



Beechwood Primary School



Have you looked at our website?
www.beechwoodschoolruncorn.co.uk

Curriculum Update - Issue 63
Spring Term 2016 - 2nd Half
Term

Welcome

This half term we would like to welcome back Miss Wensely. She will be joining Mrs Forshaw in Class 4, as a trainee teacher, for the remainder of the school year.

Dates for your diary

4th March - Family Fireworks
21st/22nd March - Parents Evening
24th March - School Closes for Easter Weekend and re opens on 29th March.
1st April - School Closes for half term and re opens on 18th April.

PE Kits

Please ensure that your child brings their full PE kit into school on a Monday. Kits will be sent home with the children on Friday to be washed. Please check your child has spare socks in their back, a hair bobble (for any child with long hair) and trainers that fit!

Forest Schools

This half term the children in Year 2 will have their Forest School Sessions. Mrs Whitlow will deliver the sessions on Tuesday afternoons.
Don't forget waterproofs!

Swimming

Swimming lessons will continue for the children in Y6. Thanks for your continuing support ensuring that the children have their appropriate kits in school. Remember, one-piece girls swim suits and fitted swim shorts for boys.

PTA

'Family Fireworks', will take place on Friday 4th March - letters will be sent out soon! We have joined 'easyfundraising.co.uk' for a simple way to donate to the PTA when shopping online. You shop via their link and they donate a percentage of what you've spent to our PTA.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter, @ptabeechwood to keep up to date on all that is happening.

A huge thank you to all that supported the Sleepover. The children had a fantastic time and we raised over £900.

Think for yourself, care for others.

Reception

Literacy	This half term we will continue to develop our sentence writing skills by focusing on finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. We have started to look at some tricky words that can't be spelt phonetically and the children are using these in their work successfully. Our topic is pirates so we will be writing messages to go in bottles and writing pirate fact files.
Mathematics	We will continue to develop the children's knowledge of numbers and their formation, as well as learning to estimate small groups of numbers. We will also be looking at 2d and 3d shapes as well as positional language. This half term we will also be incorporating a lot of problem solving into our math's sessions.
Physical development	Through our P.E. lessons the children will act out some of the jobs carried out on a pirate ship, they will practice their balancing skills by walking the 'plank' and their throwing skills by 'firing the cannon'.
Knowledge and understanding	This half term the children will get the opportunity to design and make a pirate ship to test for whether it floats or sinks. The children will also be using the beebots to navigate treasure maps and exploring erupting volcanoes.
Communication and language	Through books the children will learn of different pirate phrases and will write them in speech bubbles and incorporate them into their role play. We will sing a number of pirate songs and read pirate stories and predict what may happen next. The children will also follow simple instructions to make a pirate hat.
Personal and social	The children have enjoyed making treasure chests over the half term break and so far the children have shared some lovely special items from home. We will also consider the different roles and responsibilities that the pirates had and look at the comparisons within our classroom.
Expressive arts and design	This half term we will use paints and different sized brushes to paint a pirate and discuss how we might add detail. We will also make a treasure island and discuss what we might find on a desert island. Hopefully this half term we will be able to venture outside and make a large scale pirate ship in small groups.

Year 1

English	This half term children will be looking at the story of "Farmer Duck" we will find out about the different characters in the story, look closely at the plot and engage in role play to act parts of the story out. We will also begin to look at reading comprehension activities and children will become familiar with answer questions about a text by picking out the key parts of information.
Maths	This half term, the children will be using their knowledge to solve a range of new problems, for example, understanding how Fact Families can help us solve trickier real life problems. We will also be developing our understanding of addition and subtraction and become more familiar working with number up to 100.
Topic	In this unit (Old Macdonald), children learn about how humans and other animals are born, grow and change, and what we need to survive and be healthy. The children will classify different kinds of animal babies, learn about the basic needs that are shared by humans and animals, and research the differing needs of animals within our care. Focusing on our own experiences, children will explore the need for humans to eat a varied diet, to keep themselves clean, and to take regular exercise. Throughout the half term, the children will be encouraged to make positive choices that contribute to a healthy lifestyle.
RE	This half term children will continue to look at a range of different parables and become familiar with the moral behind these stories. We will also begin to look at the Easter story and the reason why we celebrate it.
PE	This half term the children will practice their skills of bouncing, throwing and catching through a range of striking and fielding activities. Children will begin to understand that when working with a partner they can work both cooperatively and also compete against their partner. Children will play a range of games using both of these techniques. Children will be able to invent a simple fielding game which they will then teach to their partner.
PSHCE	This half term the focus is Relationships. The children will develop their skills to responded appropriately in different situations involving pride and jealousy. They will also think about what it means to be a good friend and identify how they can be a better friend to those around them.

