



Beechwood Primary School

www.beechwoodschoolruncorn.co.uk

Curriculum Update Issue 89- Autumn Term 2021



Welcome Back!

It was wonderful to see the children coming back to school with smiles on their faces and looking taller than when we last saw them! We cannot wait to get back to 'normal' this year and we are hopeful forward to the return of assemblies, trips and spending time with each other. We have loved our first week of assemblies: the children cheered when they heard we could sing again!

We would like to say a huge welcome to the new families and children who are joining us in the Reception class. We all look forward to getting to know the children and watching them grow.

Dates for your diary

Date for the Christmas Bonanza to follow

Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th September- Parents' Evening- online event

Friday 19th November- PTA Event- Non Uniform Day- confectionary donation.

Friday 1st October- PTA Meeting to be held in school. 3:30pm. All welcome.

Monday 13th December- EYFS/KS1 Play 9:30am & 2pm KS2 Singing 6pm

Wednesday 6th October- Individual Photos

Tuesday 14th December- KS2 Singing 9:30am and 6pm, EYFS/KS1 Play 2pm

Friday 15th October- PTA Event- Non Uniform Day- Bottle donation.

Thursday 16th December- EYFS/KS1 Christmas Party- details to follow

Wednesday 20th October- PTA Disco. EYFS/KS1 5-6pm KS2 6:15-7:15pm

Friday 17th December- School closes, 1:30pm finish

Friday October 22nd- children finish for half term break

Friday 17th December- children finish for Christmas break at 1:30pm

Monday 1st November- children return to school

Friday 12th November- Children in Need- details to follow

Wednesday 4th January- children return to school from the Christmas break

Date for the Christmas Bonanza to follow

Friday 19th November- PTA Event- Non Uniform

Class Assemblies

We have our fingers and toes crossed that we can return to class assemblies this year. The dates are below. We ask that one parent attends the event and that masks are to be worn in school. Should there be any changes in the government's guidelines around these, we will keep you updated.

7.10.21 Year 2	17.11.21 Year 3	25.5.22 Year 4	23.3.22 Year 5
9.2.22 Year 6	15.6.22 Year 1	6.7.21 Reception	

Autumn Term Parents' Evening

As this term's Parents' Evening is to be held online, we have chosen to hold an extra Learning Journey event where you can come into school, straight after the children have gone into their class, to have a look at your child's books. Once the teachers have completed the register, the children will then join you and talk you through the amazing work they have completed so far this year. These will take place in October on the below dates.

14th- Picasso Learning Journey
15th- Rosen Learning Journey
18th- Attenborough Learning Journey
19th- Pankhurst Learning Journey
20th- Hawking Learning Journey
21st- Malala Learning Journey
22nd- Mandela Learning Journey

Home Reading

We cannot express enough the importance of your child reading at home; it sets them up for life-long learning, enjoyment and creativity! As we have previously explained, children are expected to read at least 3 times a week in EYFS/LS1 and 5 times a week in KS2. Reading Diaries will be checked each week and rewards given for those children reading the right amount.

Please sign your child's reading diary, which needs to be in school each day. You can use this diary to add little comments on how well your child read.

Please ensure your child reads for at least 20 minutes in each sitting: reading stamina needs to be built up so that the children can read 90 (KS1), 110 (Y3/4) and 140 (Y5/6) words per minute.

As your child becomes more independent in their reading, it is still important to hear them read so that you can check for fluency, accuracy and understanding of new words and their ability to read with expression.

Asking them which new words they have found in this book and what it means is a good way to check their understanding.

Finally, thank you for understanding why we need books bags rather than rucksacks or backpacks.

