



# Beechwood Primary School



Curriculum Update - Issue 59  
Summer Term 2015 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term



Have you looked at our website?

[www.beechwoodschoolruncorn.co.uk](http://www.beechwoodschoolruncorn.co.uk)

## Show-Time!

To celebrate the end of school year, Year 6 and KS2 will be performing 'Bugsy Malone'. The dates for this are 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> July. Look out for more details in the next few weeks.

## Forest Schools

This  $\frac{1}{2}$  term sees both Class 1 and 6 taking part in forest schools on a Friday afternoon. Old clothes are essential.

## Pre-School

We are getting ready to welcome all our new children to school over the next few weeks. Years 5 are excited to catch a glimpse of their new buddies!



## PE Kits

Please ensure that children have their full kit in school. It should be taken home to be washed on a Friday. Check that trainers still fit! Don't forget hair bobbles!

## Here comes the sun!

As the weather is improving please make sure that the children come with a hat and school safe water bottle. Sun creams can be applied by the children, but must be roll on.

## Sports

22-26<sup>th</sup> June is National Sports Week. We hope to make use of this week to try some new sports and revel in those we already enjoy! Come on sun, play nicely!

## Learning Journeys

The children are looking forward to showing you all their work in early July. Dates available soon.

## Swimming

Class 4 will be completing their swimming lessons this  $\frac{1}{2}$  term on a Wednesday afternoon. Thanks for your continuing support ensuring that the children have their appropriate kits in school.

**Think for yourself, care for others.**

### Class Ones's Topic's

English	This half term we will read fiction and non-fiction books about summer and the seaside. We will write about past experiences of summer holidays. We will be writing summer poems, letters and instructions. Through our writing we will continue to develop our sentences.
Maths	This half term we will continue to recognise, order and write numbers to 20 and beyond. We will be adding and subtracting with bigger numbers to 20. We will be looking at positional words, comparing size and measuring. We will be solving problems in relation to sharing, doubling and halving. We will also be looking at money in the travel agents role play.
Topic	Our topic this half term is 'Summer'. We will continue to watch our plants grow and plant them in our outdoor area. We will be making observations and looking at changes and explain why some things occur with plants and animals. We will be looking forward to our summer holidays, thinking about summer holidays in the past. We will be sharing our experiences of summer holidays and places we have been. We will be packing a suitcase for teddy and explaining our choices. We will be looking at the seaside- then and now.
RE	This half term we will be looking at respect for nature and all life. We will be looking at creation and Noah's ark. We will continue to develop a respect for nature and a responsible attitude to living things.
PE	This half term we will continue to look at movement and control using bats, balls, beanbags, quoits etc. We will be practising for our sports day and we will continue to look at why exercise is important for good health.
PSHCE	This half term we are continuing to look at relationships with each other and feelings. We will also be looking at changes, looking at what we could and couldn't do when we started school and what we can do now. We will be preparing ourselves to be 'big' Year 1s and setting ourselves goals for the future.
Expressive arts	Again this half term there will be lots of creative opportunities. The children will be helping to set up a travel agents role play area using their creativity and will be making resources to go in there. They will make summer scenes and collages and also a rock pool. We will make animals and insects that we see during the summer. Finally we will be designing and making our own sunglasses.