Year 2

English	This half term children will be looking at the story of "Farmer Duck" we will find out about the different characters in the story, look closely at the plot and engage in role play to act parts of the story out. We will also begin to look at reading comprehension activities and children will become familiar with answer questions about a text by picking out the key parts of information.
Maths	This half term, the children will be using their knowledge to solve a range of new problems, for example, understanding how Fact Families can help us solve trickier real life problems. It's nothing new! We will also be developing our understanding of measure and recognising different units and when they would be best used. New activities and games have been set on I am Learning and My Maths related to this half terms topics. Please encourage your child to work through them over the next month or so.
Topic	In this unit (Old Macdonald), children learn about how humans and other animals are born, grow and change, and what we need to survive and be healthy. The children will classify different kinds of animal babies, learn about the basic needs that are shared by humans and animals, and research the differing needs of animals within our care. Focusing on our own experiences, children will explore the need for humans to eat a varied diet, to keep themselves clean, and to take regular exercise. Throughout the half term, the children will be encouraged to make positive choices that contribute to a healthy lifestyle.
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PSHCE	This half term the focus is Relationships. The children will develop their skills to responded appropriately in different situations involving pride and jealousy. They will also think about what it means to be a good friend and identify how they can be a better friend to those around them.

Year 3

English	In English this half term the children continue reading our class text 'Krinklekrax' by Philip Ridley. We will begin to write our own stories based on the text and will use what we have learnt from the structure of the book to create our own Monsters and Monster stories. The children will continue to develop their understanding of punctuation and grammar through our SPAG sessions. We will continue with our weekly spelling tests and will focus on the statutory words for Y3. Alongside this the children will be introduced to Magical Spelling - Watch this space!
Maths	In Maths this half term the children will further develop their understanding of Place Value. We will look at problem solving based on this and will focus on developing the children's reasoning skills. We will continue to look at the more formal methods used for calculation and again will apply these to wider maths. Alongside this the children will be developing their mental calculation skills: counting on and back in 10's, 50's and 100's as well as recalling facts for their 3,4 and 8 times tables. Please visit our class VLE page for ways to support your child in their learning.
Topic	<p><u>Romans</u></p> <p>Now that we know where the Romans came from and how they came to invade, we will discover what life was like in Roman Britain. We will look at the rebellion of Boudicca and explore a typical Roman town. Along the way, we will also find out about Roman gods and how they were worshipped.</p> <p>This half term we will also focus on the teaching of Design Technology, the children will be making their own catapults!</p>
Science	<p><u>Light</u></p> <p>This half term the children will be exploring the topic of Light. The children will be taught to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light. • notice that light is reflected from surfaces. • recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes • recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by a solid object. • find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.
Computing	This half term the children will continue to look at animation. After studying early forms of animation last half term the children are now ready to begin creating their own plasticine animations based on the story Krinklekrax.
Music	In music this term the children will continue to practise their brass instrument. The children will begin to learn how to read musical notation and will look at performing as part of a group.
PE	This half term the children will be taking part in net/wall activities. We will begin by focusing on tennis skills.
RE	In RE we will be looking at sacred texts, taking what we have learned about the Qur'an and comparing and contrasting with sacred texts from other religions.
Mandarin	我的宠物 - wǒ de chǒng wù. In Mandarin this half term, we will be talking about pets. We will learn to tell someone which pets we have at home (or would like to have) and also how to describe them.
PSHCE	The children will be learning about 'Going for Goals' this half term. They will focus on what identifying goals and looking at ways to achieve these.

