



# Beechwood Primary School

Think for yourself, care for others

Welcome back to another half term at Beechwood. We hope you all had a lovely February half term and a good rest after such a busy start to the year. We had a brilliant time at our school sleepover and year 2 had a fantastic residential too. On top of this we worked hard to create our HPAN exhibition which you can still go and visit at the Shopping City.

We have already had a busy first week back: world Book Day took place on Thursday, children have been participating in a wide range of book related activities, exploring new and favourite texts and sharing their favourite stories. Year 6 have also been out to perform at the Brindley as part of HPAN and the Arts Award.

In spring 2 we are looking forward to a range of further enrichment activities including trips, workshops and bikeability. We also look forward to inviting you into school for parent's evenings at the end of march!

## Dates for your diary

7<sup>th</sup> March: Year 6 Shakespeare Celebration Workshop

8<sup>th</sup> March: Mandela and Attenborough SAT's evenings 5pm

13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> March: Year 6 Bikeability

17<sup>th</sup> March: Comic Relief

20<sup>th</sup> March: Year 4 Bikeability

22<sup>nd</sup> March: Malala Class assembly

22<sup>nd</sup> March: Shakespeare Workshop

27<sup>th</sup> March: Year 5 Easter Journey at Community Church

27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> March: Parent's Evening

31<sup>st</sup> March: School closes at 1.30pm

17<sup>th</sup> April: School Reopens

## Our School Rules

In Spring 1, we had a whole school reminder of our school rules which you will see reflected in all areas of our school. Our rules are: **Ready, Safe, Respect**. We are ready to learn, we keep each other and ourselves safe and we respect each other and our school.

We also remember that at Beechwood we: **Think for yourself, care for others**



### Class Assemblies

We have loved seeing all the classes fantastic assemblies so far this year. Year 6 and Year 2 both did a great job of sharing their learning in Spring 1. Please see the dates below for the remaining class assemblies which parents and carers and welcome to come and watch. Each assembly will be from 9am- 9.30am.

22.03.23: Malala

24.05.23: Hawking

15.06.23: Rosen

05.07.23: Picasso

### Women's History Month

This month is women's history month. As part of this, we will be including key stories, books and information into our everyday curriculum. This may be looking at inspirational women in assemblies or reading important books by female authors.

### Polite Reminders

- Years 4, 5 and 6 need to bring in their instruments each week for their music lesson
- All children should be reading at home daily and their reading records should be signed
- Pupils should have a named water bottle in school each day

### Bikeability

This half term, both year 4 and year 6 will be doing the bikeability workshops. Bikeability is a great opportunity for the pupils to develop the skills to ride their bikes independently and safely. Please make sure that if your child is participating in Bikeability that they have a working bike and a helmet.



### Uniform and PE Kit

Pupils at Beechwood are expected to wear the correct uniform and PE kit to school each day.

On PE days, children will come to school in their PE kits. This includes a red t-shirt and either black shorts or a black tracksuit (weather dependent). There should be no large labels, logos or patterns.

Further details of our school uniform can be found on our school website.

Each half term we have a focus composer or musician whom we play for our morning and transition music each day. The purpose of this is to expose our pupils to a broad range of classic and current composers whilst also helping to keep the transitions in our day calm. Our composer for spring 2 is Louise Farrenc who composed The Nonent. Can you find some facts about our composer to share with your teacher?





# Picasso Class

Find out what we are learning about this half term

English	This half term our story is 'The Three Little Pigs', this is our Traditional Tale story.. We will then be innovating the story and changing the main character. We will also be retelling our innovated story.
Maths	In maths we will be focusing on numbers up to 10. We will continue looking at 2D shapes, number bonds with numbers up to 10, subitising up to 5
Topic	This half term we will be working on our Geography unit 'Farms'. We will be looking at where we may find a farm, what we may find on a farm and why we have farms.
Science	In science this half term we will be learning about the 'Materials'. Linked with our English Topic 'The Three Little Pigs' we will be looking at different materials and how they may feel or how their textures may be. We will also be looking at the strength of materials and what we think would be a good material to make a house out of.
RE	<p>Our topic in RE this half term is Special Times. We will be continue to focus on what is special to us and sharing our personal experiences and comparing our experiences to what others may find special to them. We will be looking at different religions and looking at what objects they may find to be special, particularly Christianity and Islam. We will also be focusing on key words such as bravery and being thankful.</p> <p>Key Vocab: Personal, Christians, Muslims, Bible, Quran</p>
PE	In PE this half term we will Learning Skills found in Gymnastics, more specifically balance and jumping. We will be working independently and also collaborating with our peers to create short routines including our new learnt skills.
Art	In Art this half term we will be creating art pieces based on our English Topic 'The Three Little Pigs'. We will be continuing our learning on colour mixing, using mixed materials and cutting accurately and carefully using scissors.