Reception's Curriculum

Literacy	<p>This term we will be looking at The Enormous Turnip. We will be retelling this story orally alongside actions alongside innovating the story of The Enormous Turnip to tell our own version.</p> <p>We have also started our teaching of phonics and learning letter sounds. We will also be becoming familiar with forming our new sounds.</p>
Maths	<p>In Reception we focus on a number a week. We have looked at the number zero and have moved onto number 1. For each number we will visit shapes and patterns and the language associated with position and direction and really consolidate what each number means.</p>
Knowledge and Understanding of the World	<p>This term we will be talking about our families and those people around us. We will be discussing and be sure to understand that we all have similarities but also have our differences.</p> <p>We will also be making observations to our natural world, observing the changes Autumn brings.</p>
RE	<p>This term we will be looking at Special Times and focusing on celebrations across three religions; Christianity, Islam and Hinduism. We will also be reflecting on what celebrations we have been apart of.</p>
PE	<p>Our topic for this term is gymnastics. We will be exploring different ways of moving under, over and across different apparatus and using our bodies to make different shapes</p>
RSE	<p>Each term we will be discussing current news with the children and interpreting this whilst discussing how it affects us. It's important we use our listening and language for effective communication in discussion.</p>
Expressive Arts and Design	<p>There will be a lot of opportunity for creativity this term as first of all we will begin by completing our own self portraits. We will then be using mixed, natural resources to create our own Autumnal pictures.</p> <p>We have already began our music lessons but we will continue to listen to a range of different music styles, singing along to nursery rhymes and creating sounds and music with various instruments.</p>

Year 1's Curriculum

English	This term we begin with a fiction unit based on the story 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. We will be learning the story and innovating it with our own versions. We will also be looking at labelling and captions using adjectives followed by instructional writing and poetry. We will have a big focus on writing in sentences with a capital letter and full stop and also on letter formation using our cursive script.
Maths	The Autumn term in Year 1 is all about introducing the children to our maths scheme 'Singapore maths'. We begin deepening our understanding of 'counting to 10', counting, writing, comparing and ordering these numbers. We will then move onto 'Number bonds' and 'addition' and 'subtraction'. With each unit the children are being taught the mathematical concepts before moving onto problem solving and group work and finally 'journaling' to show what their understanding is.
Topic	This year starts off with a history unit on Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. We will learn all about the lives of both important women, discussing the key facts, telling their stories and ordering the key events. The children will also find out about the Crimean war and be able to find and locate where it took place on a map. After half term our topic is Geography based. The unit 'Our Country' teaches the children about the United Kingdom. They will learn to locate the UK on a globe and simple World map. They will learn the names of the 4 countries that make up the UK. They will also learn the names of the 7 continents of the World.
Science	The Autumn Term brings a focus on 'Animals including Humans'. We will identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. We will also identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. We will then look at the human body identifying, naming, drawing and labelling the basic parts and saying which part of the body is associated with each sense.
RE	This term we will be looking at 'Christianity'. Firstly, we will be answering the question 'Why do Christians say that God is a 'Father'?' We will explore Christian use of the word 'Father' and consider the importance of prayer in Christian life. Then after half term we will be exploring 'why Jesus is special to Christians.' We will explore the Christmas nativity story and gain an understanding of why Jesus is believed to be a special baby.
PE	This half term we will be continuing to explore the forest area during our PE lessons. Then after half term our topic is 'Running and Jumping'. We will develop our understanding of different ways of travelling and different types of jumps. The children will learn to travel at different speeds by walking, jogging, running and sprinting, and develop an understanding of when these speeds are most useful. They will be able to explore a variety of ways of jumping, apply these skills to jumping games and creating jumping sequences. The importance of landing safely after jumping is also a key focus and the children will learn the importance of landing steadily with control.
RSE	Our first topic in Y1 is 'Families and Relationships.' We will explore what a family is and what friendships are. We will decide what makes a healthy friendship and look at friendship problems. We will then learn how to recognise other people's emotions. After half term our topic is 'Citizenship', we will be looking at 'Responsibility'. First by thinking of pets, and then younger children. We will discuss rules and then touch on democracy and making democratic decisions.
ART	This term Year 1 will be looking at the 'Formal Elements of Art.' We will focus on shape, line and colour. We will start by looking at abstract art and create our own shapes pictures. Then we will explore lines and make waves. Finally, we will develop our painting skills and mix colours.
DT	This half term we will be looking at 'Food'. The children will learn how to identify fruits and vegetables and then design and make a smoothie. They will design packaging for their drinks, to reflect the ingredients. Then after half term we will be looking at Mechanisms. Children will explore levers and sliders and then design and make a moving story book for a child in Reception.
Music	Our Music unit is called 'Hey You'. The children will be learning how pulse, rhythm and pitch work together. We start each lesson by listening to a piece of music, we find the pulse as we listen and dance as the music takes us. Musical Activities will include finding the pulse, marching in time and clapping rhythms, we will have fun singing too. We will play instruments, improvise and compose a simple melody using simple rhythms.