Class 4 Year 4

English	<p><u>Krindlekrax</u></p> <p>In English, we will continue to read Krindlekrax and learn more about this mysterious monster and how he came to live beneath Lizard Street. We will examine different information texts in order to present some facts about the monsters that we created last half term and will even move on to write a descriptive piece about a terrifying encounter!</p>
Maths	<p>We will begin this half term by revisiting measure, building on our knowledge of length and using this to convert between different units of length. We will also be looking at time and capacity. We will then return to fractions investigating how this links with money, and will continue to further our knowledge of decimals.</p>
Topic	<p><u>Romans</u></p> <p>Now that we know where the Romans came from and how they came to invade, we will discover what life was like in Roman Britain. We will look at the rebellion of Boudicca and explore a typical Roman town. Along the way, we will also find out about Roman gods and how they were worshipped. This half term we will also focus on the teaching of Design Technology, the children will be making their own catapults!</p>
Science	<p>The children in Y4 will be learning about States of Matter, where they will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases • observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C) • identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature
Computing	<p>This half term the children will continue to look at animation. After studying early forms of animation last half term the children are now ready to begin creating their own plasticine animations based on the story Krindlekrax.</p>
Music	<p>In music this term the children will continue with their external flute tuition.</p>
PE	<p>This half term the children will be taking part in net/wall activities. We will begin by focusing on tennis skills.</p>
RE	<p>In RE we will be looking at sacred texts, taking what we have learned about the Qur'an and comparing and contrasting with sacred texts from other religions.</p>
Mandarin	<p>我的宠物 - wǒ de chǒng wù. In Mandarin this half term, we will be talking about pets. We will learn to tell someone which pets we have at home (or would like to have) and also how to describe them.</p>
PSHCE	<p>The children will be learning about 'Going for Goals' this half term. They will focus on what identifying goals and looking at ways to achieve these.</p>

Class 5 Year 4

English	<p><u>Krindlekrax</u></p> <p>In English, we will continue to read Krindlekrax and learn more about this mysterious monster and how he came to live beneath Lizard Street. We will examine different information texts in order to present some facts about the monsters that we created last half term and will even move on to write a descriptive piece about a terrifying encounter!</p>
Maths	<p>We will begin this half term by revisiting measure, building on our knowledge of length and using this to convert between different units of length. We will also be looking at time and capacity. We will then return to fractions investigating how this links with money, and will continue to further our knowledge of decimals.</p>
Topic	<p>Now that we know where the Romans came from and how they came to invade, we will discover what life was like in Roman Britain. We will look at the rebellion of Boudicca and explore a typical Roman town. Along the way, we will also find out about Roman gods and how they were worshipped. In art we will continue to create our very own catapults, roman shields and mini Colosseum. We will also be exploring different drawing techniques; experimenting with line, tone, pattern and shading in order to develop our drawing skills. We will use what we learn to create our own artistic drawings.</p>
Science	<p>The children in Y4 will be learning about States of Matter, where they will: compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C) identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.</p>
Computing	<p>Our computing topic will be linked to our sacred texts topic in RE. We will be looking at Scratch and how we can use this program to create our own sacred texts quiz.</p>
Music	<p>This Term Class 5 will continue to either learn the flute or play in the orchestra. They will perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. They will also learn how to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others.</p>
PE	<p>This half term the children will develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance through gymnastics. They will compare their performances with previous ones and demonstrate improvement to achieve their personal best.</p>
RE	<p>In RE we will be looking at sacred texts, taking what we have learned about the Qur'an and comparing and contrasting with sacred texts from other religions.</p>
Mandarin	<p>我的宠物 - wǒ de chǒng wù. In Mandarin this half term, we will be talking about pets. We will learn to tell someone which pets we have at home (or would like to have) and also how to describe them.</p>
PSHCE	<p>The children will be thinking about what is needed for a healthy lifestyle. The children will develop their understanding of how to maintain a healthy lifestyle in terms of nutrition and exercise and use this knowledge to reflect on their current lifestyle, setting themselves simple goals.</p>

