



Beechwood Primary School

www.beechwoodschoolruncorn.co.uk

Curriculum Update Issue 74 - Spring Term 2018



Happy New Year!

We hope you have all had a magical Christmas with your friends and families. It is lovely to see the children return to school this week fresh faced and ready to learn.

Dates for your diary

8 th Jan- Whole School Chester Zoo Trip	26 th Jan- PTA Sleepover; details to follow
9 th Jan- Reception Learning Journey	29 th Jan- 3:30pm Y2 SATs meeting
10 th Jan- Class 4 Learning Journey	30 th Jan- 5:00pm Y6 SATs meeting
11 th Jan- Year 1 and 2 Learning Journey	6 th Feb- Residential Meetings
12 th Jan- Class 5 Learning Journey	9 th Feb- School closes for half term
15 th Jan- Year 6 Learning Journey	

PTA

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

Forest Schools

This half term we rest the Dell to allow the area to recover and regrow; therefore no class will have Forest Schools.

Residential Meetings

With so many Residentials happening this year, we are holding information sessions for parents on the following dates:

Year 1 Tuesday 6th Feb 3:30pm in Year 1 classroom.

Year 5/6 Tuesday 6th Feb 5pm in Year 5 classroom.

Year 4 Tuesday 17th April in Year 4 classroom.

Netball Residential times tbc.

Family Readers

We are fortunate to have some wonderful family members who kindly come into school to listen to the children read. If you, or a grandparent, feels they could offer some time each week to share the school's passion for reading, please contact the school and we would be happy to have you!

Think for yourself, care for others

Reception

Spring term 1st half

Literacy	This half term our topic is all about pirates, we will be reading lots of pirate stories, creating our own treasure maps and writing about story characters. We will also begin to look at writing in sentences and the key features of a sentence we need to include in our work.
Maths	This half term we will be recapping on numbers to 10 and then starting with number 11. Each week we will be working on a different number, visiting measure, money, shapes and patterns and the language associated with position and direction and really consolidating what each number means.
Knowledge and understanding of the world	Our topic this half term is all about our local area, children will share their ideas on what they would find in the local area and make observations on the natural surrounding environment. We will then compare our local area to other places and begin to talk about the similarities and differences between them.
RE	This half term we will be looking at Jesus and thinking about the question- 'How do we show that we belong?' We also look at the Chinese New Year celebrations.
PE	We are working on gymnastics in P.E. this half term and the children will have lots of opportunities to develop their balancing and co-ordination skills. We will sit up, stand up and balance on various parts of the body. Demonstrate the control necessary to hold a shape or fixed position. Negotiate space successfully when playing chasing games with other children, adjusting speed or changing direction to avoid obstacles. Travel around, under, over and through balancing and climbing equipment. Move with control and coordination and jump off an object and land appropriately.
PSHCE	This half term we will continue to address the current news with the children and interpreting this discussing how it impacts on our lives. Each week we will have a whole school focus on a thought of the week. This will link to our core British Values which are: rule of law, democracy, tolerance, individual liberty and mutual respect.
Expressive arts	There will be lots of creative opportunities this half term as children will be engaging in a range of activities, making pirate masks, making pirate jewellery and creating their own movable pirates. They will also have the opportunity to work together to help create our pirate role play area.

