



Beechwood Primary School



Have you looked at our website?

www.beechwoodschoolruncorn.co.uk

Curriculum Update - Issue 64
Summer Term 2016 - 1st Half
Term

Beechwood is 40!

On Tuesday 26th April the children will be hosting the birthday party. We hope you can come along and join us. Past staff and current families are welcome from 1:15 - 3:00, past pupils are welcome to meet their teachers from 3:30 - 5:00. Let us know if you can attend, email beecewood1976@gmail.com and pass the word to your old school friends.

Dates for your diary

Beechwood Birthday Party 26th April

Bags2School collection day 21st April
9am.

Bank Holiday 2nd May

PE Kits

Please ensure that your child brings their full PE kit into school on a Monday. Kits will be sent home with the children on Friday to be washed. Please check your child has spare socks in their bag, a hair bobble (for any child with long hair) and trainers that fit!

Forest Schools

This half term the children in Year 1 will have their Forest School Sessions. Mrs Forshaw will deliver the sessions on Monday afternoons.
Don't forget waterproofs!

Swimming

Swimming lessons will begin for the children in Class 4. 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.

Think for yourself, care for others.

Reception - Space

Literacy	This half term we will be putting a deeper focus on the children writing independently and extending our sentences. We will continue to develop our sentence writing skills by focusing on different types of writing. As our topic is space the children will be re-telling space and alien stories that we have read as a class and telling their own stories about aliens and astronauts. The children will also be writing postcards to aliens on another planet then extending this by writing letters to someone they know on another planet.
Mathematics	This half term we will look some more at doubling, halving and sharing numbers between 2, 3 and 4 groups using alien's underpants! We will also look at money, and adding small coins together as well as looking at time. We will continue to work on estimating amount of objects as well. We will continue to work on solving problems including both number and shape.
Physical development	Through our P.E. lessons the children will learn how astronauts walk on space and will experiment with the different ways aliens might move around. The children will also develop their catching and throwing skills. The children's fine motor skills will be developed through painting designs onto large pasta shells with small, fine paint brushes.
Knowledge and understanding	This half term the children will get the opportunity to make an elastic band rocket and will discuss how it works. We will look at the different rocks in our 'moon' tray area, looking at the similarities and differences. We will also plant vegetables in our outdoor planter area and will look at how to look after them and will discuss the changes that happen over the weeks.
Communication and language	The children are already including storylines into their play, based on their knowledge of space and aliens. This half term we will plant some vegetables in our planter outside which will lead to the children answering how and why questions about the growth of plants as well as their importance in our diet. We will also record the plants growth in booklets which will develop their use of past, present and future tenses.
Personal and social	We have read the story 'On Sudden Hill' where there is a third friend joining in with two best friends. We will discuss how friendships change and how it is important to allow other children to join in games and activities. We will discuss what we would do in their situation and look at how we might feel if we weren't accepted into someone else's game.
Expressive arts and design	This half term we will use a range of items to include texture into our painting. We will include rice, salt, flour and sand. The children will also use paint large pasta shells in the style of a rock from another planet. We will design our own underpants for the aliens and make rockets and spaceships.

Class Two's Topics

English	<p>This half term in English the children will be taking a delicious adventure into Roald Dahls Chocolate Factory. They will use the story as an aid to help them predict, describe and create their own ideas. The children will investigate how to describe characters and rooms whilst also getting some tasty hands on experience!</p> <p>There will also be a push on Grammar work as they develop their understanding of nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs alongside understanding how to write different types of sentences such as simple, command and question. New activities will be set on I Am Learning for the children to complete at home.</p>
Maths	<p>This term we will continue to work on number activities and problem solving, focusing on working with numbers up to 100 and becoming more familiar with adding and subtracting 10 to a 2-digit number. We will also move onto looking at solving problems to do with weight, measure and time.</p> <p>Cookie and Elmo will be visiting the school in the next couple of weeks so please push your child to practice their Maths Monsters.</p>
Topic	<p>Inspired be the scrumptious chocolate talked about in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, we will be learning a little bit more about the Author, Roald Dahl. We will then be using his book as our inspiration to see if we can persuade Halton to build a chocolate factory here in Runcorn. The children will need to complete some Geographic fieldwork and investigate whether there is anywhere suitable and also hold a few debates to see if it would be as good an idea as we initially may think it is! Watch this space chocolate lovers!</p>
RE	<p>This term in RE our topic is all about becoming a Christian, children will find out about what happens in church and why some Christians get baptised. We will also look at what it means to be a Christian and become part of Gods family.</p>
PE	<p>With the Rio Olympics edging closer, the children will be perfecting a range of Athletic activities over the Summer Term. They will improve their running skills including speed, agility and more specific areas such as passing a baton. Let's keep our fingers crossed for lots of sunny weather so we can get out on the field!</p>
PSHCE	<p>New Beginnings - through discussion and debate the children will tackle a range of scenarios and think about how best to solve them. They will also come up with possible solutions for a range of characters and create posters and write letters to them. We will then be looking for the children to employ these tactics in their day to day lives.</p>

