

Think for yourself, care for others

Please watch this space for upcoming events. The Parent's diary dates for the year will be sent out soon.

11.10.23: Attenborough 15.11.23: Pankhurst 07.02.24: Mandela
20.03.23: Malala 22.05.23: Hawking 12.06.23: Rosen
03.07.23: Picasso

Belongings

A polite reminder to please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly named/labelled, this means that if they go missing it makes it easier to locate them as they often get left on the playground or in communal areas of the school. Thank you.

Play

This year, we have decided to make some changes to the way that we run playtimes in school. As a staff, we have carefully planned out different zones around the playground where children can engage in a wider range of activities such as drawing, role play and construction. We have already seen an impact in children's behaviour at playtimes as well as the quality of play that is taking place.

If you have any toys or activities that you think would be a good addition to our play time, we are happily accepting donations.

Instruments

At Beechwood we are a music ambassador school and take pride in the quality our music education. As part of this, pupils in years 4, 5 and 6 are taught to play instruments in their music lessons. Pupils will be allowed to take their instruments home to practice, please support in this fantastic opportunity by ensuring that instruments are used at home and are returned to school each week ready for their lesson.



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 and KS1 and 5 times a week in KS2. Reading Diaries will be checked each week and rewards will be 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.

As Throughout school we use music throughout the school day to help children with the busy transitions and ensure that they are ready to learn. Each half term we have a different focus composer or music style so that the children can become familiar with a range of music. The children will listen to their music each morning and find out key facts about them. We also encourage pupils to do their own research on them. Our composer for autumn 1 is... Mozart



Picasso Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 1

Literacy	This half term in Literacy we are exploring the book The Enormous Turnip. We will be having a focus on orally retelling the story. We will be using our new learned phonics knowledge on writing initial sounds for activities relating to our class story. We ensure we have a dominant hand when writing and are holding our pencils correctly.
Maths	In Maths this half term we will be focusing on Numbers of the Week. We will be looking at numbers 0-4 and discussing what they look like, where we may see them around us, shapes related to that number, how to make that number whilst using vocabulary such as 'more' and 'less'.
Understanding the World	In Understanding the World, we will explore The Woodland topic in Geography and what we may find in the woodland. We will focus on celebrations in RE and how different religions have different celebrations. Harvest festival is a celebration we will explore, as a whole school. In provision we also have our home role play and our Autumnal Season exploration area.
Expressive Arts and Design	This half term we have looked into the artist Picasso and have created portraits in the style of Picasso. Children will also be able to freely create their own pictures inspired by Picasso within provision. In Music we will be learning nursery rhymes and singing in time to one another as a class and in small groups, focusing on timing and pitch. In provision we will be making our own creations, music and role play whilst able to talk about the process we used to create them.
Physical Development	In Physical Development this half term we will have a focus on our fine motor skills. We will complete activities using playdough, tweezers and threading to ensure we develop our fine motor skills which enables us to control our pen/pencils when drawing or writing. In P.E we will explore skills such as spatial awareness, ball control and team work in our Invasion Games topic.
Physical, Social and Emotional Development	In RSE this half term we will look at Listening and Following Instructions and understanding why we have rules and are all rules the same everywhere we go. We spend the first couple of weeks familiarising ourselves with our new school rules and routines. We also look at our feelings and explore the Zones of Regulation. We are introduced to each Zone and what strategies we can use to help us regulate back to the green zone.
Communication and Language	In communication and Language we build on listening and responding to others in sentences. We have story time at the end of each day and discuss each book, being able to recall some information from the story or key events. We build relationships with our peers and engage in back and forth conversations during activity time or during role play, implementing new learnt vocabulary in our conversations.

Rosen Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 1

English	This half 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. 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. 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 'Toys and Technology'. We will learn how toys and technology in the home have changed since 1950 and the impact on our lives. We will look at what technology we use in our homes today and compare it to the olden days.
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.
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.
PE	This half term we will focus on Invasion games skills and Net and wall games skills. This will involve lots of dribbling, catching and throwing and moving around safely in a limited space.
RSE	Our first topic in Y1 is 'Families and Relationships'. We will be exploring how families can be different and the characteristics and impact of positive friendships. We will be learning that issues can be overcome, people show feelings differently and that stereotyping is unfair.
ART	This half term Year 1 will be looking at Drawing- 'Making your mark.' We will focus on experimenting with media, mark making, making waves and exploring lines and colour. We will then develop our drawing skills and draw from observation.
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.

Attenborough Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 1

English	This half term we are going to be inspired by the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children will be innovating their own version of the story with a new character and setting. We will use the story to write a letter of complaint from the giant.
Maths	In maths, we will be starting with place value of numbers to 100 including finding and completing number patterns. We will then be focusing on addition and subtraction, this include using number bonds and learning the column method. We will then be starting to explore multiplication of groups of 2, 5 and 10.
History	Our history topic for Autumn term is transport. As part of this we will be looking at key influential historical figures and their achievements including: Christopher Columbus, Neil Armstrong and Francis Egerton.
Science	Throughout Autumn we are learning about Animals including Humans. In this unit, we will be finding out about the basic needs of all animals and exploring how humans need food and exercise to stay healthy and fit. We will also be looking at the offspring of different animals.
RE	In RE, we will be posing the question 'Does how we treat our world matter?' through this unit we will learn about the Christian creation story as well as how harvest is celebrated.
Computing	We are going to be learning about staying safe online, this includes recognising the importance of passwords and what information is safe to share.
PE	Year 2 PE day is on a Wednesday. This half term we will be learning the skills for and participating in Net and wall games.
RSE	In RSE, we will be learning about Families and Relationships. We will be exploring the importance of friendships and families and exploring ways of solving problems with our friends.
ART	We are focusing on the skill of drawing, across our art unit we will be exploring ways of drawing in different styles including observational drawings and using our skills to illustrate a story.
DT	In DT, we will be using our textiles knowledge of stitching and cutting fabric to design and make pouches.

Pankhurst Class

Find out what we are learning about this half term

English	In our writing, we are going to be studying a finding tale called 'The Egg', we will be learning different skills throughout the unit that we will use in our final writing piece of creating an alternate version of the story, changing the characters, setting and ending!
Maths	In maths, we will be completing our Place Value unit. Pupils will look at numbers up to 1000 and focuses on the value of each digit, learn how to compose and decompose numbers, compare, order and look for patterns. We will then move on to addition and subtraction with renaming.
History	This half term's topic is the Anglo Saxons and Scots. Focusing on the evidence of Anglo-Saxon settlements, what impact they have had on our lives today and why Scotland is called Scotland.
Science	In science, we are learning about Animals including humans. Investigating food groups and nutrients needed for a balanced diet and observing the human skeleton.
RE	This half term, we are looking at Christianity. Our big question for the unit will be 'Who should we follow?'. We will explore Christian beliefs about leadership and how we can link this to our everyday life.
PE	In PE this half term we will be completing Invasion Games, we will take part in a different game a week that focuses on a different skill involving positioning, dodging and communication. We will also be studying Netball, learning to pass and shoot accurately to play a game.
ART	In art this half term we will be focusing on Abstract Shape using 3D sculptures. We will look at how to combine shapes together using different joins and holds together. <i>To help us with our projects, if you have any spare cardboard or kitchen roll tubes please send them in to school with your child!</i>
MFL	This half term, we will be looking at French greetings, both in spoken and written forms. We will learn how to take turns to speak using appropriate intonation.

Hawking Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 1

English	This half term we begin by learning how to write an adventure story. We will create a toolkit that will enable us to develop our writing skills and use speech before applying this into our own writing. Moving on from this, we will be learning to write instructions for our non-fiction unit.
Maths	Year 4 will be continuing their Singapore Maths journey which will be begin with place value of numbers up to 10,000. We will focus on 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 looking to secure our knowledge of addition and subtraction with a formal renaming method.
History	Our history topic for Autumn term is Anglo-Saxons and Scots. We will learn where they came from and what they can to Britain to do. We will develop our understanding of the religious impact they had on Britain and use our source skills to identify how we know Anglo-Saxons and Scots settled in the UK.
Science	Throughout Autumn we are learning about Animals including Humans. In this unit, we will be learning about the basic function of the digestive system, the names of our teeth and we will construct basic food chains. The children will continue to use a range of investigative tools and will focus on how to write an in-depth investigation with a real focus on writing conclusions to our findings.
RE	In RE, we will be focusing on the question 'How should we live our lives?' focusing on Christianity and the Bible.
Computing	We are going to be learning about staying safe online. We will be learning about how apps can access personal information and how to alter permissions, online bullying and how technology can affect health and wellbeing.
PE	The children will start their weekly swimming lessons which will continue throughout the year. The children will also take part in invasion games.
RSE	In our first unit of Families and Relationships, looking at health friendships, disabilities and considering how our behaviours affect others around us.
ART	In art, we will be learning about Sculpture and 3D art with a focus on shape and space. This will include making 3D sculptures from card and cardboard, and learning about different folds and joins.

Malala Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 1

English	This half term we begin by learning how to write a finding story. We will learn about how to write effective openings and endings for our stories. Moving on from this, we will explore explanation texts and we will have a go at writing our own explanation text.
Maths	We will continue to learn through Singapore Maths in year 5, focussing on place value to begin with. We will be learning to read and write numbers to 1 million, as well as comparing numbers, making number patterns and rounding numbers. We will then move on to focussing on addition and subtraction.
History	Our history topic for Autumn term is Anglo Saxons and Scots. During this unit, we will be exploring how artifacts can be used to learn about history, and we will look at how place names are evidence of the people who lived in the past in early settlements.
Science	Throughout Autumn we are learning about Animals including Humans. In this unit we will be looking at the changes which happen to humans as we develop from birth to old age. We will also look at the gestation periods of other animals, and compare them with humans.
RE	In RE, we will be focusing on the question 'Why is it sometimes difficult to do the right thing?' We will explore Christian beliefs and teachings about sin and temptation and begin to look at core Christian concepts such as forgiveness and reconciliation.
Computing	We are going to be learning about staying safe online. We will be learning about how apps can access personal information and how to alter permissions, online bullying and how technology can affect health and wellbeing.
PE	Our PE unit this half term is Netball and invasion games. We will be learning how to pass and shoot with good technique as well as how to pivot and apply some tactics. PE lessons will take place on a Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon.
RSE	In our first unit of Families and Relationships, we will be learning about friendship skills, marriage, respecting myself, family life, bullying and stereotypes.
Art	In art, we will be learning about Sculpture and 3D art with a focus on shape and space. This will include making 3D sculptures from card and cardboard, and learning about different folds and joins.

Mandela Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 1

English	This half term we begin by learning how to write a suspense story. We will create a toolkit that will enable us to develop our writing skills and create tension and suspense into our own independent writing. Moving on from this, we will be learning to use our persuasive skills in our non-fiction unit.
Maths	Year 6 will be continuing their Singapore Maths journey which will begin with place value of numbers up to 1 million. We will focus on 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 developing our knowledge of the four operations and mixed number calculations.
History	Our history topic for Autumn term is WWI and WWII. As part of this we will be looking at key sources of evidence that will help us investigate how and why these wars took place. We will also look at why children had to evacuate Liverpool during this time.
Science	Throughout Autumn we are learning about Animals including Humans. In this unit, we will be learning to identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. We will learn to recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function.
RE	In RE, we will be focusing on the question 'Is life like a journey?' We will explore the purpose of life and how is it always easy to show forgiveness.
Computing	We are going to be learning about staying safe online, this includes recognising the importance of passwords and what information is safe to share.
PE	Our PE unit this half term is Netball. We will be learning the tactical skills required to attack and defend during a match.
RSE	In our first unit of Families and Relationships, we will be learning: to resolve conflict, through negotiation and compromise; about respect, understanding that everyone deserves to be respected and about grief.
DT	In DT, we will be researching recipes to create our own 3 course menu. The children will learn to follow a recipe to create their dishes before tasting and evaluating their creations.