



## Beechwood Primary School



Curriculum Update - Issue 62  
Spring Term 2016 - 1st Half Term

Have you looked at our website?

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

### Welcome/Goodbye

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Miss Bryan who will be teaching YR. We would also like to say welcome to Paige who has joined our Y6 class and goodbye to Pedro who is leaving us to return to Spain.

### Bags

Just to remind you that all school bags must fit inside the children's trays, with a P.E bag to hang. Pencil cases are not required!

### 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! Remember to bring in warm layers during winter.

### Happy New Year!

The staff at Beechwood would like to wish you all a very happy New Year.

### Swimming

Year 6 will have 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. Remember, one-piece girls swim suits and fitted swim shorts for boys.

### Sleepover

After the success of the last sleepover we will be holding another one on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January. This is a fun filled evening of activities, films and popcorn!

### Forest Schools

This half term the children in Y4/5 will have their forest School sessions. Don't forget waterproofs!

Thanks to all of the parents who helped out during our Panto trip to see Aladdin. The children had a great time!

Think for yourself, care for others.

## Reception - Superheroes

<b>Literacy</b>	This half term we will continue to become familiar with how letters of the alphabet are formed. We will also continue to segment words to support writing and will begin to move on to writing short sentences using these skills. As we are focusing on super heroes the children will get the opportunity to see some comic strips and develop their describing skills.
<b>Mathematics</b>	Whilst we will continue to support children in recognising and forming their numbers to 20 we will also look more at adding two numbers together, subtracting one number from another, finding one more and one less than a number as well as doubling and halving numbers. We will also be developing the children's problem solving abilities.
<b>Physical development</b>	The children will be engaging with superhero training, they will experiment how to move around in different ways like the different superheroes, they will also learn how to throw and catch, balance and jump like superheroes.
<b>Knowledge and understanding</b>	The children will be developing their 'super' senses and descriptive vocabulary, recapping on ice, how it melts and how we can speed this process up, as well as heading outside to look at the properties of rocks. We will also be looking at the similarities and differences in a variety of materials as we help Batman to find a new cape after losing his last one!
<b>Communication and language</b>	We will watch some superhero clips and will challenge the children with 'how' and 'why' questions about what they have watched. The children will be encouraged to make predictions and talk about why they like or dislike the clips.
<b>Personal and social</b>	This half term the children will have the opportunity to think about what their 'super' qualities are, what do they like about themselves and what their abilities are. We will also think about other children and how we can be a 'super' friend.
<b>Expressive arts and design</b>	The children will have plenty of opportunities this half term to develop their skills in the creative area. We will be making superhero masks that they can wear whilst they role play, logos/badges that they can use to pretend they are the different super heroes, superhero watches to turn themselves into a different creatures, shields to protect themselves from the bad guys and their own secret hideouts! The children will also get the chance to make their own superhero theme tune to move around to.



## Class Two's Topics

<b>English</b>	<p>In English we will be investigating a Julia Donaldson book called Jack and the Flumflum tree. The children will be encouraged to predict the stories plot and wonder why the character has taken certain objects on his journey with him. They will be encouraged to use the Thinking Hats and make predictions whilst backing up their arguments. They will also learn a range of performance poems and then write their own based on the story.</p> <p>This half term the children will also be extending their knowledge about spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p>In Maths this half term we will be thinking about naming 2D and 3D shapes and talking about their properties. We will also look at fractions and children will be asked to find a half and a quarter of different shapes and objects.</p> <p>Later on in the term we will begin to look at measures and children will be asked to solve a number of problems to do with length, time and weight.</p>
<b>Topic</b>	<p>Back to the Future! This half term we will be taking a look back at our own lives and how we have changed as well as looking at how things have changed in history and comparing to today. What can the children remember from their living memories? What are the teacher's earliest memories? Do the children know what a cassette tape is? What do they predict the future to be like?</p> <p>We will also continue our scientific research as we investigate lots of new facts about plants and how they grow - this may link to our English book as we investigate what the Flumflum tree is and where it might grow best!</p>
<b>RE</b>	<p>This half term we will be learning all about Parables and what they mean. We will be reading and listening to a range of Parables from the Bible and discussing what we think the real meaning of the stories are. Is there anything that we can learn from these parables?</p>
<b>PE</b>	<p>Games - This half term we will be utilising the skills of rugby to improve our throwing, catching and understanding of tactics. We will learn the key aspects of the game and hopefully put them altogether towards some tag rugby games at the end of the half term. These are all skills which we will be able to apply to lots of other team games!</p>
<b>PSHCE</b>	<p>Drugs Education - In this topic the children will be looking at their own lifestyles, they will talk about how to stay safe and healthy. We will talk about how it feels when we are unhealthy and ill, when it is ok to take medicines, who can administer the medicines. The children will also decide when it is not ok to take medicines.</p>