Class Three's Topics

English	<p>This half term in English the children will be taking a delicious adventure into Roald Dahls Chocolate Factory. They will use the story as an aid to help them predict, describe and create their own ideas. The children will investigate how to describe characters and rooms whilst also getting some tasty hands on experience!</p> <p>There will also be a push on Grammar work as they develop their understanding of nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs alongside understanding how to write different types of sentences such as simple, command and question. New activities will be set on I Am Learning for the children to complete at home.</p>
Maths	<p>Alongside continuing our daily number work, the children will be focusing on a range of Measure based activities. This will include solving both practical and written problems involving time, weight and capacity. They will also be working in small groups to target specific areas they are less confident in. New activities will be updated on My Maths and I Am Learning for the children to access both in school and at home. Please keep in mind the targets which we discussed at Parents Evening and watch out for extra work being sent home for your child to practice.</p> <p>Cookie and Elmo will be visiting the school in the next couple of weeks so please push your child to practice their Maths Monsters.</p>
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Year Three's Topics

English	In English we will be reading <i>Matilda</i> by Roald Dahl. This tells the story of a extraordinary, talented girl who despite being small, continuously defeats the odds. During this half term we will be working on book reviews, character descriptions and non-chronological reports.
Maths	In maths, our focus for this half term will be fractions and shape. We will begin by comparing fractions and looking at equivalents before moving on to adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator within one whole. In Shape, we will learn to recognise angles and Identify horizontal and vertical lines and pairs of perpendicular and parallel lines.
Topic	Our new topic for the summer term is going to be America. We will begin by focusing closely on the geography of the United States of America, exploring its human and physical features and comparing these to features found in Europe. We will also build on our map work locating different countries that belong to the continents of North and South America.
Science	In science we will be exploring magnets and forces. We will learn how to classify and sort objects as magnetic. We will also look at the forces of push and pull and how North and South parts of a magnet repel or attract.
Computing	In computing we will be developing our processing skills, looking at algorithms. Progressing to writing our own, simple programme and evaluating how it could be improved. Various opportunities and programmes will be used to incorporate coding practice.
Music	<u>In music this term the children will continue with their external brass tuition. Please ensure instruments are brought into school on Wednesday.</u>
PE	This half term the children will take part in a range of games aimed at developing their Striking and Fielding skills. We will learn how to play rounders and cricket.
RE	In RE our topic is going to be Christianity in Action. We will look at beliefs that are central to being a Christian and how Christians follow these beliefs in their daily lives, comparing and contrasting to other religions that we know about.
Mandarin	我饿了- wǒ è le . In Mandarin this half term, we will be talking about food. We will learn to say different foods in Mandarin and will look at how to order food in a restaurant. Along the way, we will look at traditional Chinese food and compare it to traditional British dishes.
PSHCE	In PSHCE our topic is going to be getting on and falling out. We will look at what makes a friendship and what we can do to be a good friend before looking at conflict resolution - how can we repair a friendship after an argument.