# Rosen Class

Find out what we are learning about this half term

English	This half term our story is 'The Tiger that came to tea', this is our Fantasy story and we will be focusing on writing descriptions. We will then be innovating the story and changing the main character. Our focus will then turn to Non-fiction, where we will be writing a recount based on the 'Naughty Bus' story.
Maths	In maths we will begin our 2 <sup>nd</sup> workbook, beginning with a unit on 'Numbers to 40', where we will be writing and counting bigger numbers and comparing numbers to 40 and also finding more or less. We will then move on to addition and subtraction word problems. Finally, we will begin to understand the concepts of multiplication.
Topic	This half term we will be working on our Geography unit 'What is the weather like in the UK?' We will begin by showing on a map which continent we live in. We will be looking at the countries and cities that make up the UK. Then we will be keeping a daily weather record and finding out more about hot and cold places in the UK.
Science	In science this half term we will be learning about the 'Seasons', linking to our Geography topic. We will be naming the 4 seasons and identifying when in the year they occur. We will observing changes across the seasons and observing and describing the weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies.
RE	In RE we will be we learning more about Christianity, about the Church and also looking at Baptism and the ways we belong. Our focus question will be 'How might some people show that they 'belong' to God?' . We will identify symbols, items and people linked to baptism and will reflect on why, in some Christian communities, parents choose to have their baby baptised.
PE	In PE this half term we will Learning 'Invasion Games skills'. The children will develop their throwing and catching skills and also their passing techniques. We will be understanding some of the principles of attacking and defending and apply this to our team games.
RSE	In RSE we will begin with the topic '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. We will then begin our new unit 'Safety and the changing body'. We will be looking at how to respond to adults in different situations.
DT	Inspired by the song, 'Mouse in a windmill', in DT we will be designing and constructing a windmill for a client ( the mouse) to live in. We will explore various types of windmill, how they work and their key features.



# Attenborough Class

Find out what we are learning about this half term

English	To start the term off the children will read a range of traditional tales before creating their own version of a traditional tale. There will be lots of opportunities for independent writing this term. A big focus this term will be on the children's handwriting and spellings. In reading, we will continue to work on how to find information in the text and answer comprehension questions. To help your children at home, please encourage them to read and learn their spellings each week.
Maths	This term we will be learning about the value of money and focusing on answering word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. If you would like to support your child in this area, ask these types of questions - For example I went to the shop and bought 4 boxes of 2 apples. How many apples do I have? These problems can link to their 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
Geography	In Geography we will be exploring the world and focusing our learning on different oceans and landmarks. We will then be connecting our learning to our Science unit and exploring a range of different habitats.
Science	In Science we will be learning about living things and their habitats exploring the components of a habitat and exploring wildlife habitats within the school grounds.
RE	We will be exploring what unites the Christian community and focusing on how we respond to things that really matter to us.
PE	This term year 2 will focus on target games focusing on accuracy and working together within a team. Children will have plenty of opportunity to develop skills of technique, control and self-evaluation identifying ways to evaluate and prove their skills.
RSE	Safety and the changing body - This unit will look at the impact of road safety, medicines how to stay safe online and will begin to introduce the children to the correct vocabulary for body parts.
DT	In DT we are going to look at mechanisms focusing on pivots, levers, and linkages to design a moving creature.



# Pankhurst Class

Find out what we are learning about this half term

English	We will be starting our half term by writing information texts. We will be linking our learning in Geography about the rainforests to write informational texts about different animals, focusing on arranging information into paragraphs and writing different types of sentences. After this, we are going to be writing fantasy stories, using Tuesday by David Weisner to inspire and innovate our own fantasy writing.
Maths	In Maths, we will start by completing our work on money and applying what we have learnt using different calculations to solve word problems. We will then move on to our work on graphs by drawing and interpreting pictographs and bar graphs. As always, we will be continuing to revise and revisit our basic maths skills, particularly times tables.
Geography	In Spring 2, we will be doing a geography unit. This half term we will be exploring: Why are rainforests important to us? Throughout this topic we will be looking at why the world has different climates and biomes, specifically looking at the rainforest and its unique animals, plants and native people. As part of this unit we will be comparing the Amazon Rainforest with our local area.
Science	Our Science topic this half term is magnets! We are going to be investigating how magnets work including what happens when we put magnets together. We will also investigate which materials are attracted to magnets and questioning why this is the case.
RE	This half term in RE, we are learning about Christianity and exploring the question 'What do Christians mean by the Holy Spirit?' this will include learning about how Christians worship the Holy Spirit, particularly during the Pentecost celebrations and considering how people can share their talents and attributes.
PE	In pe, we will be playing Netball- focusing on developing an effective technique for throwing and shooting the ball.
RSE	This half term in RSE, our topic is 'Safety and the Changing Body' we will start by leaning some first aid and what to do in Emergency situations. We are also going to be learning about ways we can stay safe online and in our own lives.
ART	In art we are doing a craft and design unit called 'Fabric of Nature'. This links beautifully with our geography topic as we will be taking inspiration from the rainforest to create repeating patterns using animals and plants on different textiles.
DT	In DT, we will be designing and creating a monitoring device that could be used to monitor an animal. This will involve researching an animal's needs and using special equipment to make a device.
MFL	In French we will be continuing our 'Mon Corps' unit, learning the vocabulary to describe people and parts of their body. We will be focusing on writing simple sentences. We will also recap and continue to practice our numbers in French.



# Hawking Class

Find out what we are learning about this half term

English	In English, the children will continue to work on subordination and innovating on our text 'The Teacher Pleaser Machine'. After this, the children will begin to work on a narrative with a focus on using dialogue and action.
Maths	The children will complete a decimals, money, area and perimeter unit during Spring 2. The children will continue to work on their spellings ready for their multiplication check. It is important that the children spend time on TT Rock Stars.
Geography	In Spring 2, we will be doing a geography unit. This half term we will be exploring: Why are rainforests important to us? Throughout this topic we will be looking at why the world has different climates and biomes, specifically looking at the rainforest and its unique animals, plants and native people. As part of this unit we will be comparing the Amazon Rainforest with our local area.
Science	In Science, the children will cover their sound unit. This unit will look at how sound is created and the children will carry out investigations to prove this.
RE	In RE, the children will learn about Christianity. They will continue to focus on the key question of 'How should we live our lives?' whilst exploring the church and what does 'love your neighbour' really mean?
PE	This half term, the children in Year 3.4 will move onto netball whilst the children I 4.5 will now start their gymnastics unit.
RSE	The Year 4 children will start their unit on safety and the changing body. The children will learn about internet safety, privacy and security, introducing puberty and tobacco.
ART	In art we are doing a craft and design unit called 'Fabric of Nature'. This links beautifully with our geography topic as we will be taking inspiration from the rainforest to create repeating patterns using animals and plants on different textiles.
DT	In DT, we will be designing and creating a monitoring device that could be used to monitor an animal. This will involve researching an animal's needs and using special equipment to make a device.



## Malala Class

English	This half term we will be learning the text 'Varmints' and we will explore the features of an effective setting description. We will have a go at writing two contrasting setting descriptions using all of the features we have learnt.
Maths	In maths, we will begin by focusing on decimals. We will use our learning of fractions to write fractions as decimals, then we will learn how to add, subtract and round decimals. We will then begin our learning on percentages; learning how to write percentages and find percentages.
Topic	During geography lessons, the children will be answering the key question 'why are rainforests important to us?' They will be learning where rainforests are on the globe, what the Amazon rainforest is like, people who live in rainforests and how rainforests are changing.
Science	In science, we will be focusing on materials and their properties. We will investigate thermal conductors and insulators, and explore how effective materials are at conducting electricity. We will also investigate soluble and insoluble materials, and carry out investigations on how to separate mixtures.
RE	Our question in RE this half-term is 'How do people decide what to believe?' We will be focussing on Christianity and the Church. We will explore Christian beliefs and teachings contained in the Apostle's Creed and how shared beliefs unite the world-wide Church.
PE	This term, the children in Year 5 will start their gymnastics lessons. These lessons will focus on synchronisation and canon techniques.
RSE	In RSE, Malala class will be learning about safety and the changing body. We will be discussing how to stay safe online, and the changes the body goes through when growing up.
ART	In art, our topic is 'Fabric of Nature'. We will be linking our art work to our geography unit about rainforests. We will focus on including detail in our work, creating patterns and repeating patterns.

Find out what we are learning about this half term



# Mandela Class

Find out what we are learning about this half term.

English	This half term, Year 6 will be continuing with their unit on Shakespeare. We will be using speech to move action on and convey a character. Our independent writing will be based on using all our knowledge to write a Shakespearean style sequel to Macbeth.
Maths	In maths, we will begin by focussing on ratio before moving on to algebra. We will then begin our learning on area and perimeter, geometry and position and movement.
Topic	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.
Science	In Science, Year 6 will learn how to recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. We will also be learning how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.
RE	This half term, we will be exploring how Christian's mark turning parts in their lives through discussion, role play and independent writing. Throughout the unit, Year 6 will analyse the symbolism of words and actions used within Christian rituals and ceremonies to explore the rites of passage that Christians travel through their journey of life.
PE	This half term, the children will start their tennis lessons. They will focus on the knowledge and skills required to play a tactical game of tennis.
RSE	This half term, we will continue to learn about families and relationships before moving on to 'Citizenship' where we will be Learning about: human rights, food choices and the environment, caring for others, recognising discrimination, valuing diversity and national democracy.
DT	In DT, the children will research existing playground equipment and their different forms, before designing and developing a range of apparatus to meet a list of specified design criteria.