## Class Two's Topics

English	<p>In English this half term we will start by finishing our wow words song, recording a music video and performing for the rest of the school. Once our song is complete, everyone will be able to see how hard we have been working to make our writing interesting using adjectives, conjunctions and adverbs!</p> <p>We will then move on to look at stories set in familiar settings, looking closely at the story of Beegu, an alien who has crash landed on Earth. How would an alien feel experiencing settings such as the school playground for the first time? We will go on to write our own alien crash-landing stories choosing our own familiar settings.</p> <p>We will continue to practise our letter formation using letterjoin to perfect our handwriting and continue with our daily phonics sessions, using our blending and segmenting skills to support our reading and writing in class.</p>
Maths	<p>As the year is coming to an end, we will be wrapping up the fantastic progress we have made so far in maths this year, making sure we have mastered those tricky calculation methods, ready to move on to the next steps in year 2.</p> <p>We will also continue to work on our mental calculations such as our maths monsters and times tables. Make sure to keep practising these as much as possible at home as they will really boost your maths work in class.</p> <p>Lastly, we will be summing up the mathematical concepts that we have worked so hard to grasp throughout the year: fractions; measurements; and movements and turns.</p>
Topic	<p><b>Capitals</b></p> <p>Last half term, we looked closely at our local area studying both the geography and history of Halton. We are now moving on to extend these investigation skills to the wider world. Our focus will be capitals and we will be looking closely at a number of capital cities seeing what they have in common and what is different. We will be looking particularly at London, studying its key human and physical geographical features, as well as finding out about the Great Fire of London and how this has changed and shaped the city. We will then go on to compare London to another European capital city, Rome, as well as non-European capital cities such as Washington D.C. and Beijing, exploring their own histories along the way.</p> <p>In Design and Technology, we will be resuming our work on structures and will continue to use our design, make and evaluate process to complete a project.</p>
Computing	<p>This half term we will be exploring the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore a range of control toys and devices</li> <li>• Begin to develop computational thinking by following instructions to move around a course and creating a series of instructions to move their peers around a course</li> <li>• Explore outcomes when individual buttons are pressed on robots, such as floor turtles and combine these together to draw simple shapes or follow a route.</li> <li>• Understand algorithms as a specific set of instructions.</li> </ul>
Music	<p>To finish the year, we will be reflecting on what we have been listening to and performing throughout the year. Can you remember what our key terms mean? Tempo? Dynamics? Pulse? We will be revisiting pieces of music that we have listened to this year, evaluating them and performing them all over again to find our favourite.</p>
RE	<p>We will continue our theme of Christianity this half term but will be focusing heavily on the features of the church. The children will be exploring a variety of churches and will research the meaning behind different items.</p>
PE	<p>During this half term the children will be taking part in a variety of athletic activities. We will begin to build stamina through circuits and will then focus on individual and team sports such as relay racing and javelin.</p>
PSHCE	<p>This term we will continue with the theme of teamwork. The children will be encouraged to work together to solve a range of problems. Through this topic the children will develop their speaking, listening and enquiry skills.</p>

## Class Three's Topics

Literacy	This half term we are thinking about writing non-chronological reports about nocturnal creatures which will also involve perfecting our research skills using a combination of books and the internet. We will then be challenged to show off our descriptive writing talents as we write about a prominent story character using all of our skills such as similes, personification, metaphors and alliteration. We will also be developing our reading skills as we delve deeper into the meaning behind the text and the author's intentions.
Maths	In maths this half term we will be thinking about problem solving which will involve applying all of our knowledge and skills to solve a variety of challenges. Once we have mastered the practical elements, we will then apply these skills to written questions. Through each of these challenges, we will be learning that working systematically makes our lives a lot easier to solve them! We will also be preparing for the new school year, by blasting our way through our Maths Monsters!
Topic	Wonderful Wacky Weather! We will be exploring the weird world of weather through a range of research and presentations, as well as some practical experiments to create fog, rainbows and wind! We will also be looking at different climates around the world and investigating what impact this has on the people living there.
ICT	Developing ideas and making things happen. Based on our Topic work, we will be creating our own Weather forecast shows using the Apple Macs and programs such as Photo Booth. We will learn how to change and adapt the background to suit what we are talking about whilst creating videos.
RE	The children will spend this term thinking about Special Places and linking it to why the church building and synagogue are special places for certain people.
PE	Athletics: We will be exploring all of the different skills to be successful in the range of sports found in Athletics. This will involve developing our stamina, balance, accuracy when throwing and catching and speed moves. Through practicing each element, we will then be putting them together in a range of games to see how far we have come!
PSHCE	Changes. We will be taking part in lots of p4c (Philosophy for Children) sessions to discuss and debate what changes we may encounter, and how to best deal with each situation. We will also have lots of opportunity to reflect on our own actions, and think about if we handled things in the right way for everyone.