Class 4 Year Four's Topics

English	<p><u>A Series of Unfortunate Events</u></p> <p>In English, we will be reading A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Bad Beginning by Lemony Snickett. This tells the story of three orphans who are sent to live with an evil guardian with a wicked plan. During this half term we will look at writing a balanced argument and will be working on our story writing skills, particularly focusing on character descriptions.</p>
Maths	<p>In maths, our focus will be fractions and decimals for this half term. We will begin by learning about equivalent fractions before moving on to addition of fractions and converting fractions into decimals. Later, we will apply our knowledge of decimals to money and work on some problem solving money tasks.</p>
Topic	<p>Our new topic for the summer term is going to be America. We will begin by focusing closely on the geography of the United States of America, exploring its human and physical features and comparing these to features found in Europe. We will also build on our map work locating different countries that belong to the continents of North and South America.</p>
Science	<p>In science we will be exploring things living things and their habitats. We will learn how classification systems were developed and the importance of sorting living things into different groups according to their characteristics. We will observe living things in our own environment and compare this to living things found in other habitats.</p>
Computing	<p>In computing we will be developing our processing skills, looking at algorithms. Progressing to writing our own, simple programme and evaluating how it could be improved. Various opportunities and programmes will be used to incorporate coding practice.</p>
Music	<p><u>In music this term the children will continue with their external flute tuition.</u></p>
PE	<p>This half term the children will take part in a range of games aimed at developing their Striking and Fielding skills. We will learn how to play rounders and cricket.</p>
RE	<p>In RE our topic is going to be Christianity in Action. We will look at beliefs that are central to being a Christian and how Christians follow these beliefs in their daily lives, comparing and contrasting to other religions that we know about.</p>
Mandarin	<p>我饿了- wǒ è le . In Mandarin this half term, we will be talking about food. We will learn to say different foods in Mandarin and will look at how to order food in a restaurant. Along the way, we will look at traditional Chinese food and compare it to traditional British dishes.</p>
PSHCE	<p>In PSHCE our topic is going to be getting on and falling out. We will look at what makes a friendship and what we can do to be a good friend before looking at conflict resolution – how can we repair a friendship after an argument.</p>

Year Four's Topics

English	<p><u>A Series of Unfortunate Events</u></p> <p>In English, we will be reading <i>A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Bad Beginning</i> by Lemony Snickett. This tells the story of three orphans who are sent to live with an evil guardian with a wicked plan. During this half term we will look at writing a balanced argument and will be working on our story writing skills, particularly focusing on character descriptions.</p>
Maths	<p>In maths, our focus will be fractions and decimals for this half term. We will begin by learning about equivalent fractions before moving on to addition of fractions and converting fractions into decimals. Later, we will apply our knowledge of decimals to money and work on some problem solving money tasks.</p>
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Science	<p>In science we will be exploring things living things and their habitats. We will learn how classification systems were developed and the importance of sorting living things into different groups according to their characteristics. We will observe living things in our own environment and compare this to living things found in other habitats.</p>
Music	<p>This Term Class 5 will continue to either learn the flute or play in the orchestra. They will perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. They will also learn how to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others.</p>
PE	<p>This half term the children will develop strength, balance, control and through cricket and rounders. We will practise how to bowl with increasing accuracy, catch. We will also look at the rules for quick cricket and rounders.</p>
RE	<p>In RE our topic is going to be Christianity in Action. We will look at beliefs that are central to being a Christian and how Christians follow these beliefs in their daily lives, comparing and contrasting to other religions that we know about.</p>
Mandarin	<p>我饿了- wǒ è le. In Mandarin this half term, we will be talking about food. We will learn to say different foods in Mandarin and will look at how to order food in a restaurant. Along the way, we will look at traditional Chinese food and compare it to traditional British dishes.</p>
PSHCE	<p>In PSHCE our topic is going to be getting on and falling out. We will look at what makes a friendship and what we can do to be a good friend before looking at conflict resolution - how can we repair a friendship after an argument.</p>