## Class Three's Topics

<b>English</b>	<p>In English we will be investigating a Julia Donaldson book called Jack and the Flumflum tree. The children will be encouraged to predict the stories plot and wonder why the character has taken certain objects on his journey with him. They will be encouraged to use the Thinking Hats and make predictions whilst backing up their arguments. They will also learn a range of performance poems and then write their own based on the story.</p> <p>This half term the children will also be extending their knowledge about spelling, punctuation and grammar so be prepared for them to question you about Nouns, Verbs and Adjectives!</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p>In Maths this half term we will be thinking about number and number facts, odd and even numbers, multiplications facts in the 2's, 5's and 10 times tables, doubling and halving, time, 2D shapes and symmetry and money. The children must continue to learn their number monsters to help them to work out problems as quickly as possible and they will also need to begin to think about how they record their answers to questions.</p> <p>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.</p>
<b>Topic</b>	<p>Back to the Future! This half term we will be taking a look back at our own lives and how we have changed as well as looking at how things have changed in history and comparing to today. What can the children remember from their living memories? What are the teacher's earliest memories? Do the children know what a cassette tape is? What do they predict the future to be like?</p> <p>We will also continue our scientific research as we investigate lots of new facts about plants and how they grow - this may link to our English book as we investigate what the Flumflum tree is and where it might grow best!</p>
<b>RE</b>	<p>This half term we will be learning all about Parables and what they mean. We will be reading and listening to a range of Parables from the Bible and discussing what we think the real meaning of the stories are. Is there anything that we can learn from these parables?</p>
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<b>PSHCE</b>	<p>Drugs Education - In this topic the children will be looking at their own lifestyles, they will talk about how to stay safe and healthy. We will talk about how it feels when we are unhealthy and ill, when it is ok to take medicines, who can administer the medicines. The children will also decide when it is not ok to take medicines.</p>



## Year Three's Topics

English	In English this half term the children will begin to study our new class text 'Krindlekrax' by Philip Ridley. They will look at the author's use of language and will start to make predictions about the story. The children will focus on writing diary entries, newspaper reports and information booklets. We will continue with our weekly spelling tests and will focus on the statutory words for Y3. The children will continue to develop their understanding of punctuation and grammar through our SPAG sessions.
Maths	In Maths this half term we will continue to learn formal methods for multiplication and division. We will also be applying these methods to aid our problem solving. This half term we will also look at measures including; time, length, weight and money and will start to explore fractions, counting in tenths and adding fractions with the same denominator.
Topic	<u>Romans</u> Our new topic for this term is the Romans, looking at the rise of the mighty Roman Empire and their impact on our country. We will be discovering the story of Romulus and Remus and how Rome was founded before moving on to look at Roman traditions and culture. In Art the children will focus on the work of British artists. They will use a range of media to recreate work by artists such as Paula Rego and will use their work as inspiration to develop their own pieces.
Computing	This half term the children will begin to look at animation. We will study the history of animation and will begin by focusing on the planning side of animation before moving on to create our own.
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 gymnastics. The children will revisit basic gymnastic shapes before learning a range of balances. The children will be expected to perform a sequence of moves during both floor and apparatus work.
RE	This term the children will continue to study the religion of Islam. They will learn that the Qur'an (Koran) is the holy book of Islam which Muslims believe to be the actual words of Allah. During this topic we will focus on how the Qur'an is a collection of signs of Allah's existence and instructions for how Muslims should live their lives.
Mandarin	一二三! In Mandarin, we are moving on to look at numbers. We will learn to count all the way to 100 before using this vocabulary to ask and say our age. We will also be looking at Chinese New Year which is coming up on February 8 <sup>th</sup> .
PSHCE	The children will be learning about New Beginnings this half term. They will focus on what makes a good friend and will begin to understand their own and others emotions. We will identify and celebrate our gifts and talents and look at how we can develop these further.