Year 2's Curriculum

English	This term, we are being with writing some silly poems to get our hands and minds back into writing. After this, we will move onto looking at the story Jack and the Beanstalk. This will be followed by a non-fiction unit on letters. After half term, we will start out cycle again by looking at The Elves and The Shoemaker, writing our own twists on the classic tale. This will again be followed by a non-fiction unit on an information text.
Maths	Year two is all about 2 digit numbers. We will be looking at the composition of these numbers so that the children can explain the value of each digit. For example, they know that 65 is 6 tens and 5 ones. We also move onto calculating with 2-digit numbers with addition and subtraction. We will upload videos to Seesaw at the time to demonstrate the language used so that you can mirror this at home. The children will be using physical, pictorial and written methods to do this.
Topic	This year starts off with a history unit on Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell. We will explore how nursing and hospitals have changed and the impact that this has had on modern life. After half term, we will move onto a geography unit.
Science	The Autumn Term brings a focus on Animals including Humans. We will explore the word hygiene, exercise and healthy. Focusing in on diet and nutrition. The children will explore how animals have adults and these adults has offspring called young. The children will explore differences in themselves as babies and how they look now.
RE	Re this term will start with Christianity and God. They will focus on the question 'How do we respond to things that really matter?' After half term, the children will focus on Christianity and Jesus by exploring the question 'Why do Christians say that Jesus is the light of the world?'
MFL	The children will learn to say good morning in a number of different languages.
PE	Year 2 will start the year focusing on athletic skills. We will learn about the Paralympics and how we should all get involved and never give up. The children will be running several different races. After half term, the children will work on dance.
RSE	This term, the children will be exploring families and relationships. This will focus on being inclusive and exploring the differences in one and other. The children will learn how to be a good friend and what to do if a friendship isn't working.
ART	This term, Year 2 will learn the formal elements of art. We will look at drawing, colouring and painting. The children will take rubbings and imitate artists work using them.
DT	Linking with our science topic, our DT unit will focus on a balanced diet. The children will explore hidden sugars in foods, design and make a healthy wrap.