Year 1's Curriculum

English	In English this half term the children will be learning to write recounts. They will look at how to write about events in order and will use time words to show this. After our trip to the zoo, the children will be writing fact sheets about the different animals they saw. This writing will form part of our zoo display.
Maths	This term the children will extend their knowledge of number by beginning to work with numbers up to 20. The children will learn to read, write and compare numbers before moving on to look at number patterns. Following this unit, the children will begin to learn about addition and subtraction of numbers within 20.
Topic	How has life changed? This half term the children will be looking at how transport has changed over time. We will begin by finding out about early travel, where we will learn about how the Vikings travelled and will follow this by exploring cars, trains and flight. The children will be helping to design and build their own role play area and this will be based both inside and outside of the classroom.
Science	This half term we are learning all about Plants. During this the children will learn about the structure of plants and trees and what they need to grow. In lesson 1 the children will be planting their own bean and will observe it closely over the next few weeks by measuring and recording its growth.
RE	The children will explore the importance of the Church in Christianity. We will explore the importance of water and will look at how the church welcomes new people into the congregation.
Music	This half term, Year 1 will be exploring new genres of music including: blues, baroque, bhangra and Latin. Using body percussion, the children will continue to practice responding to the music.
PE	This half term the children will take part in 2 different PE sessions. On Tuesday's the children will take part in a Multi Skills PE lesson. On Thursday's the children will be taught Gymnastic skills. Both of these sessions will be delivered by outside practitioners.
Computing	This term, the children will be using their computing skills to create and debug simple algorithms. The class will learn lots of new terminology including: algorithm, script, background and sprite.

Year 2's Curriculum

English	After a successful first half term developing our writing skills through traditional tales, we will be moving onto explanation texts. The text "Until I met Dudley" will be the main focus. Firstly, we will look at examples of explanation texts and identify the features. After working on the individual features of an explanation text we will work towards writing our own. The last few weeks of the half term we will be looking at stories by the same author. The author we will be looking at is Julia Donaldson. We will read a range of her texts comparing their similarities and differences. Our main outcome will be to write a story in the style of Julia Donaldson.
Maths	We will be covering four units in Singapore maths and these are: Length, mass, temperature and picture graphs. Children will learn to measure different objects using metres and centimetres selecting the best unit of measure. Using this knowledge, we will compare the length of different items. In mass we will be covering measuring weight in kilograms and grams. Additionally, we will apply our knowledge to compare the weight of different items and solving word problems. Towards the end of the half term we will be exploring reading thermometers to record temperature as well as reading and interpreting picture graphs.
Topic	This term our topic will be based around history and design and technology. Our theme is 'Changes within the living memory' looking at and exploring how life has changed. We will focus on how transport has changed and learn about early inventions of cars etc...
Science	<p>This term our topic is plants. By the end of this half term children should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look closely at plants and trees. • Record what they see by drawing or writing. • Follow instructions to plant a seed and a bulb. • Order the life cycle of a plant. • Suggest how to care for a plant so it grows well. • Give examples of food crops. • Explain that plants are living things.
Computing	This term we will continue to develop our programming skills using different pieces of software. We will also continue to develop algorithms and how to debug them when faced with a problem.
PE	We will be taking part in gymnastics this term. Our main focus is learning to use equipment. We will also continue with yoga and the daily mile.
PSHCE	This term we will continue to address current news with the children and interpreting this discussing how it impacts on our lives. Each week we will have a whole school focus on a thought of the week. This will link to our core British Values which are: rule of law, democracy, tolerance, individual liberty and mutual respect. The thought of the week will be shared on Seesaw.

Year 3's Curriculum

English	To start the half term, year 3 will be looking at letters and linking them to our trip to the zoo. Throughout this half term, the children will continue to build their SPAG knowledge and will use this to write play scripts and myths. The children will continue to develop their spelling skills and will be introduced to a variety of new language through Seesaw and weekly word challenges.
Maths	In maths, the children will continue to work on their times tables 3,4 and 8s. The children will use column multiplication and dividing with regrouping before finishing the half term looking at length and mass.
Topic	<p>This half term, children will begin a new topic on Ancient Egypt. The children will be exploring Egypt, the pyramids, The River Nile and even mummifying a tomato. Throughout they will continue to use all that they have learnt in English to create amazing cross-curricular pieces of writing.</p> <p>In computing, the children will continue to use the topic of Egypt gaining new Excel skills to plan a school trip to Egypt.</p>
Science	This half term, children will be focusing on the topic of Rocks during their Science lessons. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate different types of rock and how fossils are made. The children will also explore the topic of Light, making shadow puppets.
RE	<p>Re this half term will cover the question 'What makes a good leader?' The children will be exploring their own beliefs and values to search for a personal meaning. The children will work as a class to compare modern day leaders and religious leaders within Christianity, with the aim of writing a letter to a leader.</p>
PE	<p><u>Tennis</u></p> <p>This half term, PE will be on a Monday afternoon. We will begin a new topic on tennis. The children will be learning how to control a tennis ball and racket, learn to hit the ball between partners and learning the rules of tennis in order to play competitively against other children in the class.</p>
PSHCE	Each week, the children will participate in a range of PSHCE lessons linked to the British values. This will be displayed on Seesaw to be shared with parents and the children may either discuss this, complete a task on Seesaw or complete written work in their PSHCE books. The