Year Five's Topics

English	<p><u>Kensuke's Kingdom</u></p> <p>In English, we will be reading <i>Kensuke's Kingdom</i> by Michael Morpurgo. This tells the story of a boy whose parents decide to sail around the world. However, one stormy night, while Michael is on look out duty, he falls over board. Washed up on an island in the Pacific, Michael struggles to survive on his own. With no food and no water, he curls up to die. When he wakes there is a plate of fish and water next to him. He realises he is not alone. Will Michael survive this ordeal and get off the island?</p> <p>During this half term we will look at writing a balanced argument and will be working on our story writing skills, particularly focusing on how to build suspense.</p>
Maths	<p>In maths, our focus will be fractions and decimals for this half term. We will begin by learning about equivalent fractions before moving on to addition of fractions and converting fractions into decimals. Later, we will apply our knowledge of decimals to money and work on some problem solving money tasks.</p>
Topic	<p>Our new topic for the summer term is going to be America. We will begin by focusing closely on the geography of the United States of America, exploring its human and physical features and comparing these to features found in Europe. We will also build on our map work locating different countries that belong to the continents of North and South America.</p>
Science	<p>In science we will be exploring the life cycles of mammals, amphibians, insects and birds, including some unusual examples like egg-laying mammals and marsupials. We will compare complete and incomplete metamorphosis. We will also find out about well-known naturalists and animal behaviourists. Propagate plants from different parts of the parent plant.</p>
Music	<p>This Term Class 5 will continue to either learn the flute or play in the orchestra. They will perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. They will also learn how to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others.</p>
PE	<p>This half term the children will develop strength, balance, control and through cricket and rounders. We will practise how to bowl with increasing accuracy, catch. We will also look at the rules for quick cricket and rounders.</p>
RE	<p>In RE our topic is going to be Christianity in Action. We will look at beliefs that are central to being a Christian and how Christians follow these beliefs in their daily lives, comparing and contrasting to other religions that we know about.</p>
Mandarin	<p>我饿了- wǒ è le. In Mandarin this half term, we will be talking about food. We will learn to say different foods in Mandarin and will look at how to order food in a restaurant. Along the way, we will look at traditional Chinese food and compare it to traditional British dishes.</p>
PSHCE	<p>In PSHCE our topic is going to be getting on and falling out. We will look at what makes a friendship and what we can do to be a good friend before looking at conflict resolution - how can we repair a friendship after an argument.</p>

Year Six's Topics

English	In English, we will be continuing to base our English work around the story of the 'Rooftoppers' by Katherine Rundell. So far the children have really enjoyed this book and have shown brilliant creativity throughout this topic. We will be focusing on writing character descriptions, setting descriptions and short stories. We are specifically working on the use of formal/informal language, accurate use of punctuation and developing vocabulary and word choices.
Maths	This term in maths we will be looking at applying our problem solving skills effectively. We will be looking at a range of word problems and the steps needed to achieve the correct answer. We will also be applying our persistence to a variety of other problems using our knowledge we have gained over the last 2 terms.
Topic	Our new topic for the summer term is going to be America. We will begin by focusing closely on the geography of the United States of America, exploring its human and physical features and comparing these to features found in Europe. We will also build on our map work locating different countries that belong to the continents of North and South America.
Science	In science we will be exploring things living things and their habitats. We will learn how classification systems were developed and the importance of sorting living things into different groups according to their characteristics. We will observe living things in our own environment and compare this to living things found in other habitats.
Music	In music this term the children will be learning a new piece which they are hoping to perform as part of the birthday celebrations for Beechwood. The children are continuing to work as a band and are learning different sections in order to develop a repertoire of songs.
PE	In PE this term we will be focusing on the skills involved in cricket. The children will be learning how to bowl using a straight arm, practising our catching skills and learning how to be an effective fielder. Alongside these skills the children will be looking at the rules of kwik cricket and developing their team work too.
RE	In RE our topic is going to be Christianity in Action. We will look at beliefs that are central to being a Christian and how Christians follow these beliefs in their daily lives, comparing and contrasting to other religions that we know about.
Mandarin	我饿了- wǒ è le. In Mandarin this half term, we will be talking about food. We will learn to say different foods in Mandarin and will look at how to order food in a restaurant. Along the way, we will look at traditional Chinese food and compare it to traditional British dishes.
PSHCE	In PSHCE our topic is going to be going for goals. We will review our short and long term goals which we created at the beginning of the year and will discuss how to achieve goals. What sort of behaviours are needed? We will discover our different aspirations along the way.