



Beechwood Primary School

www.beechwoodschoolruncorn.co.uk

Curriculum Update Issue 75- Spring Term 2018

Welcome Back!

We hope you have all had a enjoyable and restful half term break.

Dates for your diary

26th Feb- Year 6 Performing at the Brindley
27th Feb- 2nd March-Y6 Bikeability
1st March- World Book Day
12th-14th March-Year 5/6 Residential
19th March- Y4/6 Warrington Museum
20th March- Y3/5 Warrington Museum

21st March- PTA Bingo

21st March- Year 1 Class Assembly

27th March- Year 1 Residential

29th March- Annual Beechwood Egg Race

29th March- School closes for Easter



PTA

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

World Book Day

This year, we are celebrating the wonderful author Julia Donaldson. We are asking the children to dress up as any character from the many books she has written.

Art Exhibit

Have you been to Halton Lea yet to enjoy the wonderful art work that our children and many other children in Halton have produced? If not, take a look! Over the first week of Spring Term 1, the children all walked up to enjoy the exhibit and were amazed at the different interpretations of 'It's a Small World'.

PE Kits

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school. Outdoor kit is black tracksuit bottoms.

Annual Beechwood Egg Race

It's that time of year again where we celebrate the Easter Holidays with our Egg Race. Each child can bring a hard boiled, decorated egg into school to race against their classmates. This year, the event will take place on Thursday 29th March.

Think for yourself, care for others

Reception Topics

Literacy	This half term our topic is all about Superheroes, we will be reading lots of Superhero stories but our main focus will be the 'Supertato' stories by Sue Hendra. We will be writing wanted posters for different villains, making superhero passports, writing speech bubbles and messages and letters asking for superhero help and also writing descriptions of superheroes. We will continue 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 the numbers learnt so far. Then starting with number 15, 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. We will also have a special focus on the number bonds to 10.
Knowledge and understanding of the world	Our Superhero topic will lend itself well to developing our use of technology this half term. We will continue to learn how to program the Bee-bots to move. The children will also be taking photographs and using an app to make their superhero photo talk and move. We will explore magnets and decide if the magical power of magnetism would be good to have for a superhero. We will also be looking at healthy food and tasting fruit and vegetables from around the world.
RE	This half term we will further our knowledge of Jesus and think more about the question- 'How do we show that we belong?' We will also look at the story of Easter.
PE	Our topic this term is dance, children will learn how to move to music in different ways and work with other children to sequence movements in time to different music. We will be looking at why exercise is important for good health and we will be more aware of the changes to the way we feel when we exercise.
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	Again, there will be lots of creative opportunities this half term as children will be engaging in a range of activities, making masks, making vegetable superheroes, designing our own superheroes and their costumes, making superhero gadgets and vehicles from junk modelling materials. The children will be able to explore percussion instruments to make the sounds of different superheroes. They will also have the opportunity to work together to help develop our Superhero rescue centre and Vets role play areas.

Year One's Topics

English	In English this half term we will exploring Traditional Tales. We will begin by learning how to retell a story through role play before moving on to writing. The children will explore different genres of writing this half term including: Story writing, Persuasive letter writing and writing instructions. Our SPaG focus will remain on the correct use of capital letters and full stops and the use of 'and' to join sentences together.
Maths	In Maths this half term the children will begin to explore numbers to 40. Here we will count, write and compare numbers. We will look at how to add in both 10's and 1's and will explore number patterns before moving on to solving addition and subtraction word problems. During this chapter the children will be introduced to Bar Modelling, using concrete objects.
Topic	<u>Old McDonald</u> Our topic this half term focuses on Human and Physical Geography. Throughout the half term the children will learn about the key geographical features of Kenya including Kenyan wildlife, farming, landscapes and culture. Children will learn about the similarities and differences between Kenya and the UK along with continuing to develop their geographical skills through a variety of fun and interactive activities.
Science	<u>Animals including Humans</u> In this unit children learn about human and animal bodies and consider similarities and differences between them. Children engage in a variety of activities including drawing and labelling the body, using their senses to conduct an investigation, describing animal bodies and sorting animals into groups..
Computing	Using Bee-Bots, Year 1 will focus on the topic of Programming. The children will use reasoning to predict how the toy will react to a simple algorithm.
Music	This term, Year 1 will continue to listen and appraise a range of musical styles. Using games, the children will focus on rhythm, pulse and tempo.
PE	This half term we will continue to work with the coaches from Focus Gymnastics. The children will further extend the skills they have already been taught by applying these to pieces of equipment.
RE	In RE this half term we will be learning about Islam. The children will read stories such as 'The Tiny Ants' by Gill Vaisey, which show the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) respecting living things.
PSHCE	During PSHCE the children will be thinking about their feelings. We will learn to identify different feelings and will talk about how different situations make us feel. Alongside this the children will continue to learn about British Values and will discuss a variety of topic based on Picture News.