children will also be continuing to look at diversity through artwork, which will become part of the fantastic display in the Shopping City later in the year.

Year 4 (Class 4) Topics

English	This half term, we will be creating vlogs (video blogs). We will assess what makes an effective tutorial video, before scripting and filming our own. Keep your eyes on Seesaw to watch our videos progress.
Maths	During Maths, the children will continue to explore multiplication and division. They will begin the term by recapping on written methods, before discovering new ways to calculate mentally.
Science	With Mrs Kidd, the children will be finishing their electricity topic before moving onto States of Matter. They will learn to group materials, observe how some materials change during heating and identify the different parts played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle.
Computing	During Computing, the children will be deciding whether we can afford to take the class to Egypt! They will be using Excel to create formula which will help them to calculate the cost. We will also be using the internet to research how long it would take us to get there, and where in Egypt we can find the pyramids.
Music	This half term, we will continue to work with Ms Richmond to learn how to play our brass instruments. As well as familiarising themselves with key songs, the children will focus on reading music.
RE	What makes a good leader? This half term, we will be discussing our key question in relation to Christianity. The children will explore the personal attributes of various religious, political and celebrity leaders.
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Year 4 (Class 5) Topics

English	This half term, we will be creating vlogs (video blogs). We will assess what makes an effective tutorial video, before scripting and filming our own. Keep your eyes on Seesaw to watch our videos progress.
Maths	During Maths, the children will continue to explore multiplication and division. They will begin the term by recapping on written methods, before discovering new ways to calculate mentally.
Science	With Mrs Kidd, the children will be finishing their electricity topic before moving onto States of Matter. They will learn to group materials, observe how some materials change during heating and identify the different parts played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle.
Computing	During Computing, the children will be deciding whether we can afford to take the class to Egypt! They will be using Excel to create formula which will help them to calculate the cost. We will also be using the internet to research how long it would take us to get there, and where in Egypt we can find the pyramids.
Music	This half term, we will continue to work with Ms Richmond to learn how to play our brass instruments. As well as familiarising themselves with key songs, the children will focus on reading music.
RE	What makes a good leader? This half term, we will be discussing our key question in relation to Christianity. The children will explore the personal attributes of various religious, political and celebrity leaders.
PE	Swimming This term the year 4/5 children will be participating in swimming lessons where they will continue to build their skills and knowledge of the different swimming strokes as well as developing the children's water confidence further (where appropriate.) Football The children will have a shorter session for football as they will also be participating in swimming. During these sessions, the children will be working on developing their passing and movement skills and then continuing to practice playing as part of a team and developing their skills.
Topic	Our next exciting topic that we will be looking at over the next term will be Ancient Egypt. The children will begin looking at some geography about the location of Egypt and will then continue to learn all about the interesting techniques used by the Ancient Egyptians such as: mummification and the building of the pyramids. During our art and DT lessons the children will be sketching artefacts and beginning to create clay Egyptian pottery. We will also look at developing a range of death masks, which were used in Egyptian times.
PSHCE	Each week the children will participate in a range of PSHCE lessons linked to the British values. This will be displayed on Seesaw to be shared with parents and the children may either discuss this, complete a task on Seesaw or complete written work in their PSHCE books. The children will also be continuing to look at diversity through artwork, which will become part of the fantastic display in the Shopping City later in the year.

