



Beechwood Primary School

Think for yourself, care for others

Autumn 2

Autumn 2 is always such a busy time in schools. It won't be long until you will be hearing Christmas songs and performance lines being practiced at home! As always however, learning is always our priority and we will continue delivering our fantastic curriculum between the extra events which take place around school.

If you would like to know more about our curriculum, our whole school subject plans are available on our website.

Last half term we listened to the children's thoughts and opinions about our curriculum and it was so lovely to hear how much they value the work that we do in school. We have also enjoyed listening to parent's feedback from parent's evening.

Dates for your diary

12th November- Remembrance Sunday (Beechwood will place a wreath at the memorial)

15th November-Pankhurst (Y3) class assembly

17th November-Children in need

24th November- Non uniform (confectionary donation)

28th November- Year 2 Christmas Journey

15th December- PTA Christmas Bonanza

21st December - Christmas jumper day

21st December-School closes for Christmas 13:30pm

4th January - School opens

Class Assemblies

Throughout the year, parents from each class are invited into school to see their child's class assembly. This is a fantastic opportunity to see all the hard work that the pupils have put in, you will have the opportunity to hear about their learning from all areas of our curriculum. Below are the dates for the each classes assembly throughout the year. Each assembly will be from 9am-9.30am

15.11.23: Pankhurst 07.02.24: Mandela

20.03.24: Malala 22.05.24: Hawking 12.06.24: Rosen

03.07.24: Picasso

Thinking School

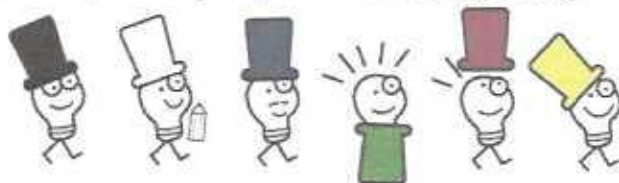
Beechwood Primary School is proud to be a thinking school. In our planning and teaching, all staff take care to give opportunities to pupils to think critically and creatively, giving them a deeper understanding of the knowledge that they are learning. We use four main strategies which our houses are named after:

Kagan: The Kagan approach is about cooperative learning. In classes you will see children being given opportunities to share their ideas with groups or 'thinking partners'. We believe that all children should be engaged and active in their learning.

DeBono: DeBono created the idea of thinking hats. There are six thinking hats which represent different ways of thinking or approaching a problem. In school, you will see us asking children to wear different 'thinking hats' depending on the problem we are tackling.

Costa: Costa gives us 16 'Habits of Mind', these habits of mind are what create successful learners and thinkers. The children have a weekly assembly focused on different habits of mind such as persisting, questioning and thinking about thinking.

Hyerle: Hyerle created different thinking maps which can be used to show and organise our thinking. In school you will see these maps being used regularly in our lessons and books.



Christmas Performances

We have already started planning and practicing our Christmas performances. Children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 will be putting together a nativity performance whilst children in Key stage 2 will be performing Christmas music. Please support where possible by helping children to practice lines and songs. Details about costumes and tickets will be sent out over the coming weeks.

Key stage 1 play: 18th December at 9.30 am and 19th December at 2pm.

Key stage 2 performance: 18th December at 6.00pm and 19th December at 9.30am.



Friendly Reminders

- Please ensure that children read at home each night, where possible you can talk about the books they have read and ask questions.
- As the weather gets colder, children should have coats in school every day. You may also wish to send hats and gloves. All belongings need to be named.
- Children should have a named school water bottle with them each day
- Children in years 4, 5 and 6 need their instruments in every Thursday.