## Class Four's Topics

English	In English this half term we will be learning about explanation texts about pirate boats and create their own explanations on amphibian jeeps. The children will perform sea shanties and explore poems based on sea shanties. The children will write a sequel to the "Jolly Rogers and Ghostly Galleons." They will explore different techniques to describe characters and settings. The children will continue to develop their comprehension skills and being able to answer questions on a variety of text.
Maths	In Maths this half term we will be focusing on addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, data handling, time and shape. The children will be looking at adding and subtracting numbers with up to four digits using the efficient written methods. To identify and estimate numbers using different representations. They will learn to write and calculate mathematical statements for multiplication and division. The children will learn how to draw line graphs, they will consolidate their knowledge on how to read pictogram, bar graphs and time tables. The children will also learn how to recognise, find and write fractions of a discrete set of objects: unit fractions and non-unit fractions with small denominators. Throughout all of these topics the children will be encouraged to solve problems related to these.
Topic	This half term we are focusing on Geography, specifically focusing on Italy. The Children will study Italy and its regions on maps. Explore varied Italian Landscapes through the eyes of tourists, artists and poets. 'Meet' different children from various communes around the country and consider their lives. Taste, cook and write recipes for regional Italian foods. The children will explore the geographical similarities and differences of the regions through the study of human and physical geography.
Science	This half term Year 3 will identify light sources and discuss the Sun. Establish that light is reflected off things that we see and that darkness is an absence of light. Make sundials. Look at the transparency of various materials and the shadows they form and make enquiries about shadows. They will also study the parts of flowering plants and their functions, the conditions affecting plant growth and plants as living things. Investigate how water is transported in plants. Describe plant life cycles, in particular how seeds are formed, dispersed and germinate.
Computing	This half term the children will continue to learn how to use spreadsheets mainly exploring Excel. They will know where to find and open Microsoft Excel, create tables and learn about the basic functions Excel offers. They will learn how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly.
Music	This year Class 4 will learn how to play the flute. Over this half term they will learn how to play a simple tune, reinforce the note 'G', follow a beat and start to independently read music. They will start to understand the terminology tempo, dynamics and pitch in relation to music. The children will also start to develop confidence to play in small groups in front of the class both using the flute and singing.
RE	During this unit the children will continue to exploring the key practices and beliefs in Islam. The children will learn that Allah is the Islamic name for God and that Muslims believe there is one God and that Muhammad is his messenger. They will also learn that the Qur'an is the sacred text for Muslims, and that they believe it is the word of Allah as revealed to Muhammad via the angel Gabriel.
PE	This half term the children will play competitive games such as cricket. They will start to apply basic principles suitable for striking and fielding as well as hand-eye coordination. The children will continue to go swimming developing their confidence and technique in the water. Focusing on front crawl and breaststroke.
French	This half term the children will continue to explore the patterns and sounds of the language through rhymes and songs. They will start to speak in sentences using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structure. They will broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material. During this term they will also learn how to describe people, places and things orally.
PSHCE	This half term the children will continue to thinking about being a good friend. We will focus on developing children's knowledge, understanding and skills in three key social and emotional aspects of learning: empathy, managing feelings (with a focus on anger) and social skills.

## Class Five's Topics

English	<p>'The Abominables'</p> <p>In English we are using an exciting text to base our work on. Through the story we will adventure through a range of different writing genres - both fact and fiction. Other written work will be based around our on-going study of Europe. A key feature will be persuasive texts and the ability to create an image with words alone!</p>
Maths	<p>In Maths this half term we will continue to consolidate all four written methods. We will be spending time focussing on shape, space and measures - angles, graphs and coordinates. We will put the finishing touches to our maths song and creating a video. Needless to say, we will not forget the difference between area and perimeter! Again, we will be really trying hard to ensure we know our times tables, out of order, up to 12x12. Maths monsters need constant practise too.</p>
Topic	<p>Italy</p> <p>This half term we are heading South of France and exploring the cultural and geographical features of Italy - from historic Rome to watery Venice and the presence of a volcano! We hope to create our own pizzas, pasta and sculptures that Michelangelo would be proud of!</p> <p>Science - Earth and Space / Electricity</p> <p>We will be continue our exploration of what lies beyond our own planet and the solar system Earth belongs to. We will be investigating the different planets, along with the power of the sun and the effects of the moon. Towards the end of the term we will also have the chance to experiment with electricity.</p>
Computing	<p>The children will be revisiting 'code'. We will investigate sequencing and commands in order to create simple programs. As well as using code.org, the children will manipulate 'Scratch' and 'Light bot'.</p>
Music	<p>The children will have their final term of brass lessons. It is clear to see who is putting in the hours at home! Some children are making super progress reading their music.</p>
RE	<p>Expression of Faith through Art</p> <p>The children will continue to investigate how people show and reflect their religious beliefs in a diverse number of ways. We will look at paintings, artefacts, dance etc. and consider their religious significance.</p>
PE	<p>Athletics</p> <p>In preparation for sports day, we will be learning a range of skills to apply across the field of athletics. The differences between a sprint and pace for long-distance, throwing skills, jumping and teamwork. Lots of opportunities for the children to find their personal strength. Please remember hats, sun cream and a <b>school</b> water bottle.</p>
PSHCE	<p>Changes</p> <p>At the end of a busy year, the topic speaks for itself! The children will be looking at the concept of change in its widest form and also specifically what it means for them. How have they changed over the last year? Where will they be in twelve months time?</p>