## Class 4 Year Four's Topics

English	<p><u>Krindlekrax</u></p> <p>We will be starting our new book, <i>Krindlekrax</i>, this half term. This is a story about a monster terrorizing Lizard street and the hunt for a hero to stop it! We will be looking at poetry about monsters in January, creating our own monsters and writing a poem to describe it. We will then move on to look at newspaper reports, reporting on the events that unfold on Lizard Street.</p>
Maths	<p>In maths this half term we will recap our hard work on the four operations before using this knowledge to begin to tackle word problems, choosing the correct method to use and checking our answers carefully. We will also be working hard on our times tables and number facts so keep working hard on those maths monsters at home!</p>
Topic	<p><u>Romans</u></p> <p>Our new topic for this term is the Romans, looking at the rise of the mighty Roman Empire and their impact on our country. We will be discovering the story of Romulus and Remus and how Rome was founded before moving on to look at Roman traditions and culture.</p> <p>In Art the children will focus on the work of British artists. They will use a range of media to recreate work by artists such as Paula Rego and will use their work as inspiration to develop their own pieces.</p>
Computing	<p>This half term the children will begin to look at animation. We will study the history of animation and will begin by focusing on the planning side of animation before moving on to create our own.</p>
Music	<p>The children will continue with their flute tuition where they will develop their ability to read notation and will learn to play as part of a group.</p>
PE	<p>This half term the children will be taking part in gymnastics. The children will revisit basic gymnastic shapes before learning a range of balances. The children will be expected to perform a sequence of moves during both floor and apparatus work.</p>
RE	<p>This term the children will continue to study the religion of Islam. They will learn that the Qur'an (Koran) is the holy book of Islam which Muslims believe to be the actual words of Allah. During this topic we will focus on how the Qur'an is a collection of signs of Allah's existence and instructions for how Muslims should live their lives.</p>
Mandarin	<p>— 二 三! In Mandarin, we are moving on to look at numbers. We will learn to count all the way to 100 before using this vocabulary to ask and say our age. We will also be looking at Chinese New Year which is coming up on February 8<sup>th</sup>.</p>
PSHCE	<p>The children will be learning about New Beginnings this half term. They will focus on what makes a good friend and will begin to understand their own and others emotions. We will identify and celebrate our gifts and talents and look at how we can develop these further.</p>



## Class 5 Year Four's Topics

English	<p><b>Krindlekrax</b></p> <p>We will be starting our new book, <i>Krindlekrax</i>, this half term. This is a story about a monster terrorizing Lizard street and the hunt for a hero to stop it! We will be looking at poetry about monsters in January, creating our own monsters and writing a poem to describe it. We will then move on to look at newspaper reports, reporting on the events that unfold on Lizard Street.</p>
Maths	<p>In maths this half term we will recap our hard work on the four operations before using this knowledge to begin to tackle word problems, choosing the correct method to use and checking our answers carefully. We will also be working hard on our times tables and number facts so keep working hard on those maths monsters at home!</p>
Topic	<p>Our new topic for this term is the Romans, looking at the rise of the mighty Roman Empire and their impact on our country. We will be discovering the story of Romulus and Remus and how Rome was founded before moving on to look at Roman traditions and culture.</p> <p>In art and DT we will be creating our very own catapults, roman shields and mini Colosseum.</p>
Computing	<p>In computing we will be developing music using Garageband. We will explore how musicians use music software and how we can create and adapt existing sounds to make our own compositions.</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>It is Class 5's turn for Forest School. They will have the opportunity to explore the 'Dell', make knots, develop team work and communication skills, create a den using the skills they have learnt and learn the safety rules of having a fire.</p>
RE	<p>We are continuing to learn about Islam in RE. We have learned about the importance of Muhammad and the features of a mosque and are moving on to the role of the Qur'an in a Muslim's life. We will be discovering what it teaches and will even compose our own Qur'an rap.</p>
Mandarin	<p>一二三! In Mandarin, we are moving on to look at numbers. We will learn to count all the way to 100 before using this vocabulary to ask and say our age. We will also be looking at Chinese New Year, which is coming up on February 8<sup>th</sup>.</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. 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.</p>