Year 3's Curriculum

English	This term we begin with a fiction unit based around a Scandinavian traditional tale which provides the moral to 'listen to the warnings of your elders'. We will be learning the story and innovating it with our own versions. We will then move on to instructions sticking with the theme of Trolls which our first story gave us. In reading, we will be focussing on our retrieval skills, making sure we can accurately lift information from stories and non fiction texts.
Maths	Year three is all about 3 digit numbers. We will be looking at the composition of these numbers so that the children can explain the value of each digit. For example, they know that 365 is 3 hundreds, 6 tens and 5 ones but that 340 is not only 3 hundreds and 4 tens, it is also 34 tens. We begin to look at the 4 times tables, so practice at home is invaluable- counting in 4s when you walk, counting the conkers you collect and grouping them in 4s are simple ideas which you can do at home to build understanding of the 4 times tables. We also move onto calculating with 3 digit numbers with addition and subtraction. We will upload videos to Seesaw at the time to demonstrate the language used so that you can mirror this at home.
Topic	This year starts off with a history unit on Stone age, Bronze age and Iron age. We will learn all about the differences between these eras and how trade, communities including housing and weaponry changed during these periods.
Science	The Autumn Term brings a focus on Animals including Humans. We will identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat. We will also identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement and be able to name parts of the skeleton.
RE	In Religious Education, we will begin by looking at Christianity and how and why some people have served God. They will investigate the prophets of the Old Testament and consider why these people chose to listen to God. We will explore ways in which Christians today might follow God.
MFL	This term we focus on French greetings. We look at how to say hello, how to ask each other how we are and answer this question.
PE	This term in PE the children will begin with a games focus looking at Rugby and then Netball too. The children will learn the basic skills of passing and moving and will then apply this to their games by participating in small competitions and activities to further develop these skills.
RSE	We will begin our RSE lessons by focusing on the topic of Health and Wellbeing. Within these lessons the children will learn how to solve problems by breaking them down into achievable steps and recognise how our strengths can be used to help others.
ART	This term Year 3 will be looking at Stone Age Art. We will be introduced to cave art and reflect upon the purpose of the drawings before working on developing their sense of proportion in drawing. We will then scale up their drawings from the previous lesson and use a different medium, charcoal, in their work After experimenting with the colours and effects that can be created using natural materials, we make their own paints using spices and objects found in a nature and then paint the prehistoric animal picture that they drew earlier in the unit.
DT	This half term we will be looking at structures. We will be looking at how Castles are designed, and identifying key features in their design.

Year 4's Curriculum

English	This term we will begin with a fiction unit. We will be looking at persuasion and suspense texts. We will be learning the story and innovating it with our own versions. We will then move on to instructions sticking with the theme of a mythical beast which our first story gave us. In reading, we will be focussing on our retrieval skills, making sure we can accurately lift information from stories and non fiction texts.
Maths	We will begin this year by looking at place value, the different operations (multiplication, addition, subtraction, division) and will be deepening our understanding of using a bar model to represent and solve a problem. We will also heavily focus upon times tables, supporting children to consolidate their knowledge and gain confidence with mental maths. Practicing of times tables at home is invaluable.
Topic	This year starts off with a geography unit on Rivers and Coasts. We learn all about the features of a river, and explain how erosion and deposition change the course of a river. We will also look at coastal erosion.
Science	In science the children will begin their Science journey by exploring the topic of Animals Including Humans focusing on teeth and how our digestive system works. This year Science will be taught by Mrs Kidd and Mrs Woodcock. We will identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat.
RE	In Religious Education, we will begin by looking at Christianity and how and why Christians use the bible. The children will gain an understanding that the Bible is a collection of books, written by different people at different times. They will learn about the Old Testament and the New Testament and will also learn about other sources of wisdom and authority in making moral decision.
MFL	This term we focus on French greetings. We look at how to say hello, how to ask each other how we are and answer this question.
PE	This half term the children will develop skills of term work, personal development, technique and control. The children will also gain the experience to complete weekly swimming lessons focusing upon skill development and improvement of pupil confidence.
RSE	We will begin our RSE lessons by focusing on the topic of Health and Wellbeing. The children will develop a sense of emotional maturity; learning that we experience a range of emotions and developing a growth mindset.
ART	This term the children will learn and develop their skills in; design, drawing, craft, painting and art appreciation. We will focus on skills of sketching sculptures and transferring this successfully to soap carving.

Year 5's Curriculum

English	This term we will begin with a fiction unit. We will be looking at finding stories, exploring openings and endings. We will be learning the story and will innovate it with our own versions. We will then move on to explanations, exploring how to find pirate's treasure. In reading, we will be focusing on our retrieval skills, making sure we can accurately lift information from stories and non-fiction texts.
Maths	We will begin this year by looking at place value, reading and writing numbers up to 100,000. Whilst exploring the different operations (multiplication, addition, subtraction, division) the children will be deepening their understanding of using bar models to represent and solve problems. We will deepen our knowledge and understanding of multiples and factors, whilst using our knowledge to tackle word problems.
Topic	This year starts off with a history unit on the Stone Age. We will begin by naming the three different periods of the Stone Age whilst using historical language to describe the changes that took place during each era. We will carry out an investigation into Stonehenge, describing key features of the different settlements. The children will learn the difference between scavenging and hunting and the changes that took place in how people found food during the Stone Age era.
Science	In science this term the children will begin their science journey by exploring the topic of Living Things and their habitats. The children will describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird. We will also describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
RE	In Religious Education, we will begin by looking at Christianity and why it is hard sometimes to do the right thing. Children will explore the Christian beliefs and teachings about sin and temptation whilst investigating the importance of forgiveness. The children will gain an understanding of the types of things that might be classed as temptations by Christians today. They will learn about Christian beliefs and values found in the story of The Fall (Genesis 3).
MFL	This term we focus on French greetings and keywords and phrases used to describe school. We will focus on speaking and reading French before beginning to write sentences.
PE	This half term the children will develop skills of teamwork, personal development, technique and control. The children will also gain the experience to complete weekly swimming lessons focusing upon skill development and improvement of pupil confidence.
RSE	We will begin our RSE lessons by focusing on the topic of Health and Wellbeing. The children will develop their understanding of how we can look after our bodies through relaxation and sleeping whilst gaining strategies to help manage feelings of failure.
ART	This term Year 5 will be looking at Stone Age art. We will be introduced to the different types of housing found during this era which will then allow the children to sketch, plan and construct their own Stone Age houses.

Mandela's Curriculum

English	This term we begin with a fiction unit based around a Manor House. Using this text the children will be learning how to build suspense in to their own writing. We will be learning the story and innovating it with our own versions. We will then move on to writing instructions later in the term. In reading, we will be focusing on our inference skills such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence from the text 'The Giants necklace' and 'Letters from the Lighthouse'.
Maths	Year 6 will be continuing the Singapore Maths journey which will begin with place value of numbers up to 10,000,000. We will focus on using a range of methods including bar models to aid our understanding and how to use this to support us when problem solving. Moving on from this, we will be focusing on multiplication and division and learning how to use both methods in mixed number calculations.
Topic	This year starts off with a history unit on World War 2. We learn all about how and why the war began and will then look at what implications the war had on our lives today. In geography, we will be learning about climate zones and biomes.
Science	The Autumn Term we will focus on electricity. The children will learn to associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit, compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches. They will also learn to use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.
RE	This term Year 6 will focus on the question 'How do Christians mark the 'turning points' on the journey of life?' The class will explore the church as a community of believers and to examine how rites of passage reflect their commitment and relationship with God. The focus is on 'is life like a journey' so through this unit students will analyse beliefs, teachings and values and how they are linked by exploring the key sacraments in a Christian's life.
MFL	This term we focus on learning about sports and in particular the Olympics. We will learn how to say and write what our favourite sports are and why we like them.
PE	The children will be developing their understanding of invasion games this term, focusing on the key principles involved in both Netball and Hockey. They will work on fitness, skills and tactics to improve their abilities.
RSE	This term Year 6 will be focusing on family and relationships. They will learn how to resolve conflict through negotiation and compromise. We will explore respect and understanding that everyone deserves to be respected. At the end of the unit, we will look at grief and the associated emotions that relate to this.
ART	This term the children will develop their skills in design, drawing, craft, painting and art appreciation. They will work collaboratively to create designs, zentangle patterns and prints and painting in the style of impressionist painters.
DT	In DT, we will use our knowledge of electricity taught in city to design and create our own lighthouses or air raid shelters.