



Beech Class Autumn Term 1 Newsletter



Here is a summary of what your child will be learning this half term:

Our topic this half term will be 'Castles'.

During this half term, the children will be finding out about why castles were built and how they have changed over time.

English

During this half term, Year 2 children will continue to develop their speaking and listening skills, including using drama and improvisation to explore stories and their characters. We will begin by looking at the features of instructional texts and then apply our learnt skills to write fictional instructions for becoming different creatures. Later on in the half term, we will look at descriptive poetry written by Pie Corbett to develop our descriptive vocabulary. Finally, we will be using 'The Paper Bag Princess' as a structural model to write our own 'defeat the monster' story and we will be focusing on extending our vocabulary and developing a wider range of punctuation.

Phonics and Spelling

Year 2 children will consolidate their sounds and spellings from Year 1 before moving onto Year 2 spelling patterns and rules. The children will receive new spellings every Friday to be learnt for the following week, when they will be tested. We will start to encourage the children to use dictionaries to check their spellings too.

Please ensure that your child continues to read widely at home and to record their progress in their Home Reading Journals which will be checked on Thursdays.

Maths

In Maths this half term, Year 2 children will be:

- reading and writing numbers to at least 100 in numerals and words
- recognising the place value of each digit in a 2-digit number (tens and ones)
- identifying, representing and estimating numbers to 100 using different representations, including a number line
- comparing and ordering numbers from 0 up to 100 using $<$, $>$ and $=$ signs
- recalling and using addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and finding and using related facts to 100
- adding and subtracting numbers, including a 2-digit numbers and tens, a 2-digit number and tens, two 2-digit numbers and adding three 1-digit numbers.

Please support your child in consolidating these Maths skills at home.

Science

In Science this half term we will be identifying and comparing the uses of everyday materials and finding out how the shapes of solid objects, made from some materials, can be change by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. We will also be developing our scientific enquiry skills by learning how to compare, sort and group and make careful observations.



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Computing

The children will begin by learning about keeping themselves safe by keeping personal information private, understanding how to talk to others and knowing where they can go for help if they are feeling worried when working online. We will then be working on our coding and debugging skills to create a simple program.

History

In History this term, we will be exploring the first castles, including learning about: the different parts of castles, life in the castle, how an army may attack or defend a castle and about the fate of castles and their purpose today.

D&T

In D&T, we will be developing our cooking skills to create a meal for a castle banquet.

RE/PSHE

In RE, we will be digging deeper into the question: 'What do Christians believe God is like?' by exploring the story of Jonah.

Our PSHE theme is New Beginnings.

PE

On **Mondays**, we will be developing our infant agility skills in PE. On **Thursdays**, the children will be coached by Top Score.

Notes and Reminders

Home reading scheme books will be changed on Tuesdays and Fridays. On other week days, children can choose a book from the library and the class book case. Spelling home learning will be given weekly on a Friday and arithmetic home learning will be given fortnightly on a Monday. P.E. kits need to be in school on a Monday to be left in school until Friday and earrings should be either taken out or covered with plasters.

Now that the children are in Year 2, we are encouraging them to be more independent. Therefore, please encourage the children to enter the classroom by themselves in the morning. If you need to discuss any issues or pass on any information then please feel free to speak to us.

This newsletter only gives a brief outline of our topics this half term – if you need any further information about any aspect of the curriculum or your child's progress please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you!

Mrs J.E. Hewitt