Year Two's Topics

English	This term we will cover Non-Chronological reports and stories in a familiar setting. We will look at how Non-chronological reports are structured and the different purposes they have. We will read lots of different examples of non-fiction texts and identify the features. As a class we will recite a report and innovate using this to create our own through an exciting and engaging topic.
Maths	This half term we will be having a huge focus on arithmetic skills. Working on the best method to select to solve a problem. We will also cover 2D and 3D shapes. Exploring how many sides and vertices each shape has. We will also be describing 3D shapes using the correct mathematical terminology. Additionally, we will cover fractions and time. Children need to be able to tell the time to the nearest five minutes.
Computing	This term we will be further exploring algorithms and how to use them within technology. We will look at de-bugging our algorithms and problems that may arise.
Science/Topic	<p>This term we will continue to complete our unit on plants and we will move onto exploring human and physical geography.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom and the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles • use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • key physical features, including: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather
Music	We will continue to follow the Charanga music scheme. The children have enjoyed accessing this at home.
PE	This term our focus is on gymnastics. We will continue to practise several skills including: vault jumps, forward rolls, backward rolls and developing our balancing skills. We are lucky enough to have a gymnastics specialist teacher from the Beth Tweddle Academy to come in and deliver these sessions.
RE	<p><u>How and why is celebrating important in religion and worship?</u></p> <p>This half term we will be looking at Christianity and church.</p>
PSHCE	This 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 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.

Year Three's Topics

English	In English, we will continue to explore different genres of writing. We will be finishing our Egyptian myths and we will then move onto performance poetry and exploration texts.
Maths	This term we will begin our second maths workbook. We will begin the term by looking at money and time before moving onto graphs and data.
Topic	Continuing our Egyptian topic, we will be visiting the Warrington Museum. We will be focusing most of our topic writing around this visit but will also be learning about the different Gods and Hieroglyphs. Linking to Art and DT, we will be making Egyptian flat bread and then creating death masks like those seen on Tutankhamun.
Science	This term the children will be exploring Light. We will instigate how light can be manipulated, using shadow puppets and mirrors. Before the end of the term, Year 3 will create a fair test, focusing on a research question of their own.
Computing	This half term, Year Three will be exploring animation (pre and post computers). The children will use a range of software to create their own animations, inspired by Wallace and Gromit.
PE	PE this term, will link to The Winter Olympics. Although we can't play ice hockey in school, we will look at the sport and practice playing hockey. The children will develop a range of skills before competing in a competitive match within the school.
RE	Within RE we will begin to look at Islam. We will explore the question 'Are the founders of faiths good role models?' We hope to learn lots about the religion and explore a religious festival that Muslims take part in.
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.

Class 4 (Year 4)

English	This half term, we will begin by exploring stories from other cultures. We will continue to work on the development of our story writing skills including: direct speech, descriptive features and setting/character descriptions. As the term progresses, we will begin to look at figurative language in poetry.
Maths	In maths, the children will look at decimals and money. They will develop their understanding of hundredths and tenths, exploring how they are comparable to money. In order to develop their learning in this area, it would be beneficial for children to practice doing calculations with money at home.
Science	During Science, Year Four will be covering the topic of Sound. Working with Mrs Kidd, the children will identify how sounds are made. As always, the class will use practical scientific methods to answer their questions.
Computing	This half term, Year Four will be exploring animation (pre and post computers). The children will use a range of software to create their own animations, inspired by Wallace and Gromit.
Music	This half term, we will continue to work with Ms Richmond to learn how to play our brass instruments. The children will focus on reading music as well as becoming more accurate at playing notes.
RE	Are the founders of faiths good role models? This half term, we will be discussing our key question in relation to Islam. The children will explore the Muslim faith, discussing similarities and differences between religious leaders.
PE	PE this term will link to The Winter Olympics. Although we can't play ice hockey in school, we will look at the sport and practice playing hockey. The children will develop a range of skills before taking part in a competitive match in school.
Topic	Continuing our Egyptian topic, we will be visiting Warrington Museum. We will be focusing most of our topic writing around this visit but will also be learning about the different Gods and Hieroglyphs. Linking to Art and DT, we will be making Egyptian flat bread and then creating death masks, like those seen on Tutankhamun.
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.

Class 5 (Year 4)

English	This half term, we will begin by exploring stories from other cultures. We will continue to work on the development of our story writing skills including: direct speech, descriptive features and setting/character descriptions. As the term progresses, we will begin to look at figurative language in poetry.
Maths	In maths, the children will look at decimals and money. They will develop their understanding of hundredths and tenths, exploring how they are comparable to money. In order to develop their learning in this area, it would be beneficial for children to practice doing calculations with money at home.
Science	During Science, Year Four will be covering the topic of Sound. Working with Mrs Kidd, the children will identify how sounds are made. As always, the class will use practical scientific methods to answer their questions.
Computing	This half term, Year Four will be exploring animation (pre and post computers). The children will use a range of software to create their own animations, inspired by Wallace and Gromit.
Music	This half term, we will continue to work with Ms Richmond to learn how to play our brass instruments. The children will focus on reading music as well as becoming more accurate at playing notes.
RE	Are the founders of faiths good role models? This half term, we will be discussing our key question in relation to Islam. The children will explore the Muslim faith, discussing similarities and differences between religious leaders.
PE	PE this term will link to The Winter Olympics. Although we can't play ice hockey in school, we will look at the sport and practice playing hockey. The children will develop a range of skills before taking part in a competitive match in school.
Topic	Continuing our Egyptian topic, we will be visiting Warrington Museum. We will be focusing most of our topic writing around this visit but will also be learning about the different Gods and Hieroglyphs. Linking to Art and DT, we will be making Egyptian flat bread and then creating death masks, like those seen on Tutankhamun.
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.

Year Five's Topics

English	<p>This half term we are going to begin our English by looking at writing our own Egyptian legends. We will compare and contrast legends to myths and will continue to work on our development of our story writing skills including: building suspense, descriptive features and setting/character descriptions.</p> <p>We will then also look at creating and acting out our own Egyptian play scripts - looking at the features used and how the children can replicate these in their own writing.</p>
Maths	<p>Once we have completed our fractions work, this half term the children will look at decimals and percentages. They will develop their understanding of different decimals and how they are equivalent to fractions and percentages. In order to develop their learning in this area it is imperative that the children continue to practice their rapid recall regularly and consolidate their learning from each day by explaining and showing somebody at home.</p>
Topic - Ancient Egypt	<p>This half term we will be continuing with our topic of Ancient Egyptians. We will be looking at famous Pharaohs and writing a fact sheet to show our research. We will also look at how the writing has changed over time learning to write and code in hieroglyphics.</p> <p>The children will be creating their own death masks in art which will be displayed alongside looking at Egyptian Friezes.</p>
Computing	<p>This half term, Year Five will be exploring animation (pre and post computers). The children will use a range of software to create their own animations, inspired by Wallace and Gromit.</p>
RE	<p>Are the founders of faiths good role models?</p> <p>This half term, we will be discussing our key question in relation to Islam. The children will explore the Muslim faith, discussing similarities and differences between religious leaders.</p>
PE Swimming and Football skills	<p>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.)</p> <p>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.</p>
PSHCE	<p>We will be continuing to use the picture news scheme to support the children's understanding of the British values. The children will respond to the weekly questions in a number of ways including: responding through seesaw, written responses and participating in P4C sessions.</p>
Music	<p>As the children are continuing to develop their skills playing the clarinet, they are also working on ensuring that the children are composing their own songs. They have worked as part of a group in order to learn note names and develop their skills when reading music too. Make sure that you are taking your instruments home in order to continue practising the skills you have learnt during your weekly lessons.</p>
French	<p>This half term the children are continuing to develop their French skills by learning the days of the week as well as recapping the months of the year. We will also be learning how to describe ourselves and our families.</p>

Year Six's Topics

English	This half term we move onto writing stories with flashbacks. We will be reading lots of different versions of this style of writing, and using videos to spark our writing imagination. In Reading, we will continue to tighten up our skills of answering questions in a specific way.
Maths	Once we have finished our work on Word Problems, we will be moving onto units based around Algebra. We will be looking at how to solve simple formulae and use this to write rules to sequences.
Topic	<u>Ancient Egypt</u> This term we continue with our Egyptology as we venture on an exciting journey into the life of the Ancient Egyptians. We will explore how they treated their dead, why the afterlife was so important to them and how the Nile was vital to their survival.
Science	<u>Evolution and Inheritance</u> This half term we will be looking at Evolution. We will begin by researching Charles Darwin and how we came up with his Theory of Evolution. We will look at how we have evolved from our primitive ancestors and suggest how we think we will evolve in the future!
PE	<u>Athletics</u> This half term we will be completing a new Olympic Athletic sport each week, from the 100m sprint, to the long jump.
RE	<u>What Should Our Attitude Be Like on Our Journey?</u> This half term we will discuss how attitude is key! How our perspective on life can change based on the attitudes we have towards life. We will shift our focus to Islam and look at how a Muslim's journey is in comparison to our Christian one.
MFL	<u>C'est quand votre anniversaire?</u> This half term, we will be using our knowledge of numbers, as well as learning the months of the year, to tell each other when our birthday is.
PSHCE	Each 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.