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 2 is... **Felix Mendelssohn**



Picasso Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 2

Literacy	This half term in Literacy we are exploring Elmer! We will be having a focus on orally retelling the story and innovating the text to make it our own. We will be using our new learned phonics knowledge on writing CVC words or short sentences for activities relating to our class story. We will continue to ensure we have a dominant hand when writing and are holding our pencils correctly. We will then learn about information texts and write our own.
Maths	In Maths this half term we will be focusing on Numbers of the Week. We will be looking at numbers 4-8 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'. We will continue to look at ordinal numbers, implementing vocabulary such as 'first' and 'last' into our everyday conversations.
Understanding of the World	In Understanding of the World, we will explore Bonfire Night. We will look at how we may celebrate Bonfire Night, how to keep safe on bonfire night and have an understanding on why we celebrate Bonfire Night. We will focus on celebrations in RE and how different religions have different celebrations. Christmas is a celebration we will explore, as a whole school. In provision we will have our People Who Help us topic and continue with observing the world around us as we move through Autumn.
Expressive Arts and Design	In art this half term we will be exploring crafting. This unit will explore cutting, threading, and joining materials. This unit will help children work towards making paper snakes and flower tissues.
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 our topic will be Dance. Using our imaginations to create movements, create a short routine and perform to our friends.
Physical, Social and Emotional Development	In RSE this half term we will look at Our Emotions. We continue to learn to explore and understand our feelings, identify when they may be feeling something, and begin to learn how to communicate and cope with their feelings and emotions. We will also consolidate our learning and implement our learning alongside our Zones Of Regulation strategies.
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. We will be focusing on 'why' and 'who' questions.

Rosen Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 2

English	This half term we begin with a fiction unit based on the story 'Owl babies'. We will be learning the story and innovating it with our own versions. We will also be writing a fact file for a Christmas Elf. We will continue our focus on writing in sentences with a capital letter and full stop and also on letter formation using our cursive script.
Maths	This next half term in Year 1 is all about addition and subtraction, numbers to 20 and then moving on to positional language, shapes and patterns. With each unit the children are being introduced to a mathematical concept through an enquiry question which they then journal their answer to show what their understanding is, before moving on to the workbook.
Topic	Our Topic this half term is Geography based. 'The United Kingdom' teaches the children which countries make up the UK. They will learn to locate the UK on a globe and simple World map. They will also learn the names of the 7 continents of the World. We will then compare London with where we live.
Science	This half term we will continue to focus on 'Animals including Humans'. We will 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 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 our PE units are Yoga and Dance. During Dance, we will be using our bodies to create mini beast themed shapes, movements and actions. During our Yoga lessons, through different themes, we will learn how to hold poses which will help with relaxation, flexibility and overall health.
RSE	Our next RSE topic in Y1 is 'Health and wellbeing'. We spend time exploring personal qualities, strategies to manage feelings and the impact of sleep and relaxation on our wellbeing. We also look at the importance of hand washing and sun protection and identifying and dealing with allergic reactions.
Computing	In our Computing lessons we will be learning about Internet safety. The children will learn about the benefits and risks of being online — how to remain safe, keep personal information secure and recognising when to seek help in difficult situations. The children will then be introduced to programming through the use of a Bee-Bot and exploring its functions.
DT	This half term we will be making a puppet. We will explore different ways of joining fabrics before creating our own hand puppets. Throughout the DT lessons we will develop their technical skills of cutting, gluing, stapling and pinning.
Music	Our Music unit is called 'Dance, sing and play'. The children will learn how music is made up of long and short sounds called 'rhythm' and high and low sounds that we call 'pitch'. As we dance, sing, and play instruments with the music in this unit, we will explore these sounds and how they work together.

Attenborough Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 2

English	Through our talk for writing, we will be reading the traditional tale 'The Elves and the Shoemaker'. We will be writing our own version of the story based on different types of characters and settings. We will also be exploring writing recounts linked to our other topics around school, including writing a recount of the Christmas story.
Maths	In maths, we will be moving on to multiplication and division of 2, 5 and 10. We will work on developing our understanding of what multiplication is and learning our 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We will then recognise how division relates to multiplication and use our times tables understanding to divide by 2, 5 and 10. We will also be starting to explore different types of measure including length. We will be learning to measure and compare length in different units and apply our understanding to word problems.
Geography	Our geography topic is called 'Would you like to live in a hot or cold place?' We will explore the concept of climate zones and have a go at mapping out hot and cold places globally. We will look at features of the North and South Poles and Kenya, comparing weather and features in the local area. We will also be learning the four compass points and the continents of the world
Science	Throughout Autumn we have been learning about Animals including Humans. We will be continuing to learn about the basic needs of animals including humans as well as what humans can do to stay fit and healthy. We will be investigating the impact of exercise on our bodies and thinking about the growth and needs of animals.
RE	In RE, we will be posing the question 'Why do Christians think that Jesus is the light of the world?' through this unit we will explore artistic and biblical representations of Jesus and consider why he might be called 'Light of the World'. We will also learn about the Christian celebration of Christingle and the symbolism behind it.
Computing	In computing we will be finding out 'What is a computer?' We will be learning about different parts of a computer and their function. We will also consider the role of computers in the real world.
PE	In PE, we will be learning different yoga poses to help keeps us have a healthy body and healthy mind. We will also be doing a dance unit where we will be choreographing a dance to the Under the sea theme.
RSE	In RSE we are finishing the first topic of Healthy Relationships and moving on to Health and Wellbeing. We are learning to understand our different emotions and how to manage them positively using a growth mindset. The dental nurse will be visiting us to discuss ways to keep our teeth healthy and we will then look at a healthy diet.
ART	In art we will be focusing on creating houses out of clay. We will experiment with clay and how it sticks together and can be formed to create a variety of patterns and textures.
DT	Following on from our learning in science, the children will apply their knowledge of a healthy diet to design and make a healthy wrap which meets a design brief.

Pankhurst Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 2

English	In our writing, we are going to be very busy, completing a poetry unit, a fiction unit and a non-fiction unit. We will be writing an alternate ending to "Lazy Jack" with a focus on dialogue. Then, moving onto an information text about a family member!
Maths	In maths, we will be completing our multiplication and division units, we will be concentrating on our 3, 4 and 8 times tables. By the end of our unit the children will be able to multiply and divide and solve word problems. <i>TT Rockstars login will be sent out for the children to practice at home!</i>
Geography	This half term's topic is Antarctica. We will be investigating who lives in Antarctica. The children will learn how to use longitude and latitude lines, create maps and collect data during fieldwork.
Science	During Autumn, we will continue to finish our learning on the human body looking at how our muscles are used to support our skeletons and provide movement. After this, we will start our rocks topic, investigating how permeable and durable different types of rocks are.
RE	This half term, we are looking at Christianity. Our big question for the year will be 'Who should we follow?'. For this unit, we will be looking at what it means to be a disciple.
PE	In PE this half term we will be completing Yoga and Dance. Both will focus and build on our flexibility. Our dance unit is 'Dance around the world' in which the children will choreograph a routine in small groups using unison, cannon and levels, inspired by different cultures.
RSE	In RSE, we will continue our unit on families and relationships. Looking at healthy friendships, disabilities and considering how our behaviours affect others around us.
DT	In DT we will be cooking! We will be learning about how to eat seasonally and designing, making and evaluating a fruit salad.
MFL	This half term, we will be continuing our French greetings topic. The children will continue to converse in French and we will be concentrating more on written forms.

Hawking Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 2

Literacy	This half term in Literacy we will unpicking how to write explanations before writing our own. The children will then cover the story 'The Tear Thief' before writing their own Christmas inspired version.
Maths	In Maths this half term, we will cover the remainder of our times tables: 6,7,9,11 and 12s. The children will have both mental and written methods to answer these questions. The children will learn how to multiply by 1 and 0. After this, the children will focus on division before moving onto 2 digit multiplication.
Geography	In Geography we will be investigating who lives in Antarctica. The children will learn how to use longitude and latitude lines, create maps and collect data during fieldwork.
DT	In DT this half term, we will be cooking. We will be adapting a recipe and designing and evaluating our own biscuits and creating packing to go alongside the biscuits.
Physical Development	The children will continue swimming each week. Also the children will complete a Vikings Dance unit, in which they will choreograph a routine using different levels and dynamics.
RE	In RE, the focus is 'Sacrifice' and how this relates to Christianity. The children will relate sacrifice and temptation to their everyday lives.
RSE	In RSE, we will continue our unit on families and relationships. Looking at healthy friendships, disabilities and considering how our behaviours affect others around us.
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.
French	In French this half term, we will be going over our prior learning focusing on speaking. The children will learn how to describe people based on their appearance, nationality and character.
Computing	During computing, the children will be completing a networking unit. They will focus on collaborative working and the barriers digital collaborative working faces.

Malala Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 2

English	This half term we begin by continuing our work on explanation texts, with a focus on 'How to hide a pirate's treasure'. We will learn how to use modal verbs and brackets for parenthesis. We will then move on to focussing on the text 'The Wolves in the Walls' where we will be using description to write a fantasy story.
Maths	In maths, we will continue our work on multiplication and division, focussing on different methods to solve challenging multiplication and division problems. We will then move on to answering word problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Following word problems, we will start a new unit where we will learn about tables and graphs.
Geography	In Geography we will be investigating who lives in Antarctica. The children will learn how to use lines of longitude and lines of latitude as well as create maps and collect data during fieldwork.
Science	Throughout Autumn 2 we will be learning about living things and their habitats. We will be focussing on the life cycles of mammals, amphibians, insects and birds; and we will be describing the differences in the life cycles. We will describe the life process of reproductions in plants and animals.
RE	In RE, we will be focusing on the question 'What do we mean by a miracle?' We will be concentrating on Christianity, and what Christians might learn from miracle stories and why Christians consider going on a pilgrimage to places associated with miraculous events.
Computing	In computing, we will be learning about computing systems and networks with a focus on search engines. We will be learning what a search engine is, data leaks and keywords.
PE	Our PE unit this half term is dance and yoga. We will be creating a dance based on the theme of British Values. In yoga, we will be learning and practising different yoga positions, as well as focussing on using yoga to relax our minds and bodies.
RSE	In RSE we will be continuing our Families and Relationships unit. We will have a focus on family life, bullying and different types of stereotypes this term.
DT	In design and technology, we will be cooking. We will be learning about healthy foods and where our food comes from. We will then use our knowledge to adapt and make a Bolognese sauce by adding extra vegetables to it.

Mandela Class

Find out what we are learning about in Autumn 2

Literacy	This half term in Literacy we will be using our persuasive writing skills to write a speech to persuade people to banish our chosen items into Room 101. Moving on from this, we will be learning how to write an informal diary entry.
Maths	In Maths this half term, we will continue with our unit on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division before moving on to our fractions unit where our times table knowledge will be put to the test.
Geography	In Geography we will be investigating why certain parts of the world are more populated than others; exploring birth and death rates; discussing social, economic and environmental push and pull factors; learning about the population in Britain and its impacts. As part of this, we will be venturing out into the local area to carry out some fieldwork.
Art	In our art unit this half term, we will be exploring a selection of paintings through art appreciation activities. Collecting ideas in sketchbooks and planning for a final piece after researching the life, techniques and artistic intentions of an artist that interests them.
PE	In Physical Development this half we will be learning about balance and how to maintain our balance in gymnastics. Moving on from this, we will then use these skills during our Yoga unit where we will learn a variety of poses to help us to maintain a positive mindset using relaxation techniques.
RE	We will be continuing to explore 'Is life like a journey?' and focus on how Christians mark the 'turning points' on the journey of life? We will explore the deeper meaning of baptism and look at the differing views surrounding this. We will then analyse key words and actions used within Christian rituals and ceremonies.
RSE	In RSE, we will be Learning about diet, oral hygiene, physical activity and the facts around immunisation. Exploring rest and relaxation and how they affect physical and mental health. Strategies for being resilient in challenging situations and planning for long-term goals.
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.
French	In French this half term, we will continue to learn numbers up to 60. This will be alongside our unit 'Le Sport' where we are learning to say and write about our favourite sports and why we like them.