Year 5's Curriculum

English	This half term we will look at a range of text types linked to our topic of Egyptians. We will begin by looking at instruction texts and how these can be used before writing our own humorous instructions for the mummification process. Look out for these during our class assembly. We will then continue with our narrative writing skills, where the children will learn about the different parts of a story and how to write legends. We will look at how to build suspense and tension within their writing as well as continuing to develop the children's SpaG skills which will make their writing fantastic.
Maths	This half term we will continue to follow the Singapore maths lessons where I have identified that as a class the class need further work on word problems, therefore we will continue to look at these in more detail before moving onto reading and interpreting graphs and beginning to look at fractions. Please continue to work with your children at home on their quick rapid recall as this will really help them feel more confident in the links to fractions.
Science	This half term in science the children will be looking at the topic of space. They will begin by learning the order of the planets in the solar system before investigating the difference between night and day. The children will then look at the different phases of the moon and may be asked to do this as part of their homework too.
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Computing	During Computing, the children will be deciding whether we can afford to take the class to Egypt! They will be using Excel to create formula which will help them to calculate the cost. We will also be using the internet to research how long it would take us to get there, and where in Egypt we can find the pyramids.
RE	What makes a good leader? This half term, we will be discussing our key question in relation to Christianity. The children will explore the personal attributes of various religious, political and celebrity leaders.
MFL	The children will continue to look at how to say their age in French and will then use their growing knowledge of numbers look at how to introduce different members of their family and complete a range of phrases using their pronunciation using these skills.
PE	This term the year 4/5 children will be participating in swimming lessons where they will continue to build their skills and knowledge of the different swimming strokes as well as developing the children's water confidence further (where appropriate.) The children will have a shorter session for football as they will also be participating in swimming. During these sessions, the children will be working on developing their passing and movement skills and then continuing to practice playing as part of a team and developing their skills.
PSHCE	Each week the children will participate in a range of PSHCE lessons linked to the British values. This will be displayed on Seesaw to be shared with parents and the children may either discuss this, complete a task on Seesaw or complete written work in their PSHCE books. The children will also be continuing to look at diversity through artwork, which will become part of the fantastic display in the Shopping City later in the year.
Music	The children have made excellent progress over the last term playing their clarinets and learning the notes - as I am sure you have heard at home. As the children have now developed a range of notes, they will continue to learn a range of songs using these notes. The children may begin to learn more complex songs and ensure that they are making the correct notes at the correct time.

Year 6's Curriculum

English	This term we finish our work on Action stories; using Anthony Brownes' The Tunnel as our starting point. After this, we move onto diary entries. We will look at how to write diaries from different perspectives to ensure our language choices reflect that which our chosen characters would use.
Maths	This term, we are finishing our work on Fractions before we move onto Decimals. In our Fractions unit, we are focussing on how to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions: whilst applying our understanding of simplifying improper fractions on the way.
Topic	<u>Egypt</u> This term, we venture on an exciting journey into the fascinating life of the Ancient Egyptians. After we look at where Egypt is in the world, we then move onto the interesting ways in which this ancient civilisation lived their lives. We will be studying some of the famous Pharaohs and learning about how their writing impacted upon our lives today.
Science	<u>Light</u> In science, our topic will be light. We will recap how light allows us to see everything around us before moving on to shadows; conducting experiments to see how we can change the size of a shadow.
RE	<u>How do religions mark the 'signposts' and 'turning points' on our journey?</u> This half term we will continue to look at Christianity, focusing particularly on the important events that occur in a Christian's lifetime and how they are marked and celebrated.
MFL	<u>Vocabulary Building</u> This term, we will continue to work with French numbers to 100 and learn how to calculate with these.
PE	<u>Rugby</u> This half term, our PE moves to a Tuesday as we spend the afternoon looking at the skills necessary for this invasion game. We will learn the rules of the game as well as building our on skills we already have from previous years.
PSHCE	This half term, we will be addressing current news with the children and interpreting this; discussing how it impacts on our lives. Each week, we will have a whole school focus on the 'Thought of the Week'. This will be linked to our core British Values, which are: Rule of Law, Democracy, Tolerance, Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect.