouncing, throwing and catching, on their own, with a partner and in a group. The unit progresses the children from simple underarm catching to simple overarm throwing and onto an underarm sling for throwing quoits.
PSHCE	This term we will be addressing current news with the children and interpreting this discussing how it impacts on our lives. Each week we will have a whole school focus on a thought of the week. This will link to our core British Values which are: rule of law, democracy, tolerance, individual liberty and mutual respect.

Year Two's Topics

English	This half term we will be looking at traditional tales and explanation texts. We will learn the story of The Three Little Pigs and create our own stories following the same pattern. Additionally, we will work towards creating our own traditional tale, ensuring that we include all of the key features. In reading we will continue to develop our phonics knowledge as well as learning key spelling rules, applying them in our writing.
Maths	We will be covering two units in Singapore maths and these are: multiplication, division and length. Children will benefit from practising their 2, 5 and 10 times tables at home. We will be encouraging counting in these numbers as it provides a quicker way for the children to solve problems. We will explore the relationship between multiplication and division. Towards the end of half term we will explore length particularly measuring in units of centimetres and metres.
Computing	This term we will be further exploring algorithms and how to use them within technology. We will look at de-bugging our algorithms and problems that may arise.
Science	Our topic for this half term is materials. We will be identifying and comparing the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses, by identifying the uses of different materials. We will investigate how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. Additionally, we will explore the process of recycling and look at new materials that have been invented.
Music	We will be learning some Christmas songs ready for our Christmas Performance. We will also familiarise ourselves with the script and begin to give out roles to the children.
PE	This term our focus is football skills. Over the term we will be working on different skills. This includes: dribbling, passing, shooting, defending and playing five aside games.
RE	<u>How and why is celebrating important in religion and worship?</u> This half term we will be looking at Christianity and church.
PSHCE	This term we will be addressing current news with the children and interpreting this discussing how it impacts on our lives. Each week we will have a whole school focus on a thought of the week. This will link to our core British Values which are: rule of law, democracy, tolerance, individual liberty and mutual respect.

Year Three's Topics

English	<p>Our writing this half term will focus on mysteries. Already, there have been suspicious things happening in our classroom. By the end of the half term, we are aiming to solve some of these mysteries and write our own stories.</p> <p>In spelling, the children will begin to look a range of prefix and suffixes.</p> <p>In reading, we will continue to work on retrieval of information from texts and will work further on inference.</p>
Maths	<p>This term, we will be finishing our work on column addition and subtraction. In the next few weeks we will begin exploring operations for division and subtraction, focusing mainly on the 3, 4 and 8 times tables.</p>
Topic	<p>Continuing with our Rivers and Coasts theme, we will be looking at erosion, the water cycle, why rivers are important and how this has changed over time. The children will be aiming to combine all their learning with mystery stories and letter writing.</p> <p>In Design and Technology, we will be linking in our PSHCE knowledge and exploring the idea of One Family. The children will be creating models for a display.</p>
Science	<p>This half term, children will be focusing on the topic of Animals Including Humans during their Science lessons. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate what animals, including humans, need for a healthy diet. The children will be creating their own healthy recipes and will even have the chance to make, sample and evaluate their creations.</p>
Music	<p>Year Three will learn how to play the recorder and the glockenspiel with Mrs Woodcock.</p>
PE	<p><u>Basketball</u></p> <p>As well as continuing with our weekly gymnastic lessons, this term we will be learning how to play Basketball. The children will learn techniques such as attacking and defending.</p>
RE	<p>Can one person change the world?</p> <p>This half term we will be discussing our key question in relation to Christianity. The children will explore how they can change somebody else's life by taking part in Operation Christmas Child.</p>

Class 4 Year 4 Topics

English	This half term, we will be creating persuasive texts. We will begin by studying texts (with the same genre) to identify the structure. Then, the children will create their own holiday brochures, focusing on persuading people to visit seaside locations. During the final weeks of the half term, the children will use their developing skills, at using direct speech, in newspaper reports.
Maths	During Maths, the children will be exploring addition and subtraction. They will begin the term by recapping on written methods, before discovering new ways to calculate mentally. We will also investigate operations for division and multiplication, up to our 12 times tables.
Music	Now the children have selected their instruments, we will be learning and practicing songs for our Christmas performance.
Topic	Continuing with our Rivers and Coasts theme, we will be looking at erosion, the water cycle, why rivers are important and how this has changed over time. The children will be aiming to combine all their learning with mystery stories and letter writing. In Design and Technology, The children will be creating models around the theme of One Family.
RE	Can one person change the world? This half term we will be discussing our key question in relation to Christianity. The children will explore how they can change somebody else's life by taking part in Operation Christmas Child.
PE	As well as continuing with our weekly gymnastic lessons, this term we will be learning how to play Basketball. The children will learn techniques such as attacking and defending.
PSHCE	This term, we will be looking at how the way we act can impact on other people. With Anti Bullying Week fast approaching, we will discuss how we can stand up for what we know is right (even though this isn't always easy). We will focus on having good relationships with both family and friends.

Year 4/5 Topics

Literacy	This half term, we will be creating persuasive texts. We will begin by studying texts (with the same genre) to identify the structure. Then, the children will create their own holiday brochures, focusing on persuading people to visit seaside locations. During the final weeks of the half term, the children will use their developing skills, at using direct speech, in newspaper reports.
Maths	During Maths, the children will be exploring addition and subtraction. They will begin the term by recapping on written methods, before discovering new ways to calculate mentally. We will also investigate operations for division and multiplication, up to our 12 times tables.
Topic	Rivers and Coasts This half term the children will continue with their topic of rivers and coasts. The children will look more closely at coasts by answering the questions what are coasts? How are coasts formed and changed? The children will look at the features of coasts and how erosion affects the land. We will then continue to look at pollution and the problems/changes caused in rivers and coasts including to the animals.
Computing	Creating and Correcting Algorithms During Computing, the children will be using Scratch to develop and code a number of games. The children will focus on correcting algorithms to ensure their games are effective (and fun!).
RE	Can one person change the world? This half term we will be discussing our key question in relation to Christianity. The children will explore how they can change somebody else's life by taking part in Operation Christmas Child.
PE	Table tennis This half term the children will be focusing upon developing the skills of table tennis. The children will be learning the technique for forehand, backhand and service and will begin to learn the rules needed to participate in some competitive matches and competitions. Some of the children may then be selected to participate in an upcoming table tennis tournament against other schools in Halton.
PSHCE	Diversity We are beginning our new project about 'one love' which will see a focus on the understanding of diversity. The children will begin by discussing the word diverse and finding a range of synonyms. The children will then work on developing their understanding and answering questions such as: How can a community be diverse? What diversity is in our school community? Finally we will look at P4C sessions regarding whether diverse communities are better?
Music	Now the children have selected their instruments, we will be learning and practicing songs for our Christmas performance.
Science	In Science, the children will be looking at the digestive system and electricity, with Mrs Kidd. Keep up-to-date with our exciting experiments on Seesaw.

Year Five's Topics

Literacy	As we reach the end of our fantastic flotsam display and writing the children will continue to work with a beach theme using flotsam within their English work. This half term we will be working on developing our writing skills including balanced arguments, stories and letter writing. As a class, we will be focusing on developing our writing structure and ensuring that we are including the great features of year 5 in our writing.
Maths	Multiplication and division This half term our main focus in Singapore maths will be focused on understanding multiplication and division skills. The children will look at a range of strategies which they could use to develop their learning and will begin to look at ways of solving problems using multiplication and division. The children will continue to develop their understanding of bar model and how this can be used to support their understanding of problem solving.
Topic	Rivers and Coasts This half term the children will continue with their topic of rivers and coasts. The children will look more closely at coasts by answering the questions what are coasts? How are coasts formed and changed? The children will look at the features of coasts and how erosion affects the land. We will then continue to look at pollution and the problems/changes caused in rivers and coasts including to the animals.
Computing	Creating and Correcting Algorithms During Computing, the children will be using Scratch to develop and code a number of games. The children will focus on correcting algorithms to ensure their games are effective (and fun!).
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PSHCE	Diversity We are beginning our new project about 'one love' which will see a focus on the understanding of diversity. The children will begin by discussing the word diverse and finding a range of synonyms. The children will then work on developing their understanding and answering questions such as: How can a community be diverse? What diversity is in our school community? Finally we will look at P4C sessions regarding whether diverse communities are better?
Music	The children have begun to progress well during clarinet lessons. This half term we will begin to learn songs using the notes we have previously learnt. Look out for our first performance during the Christmas play where we will be showing off our new skills.
French	Numbers This half term the children will continue to work on developing their understanding and pronunciation of numbers. The children will be beginning to look at writing some basic French phrases and numbers too. I will continue to provide links on seesaw so please encourage your child to watch the videos shared.

Year Six's Topics

English	<p>Our writing focus for this half term will continue around our Rivers and Coasts theme as we write a piece of journalistic writing based on current events.</p> <p>In Reading, we will continue to work on our inference and deduction skills; ensuring we back up our opinions with evidence from the text.</p>
Maths	<p>This term we will be continuing to work on multiplication and division; focussing on solving complex problems using both operations. Here we will look at how Bar Modelling will help us to visualise the maths we are using.</p>
Topic	<p>Continuing with our Rivers and Coasts theme, we will be looking at the cause and effects of flooding and imagining what it would be like to experience this first hand.</p> <p>In Design and Technology, we will be putting our bridge building skills to the test as we look at the best design of bridge and how to make strong structures.</p>
Science	<p><u>Electricity</u></p> <p>In science we are going to learn about electricity. We will learn about how electricity is produced and transported and will investigate different ways to set up a circuit. We will discover the correct symbols and use these to draw an accurate scientific diagram of an electrical circuit.</p>
Music	<p>Year Six will continue to learn how to play their brass band instruments. Make sure that you continue to practice at home and we will work with our specialist music teachers on a Thursday to learn to play together. We will be learning some Christmas songs ready for our Christmas Performance.</p>
PE	<p><u>Volleyball</u></p> <p>As well as continuing with our weekly swimming lessons, this term we will be learning how to play the popular beach game of Volley ball.</p>
RE	<p><u>Is life like a journey?</u></p> <p>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 significant events along the way.</p>
MFL	<p>Now that we can greet each other, we will move onto building our vocabulary by learning about colours, numbers and some everyday objects.</p>
PSHCE	<p>This term we will be looking at how the way we act can impact on other people. With Anti Bullying Week fast approaching, we will discuss how we can stand up for what we know is right, even though this isn't always easy.</p>