## Year Five's Topics

English	<p><b><u>Roof Toppers</u></b></p> <p>We will be starting our new book, <i>Roof Toppers</i>, this half term. This is a story about a baby girl, named Sophie, found floating in a cello case upon the English Channel trying to find her mother. But will she find her in time? We will be looking at poetry about storms in January, as well as creating our own information text on lightning. We will then move on to look at newspaper reports, reporting on the events that unfolded that terrible night Sophie was left drifting away in a cello case.</p>
Maths	<p>In maths this half term we will recap our hard work on the four operations before using this knowledge to begin to tackle word problems, choosing the correct method to use and checking our answers carefully. We will also be working hard on our times tables and number facts so keep working hard on those maths monsters at home!</p>
Topic	<p>Our new topic for this term is the Romans, looking at the rise of the mighty Roman Empire and their impact on our country. We will be discovering the story of Romulus and Remus and how Rome was founded before moving on to look at Roman traditions and culture.</p> <p>In art and DT we will be creating our very own catapults, roman shields and mini Colosseum.</p>
Computing	<p>In computing we will be developing music using Garageband. We will explore how musicians use music software and how we can create and adapt existing sounds to make our own compositions.</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>It is Class 5's turn for Forest School. They will have the opportunity to explore the 'Dell', make knots, develop team work and communication skills, create a den using the skills they have learnt and learn the safety rules of having a fire.</p>
RE	<p>We are continuing to learn about Islam in RE. We have learned about the importance of Muhammad and the features of a mosque and are moving on to the role of the Qur'an in a Muslim's life. We will be discovering what it teaches and will even compose our own Qur'an rap.</p>
Mandarin	<p>一二三! In Mandarin, we are moving on to look at numbers. We will learn to count all the way to 100 before using this vocabulary to ask and say our age. We will also be looking at Chinese New Year, which is coming up on February 8<sup>th</sup>.</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. 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.</p>



## Year Six's Topics

<b>English</b>	<p><b>Rooftoppers by Katherine Rundell</b></p> <p>This term we will be studying the book 'Rooftoppers' by Katherine Rundell. This is a fantastic book based in Paris that will captivate the children from the very beginning. Through this book we will continue to study a range of writing genres including story, newspaper reports, city guides and letters. Through our English we will continue to focus on elements of SPaG including prefixes, suffixes and homophones, the children will continue to be provided with spellings on a weekly basis, so keep practising and using any new skills you have learnt this year.</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p>This half term in maths we are beginning to work on applying the skills we have learnt to problem solving and test based questions. The children will continue to practice methods of calculations and there will be a focus on fractions through our teaching this half term. The children must continue to practice their maths monsters in order to help their quick calculation methods in this area.</p>
<b>Topic</b>	<p><b>Romans</b></p> <p>Our new topic for this term is the Romans, looking at the rise of the mighty Roman Empire and their impact on our country. We will be discovering the story of Romulus and Remus and how Rome was founded before moving on to look at Roman traditions and culture.</p> <p>In art we will be using our fantastic progress in Mandarin to create some art based around Chinese New Year. We will be designing and creating our own Chinese zodiac and will be making our own paper lanterns.</p>
<b>Computing</b>	<p><b>Creating and publishing</b></p> <p>This half term our computing will be based on our topic of Romans. The children will be improving their skills using iMovie on the apple macs. The children will be creating their own movie learning to insert layers of content including pictures, text, music and videos. We will focus on creating high quality movies and smooth transitions. Keep looking on the website as our final pieces will be displayed here for you all to see!</p>
<b>Music</b>	<p><b>Sound Start</b></p> <p>The children have begun this half term focusing on composing as part of their music lessons, the children will be creating their own symbols for recording and creating their own short pieces of music to be played. The children will then continue to practice playing as sections of the band to create an overall piece of music together - We hope to perform for you again soon!</p>
<b>PE</b>	<p><b>Tennis</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>Swimming</b> 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.</p>
<b>RE</b>	<p>We are continuing to learn about Islam in RE. We have learned about the importance of Muhammad and the features of a mosque and are moving on to the role of the Qur'an in a Muslim's life. We will begin by looking at special things and how the Qur'an is special to Muslims and will then be discovering the ways in which the Qur'an is read and discovering what it teaches.</p>
<b>Mandarin</b>	<p>一二三! In Mandarin, we are moving on to look at numbers. We will learn to count all the way to 100 before using this vocabulary to ask and say our age. We will also be looking at Chinese New Year which is coming up on February 8<sup>th</sup>.</p>
<b>PSHCE</b>	<p><b>Health Education Team</b></p> <p>This half term we are lucky to have the health education team attending school weekly to deliver important messages. The children will be looking at emotional</p>