Year 5

English	Roof Toppers :In English, we will continue to Roof Toppers and learn more about Sophie and her adventure to Paris. We will examine different information texts in order to present some facts about extreme sports. We will also recite poems about train journeys to then create our own moving on to writing a mini story about a mysterious button.
Maths	We will begin this half term by looking at decimal equivalents for halves, quarters, fifths, tenths and hundredths. Methods used include chunking to divide decimals. We will then revise 2-place decimals and move onto introducing 3-place decimals. Mental multiplication and division by 10, 100, 1000. We will then look at Roman numerals to 1000 (M) and recognise years written in Roman numerals. Finally we will look at percentages and understand that they are parts of 100 moving on using this knowledge to find simple percentages.
Topic	Now that we know where the Romans came from and how they came to invade, we will discover what life was like in Roman Britain. We will look at the rebellion of Boudicca and explore a typical Roman town. Along the way, we will also find out about Roman gods and how they were worshipped. In art we will continue to create our very own catapults, roman shields and mini Colosseum. We will also be exploring different drawing techniques; experimenting with line, tone, pattern and shading in order to develop our drawing skills. We will use what we learn to create our own artistic drawings.
Science	This term Class Five will revise the three states of matter and properties of materials. Introduce further properties: solubility and thermal conductivity. We will also Separate materials using a range of methods and understand that some changes are irreversible.
Computing	Our computing topic will be linked to our sacred texts topic in RE. We will be looking at Scratch and how we can use this program to create our own sacred texts quiz.
Music	This Term Class 5 will continue to either learn the flute or play in the orchestra. They will perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. They will also learn how to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others.
PE	This half term the children will develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance through gymnastics. They will compare their performances with previous ones and demonstrate improvement to achieve their personal best.
RE	In RE we will be looking at sacred texts, taking what we have learned about the Qur'an and comparing and contrasting with sacred texts from other religions.
Mandarin	我的宠物 - wǒ de chǒng wù. In Mandarin this half term, we will be talking about pets. We will learn to tell someone which pets we have at home (or would like to have) and also how to describe them.
PSHCE	The children will be thinking about what is needed for a healthy lifestyle. The children will develop their understanding of how to maintain a healthy lifestyle in terms of nutrition and exercise. They understand that they have a level of responsibility over their own health and wellbeing. They use this knowledge to reflect on their current lifestyle and set themselves simple goals for making healthy choices.

Year 6

English	<u>Rooftoppers</u> by Katherine Rundell :This half term we are continuing to look at the book 'Rooftoppers' by Katherine Rundell. The children are really enjoying this book and have spent lots of time looking at comprehension of this text. The children will be focusing on non-fictional writing as the characters have now left to visit Paris, we will be creating guides to Paris and writing about different tourist attractions which may be found there. The children will continue to look at different elements of SPaG and will have a ig focus on using magical spelling effectively.
Maths	This half term we have a focus within our maths lessons on handling data, especially using pie charts effectively. The children will link this knowledge to fractions and percentages. We will continue to work on applying the children's mathematical knowledge to word problems and questions, where they can show that they can apply the skills that they have learnt. The children must continue to practice their maths monsters in order to help their quick calculation methods in this area.
Science	Electricity:This half term the children will be continuing to develop their understanding of creating circuits using a range of materials, the children will look at the symbols for each of the components and compare when circuits are changed what affect this has on the bulbs etc.
Topic	Romans : Now that we know where the Romans came from and how they came to invade, we will discover what life was like in Roman Britain. We will look at the rebellion of Boudicca and explore a typical Roman town. Along the way, we will also find out about Roman gods and how they were worshipped.In art we will be exploring different drawing techniques; experimenting with line, tone, pattern and shading in order to develop our drawing skills. We will use what we learn to create our own artistic drawings.
Computing	Animation :This half term the children will be developing their animation skills. They will be using a programme called monkeyjam which will allow them to create a short animation video based on the topic of Romans.
Music	Sound Start The children will continue to practise a range of skills during their music lessons, they will work on developing their skills playing as a band where different instruments play different parts of the music.
PE	Gymnastics: This half term the children will be developing their gymnastics skills and vocabulary looking at symmetrical and asymmetrical balances, which they will then use to create routines using apparatus and travelling steps. Swimming During their swimming sessions the children will develop their ability to swim unaided. They will explore the different swimming strokes, focusing on breathing techniques and body positioning in the water. Their personal water skills will be enhanced through a range of floatation techniques.
RE	In RE we will be looking at sacred texts. We will discuss what makes a sacred text and how we can look after these and we will be taking what we have learned about the Qur'an comparing and contrasting this with sacred texts from other religions.
Mandarin	我的宠物 - wǒ de chǒng wù. In Mandarin this half term, we will be talking about pets. We will learn to tell someone which pets we have at home (or would like to have) and also how to describe them.
PSHCE	This half term the children will focus on relationships. The children will look at all of the good things about them as an individual, changes in relationships and understanding other people's views.