## Class Six's Topics

Literacy	This half term the children will be looking at a range of drama based activities including our long awaited play announcement 'Bugsy Malone' The children will be looking at the play script for Bugsy Malone and the features that can be identified. There will then be a big focus on portraying the characters in this play in the way that they are intended. The children will also be working on their style of writing for different genres based on our fairground and theme park topic. The children will be producing persuasive letters in order to convince Mrs Kidd to let us visit a theme park and will be producing a newspaper article imagining that Runcorn have been granted planning permission for an extraordinary theme park. The children will really be able to show off what they have learnt about writing over this year during these extended pieces.
Maths	During maths this half term the children will be looking at a range of aspects which they will continue to secure before they get ready to leave for high school. We will mainly be looking at securing the number aspects including developing all children's knowledge of the 4 methods of calculation.
Topic	<b>Theme Parks</b> Hold on tight! Our topic this half term is theme parks, the children will be looking at the history of fairgrounds and theme parks to see how they have changed. We will be designing and planning our own theme park of Beechwood as well as looking at the costings involved. Children will be using their Dt electrical control to create their own rides and will also be using mechano in their designing and planning stages. The children will be spending time writing in a range of genres linked to theme parks starting with a persuasive advert for fairground foods. The children will be making and eating a range of popular past and present fairground foods.
Computing	This half term there will be a big focus on the continued use of iMovie to ensure that all children have a secure knowledge base. The children will be creating their own presentations about famous inventors linked to fairgrounds and how they have impacted the change in the industry. The children will also be creating their own presentations linked to their memories of Beechwood. Look out for some of this as you may see these memories in the leaver's assembly (Thursday 16th July 2015 in the morning)
RE	<b>The importance of Muhammed to Muslims</b> In this unit the children learn about the life and teachings of Muhammed and develop their understanding of why he is significant for Muslims. They explore the idea of role models and how Muhammed provides a role model for Muslims. They explore the concept of revelation and religious experience, including the importance of quiet contemplation.
PE	<b>Tennis</b> This half term the children will be learning the skills of the more independent sport of tennis. The children will initially be playing games to ensure that they have good hand-eye co-ordination and reaction time. As a class we will then look at the movements of tennis including forehand and back hand. After this we will look at game situations and how to score in a game of tennis hopefully helping the children to run their own games too. <b>Forest Schools</b> As the children are well aware and very excited for, this half term we will be participating in forest schools on a Thursday afternoon for the next 5 weeks. Please ensure that you provide your child with appropriate clothing, which you are happy to get dirty, to wear during these sessions.
PSHCE	<b>Good to be me</b> This half term the children will be reminiscing over their school days at Beechwood. They will be thinking about how they have changed since they were younger and the person that they wish to be as they continue onto high school. We will look at different personalities and the importance of being ourselves and making independent choices.
Music	<b>Reading music and notation</b> This half term the children will begin to look at the art of reading music further. They have been starting to look at this during the year and are now going to focus on this more heavily to allow them to play music from the notation they have been given. The children will be playing a range of practical games to help them learn and will also be creating their own mnemonic to help them remember the order of the notes. This will help the children continue to become confident for The Heath and allow them to take all opportunities available to them.