



# Beech Class

## Autumn 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you had a wonderful summer and spent some valuable time with your family and friends.

It has been lovely to welcome the new children into school this week and they have settled into Beech Class fantastically. This is due to your hard work and dedication throughout the summer to prepare them for their school journey and we gratefully thank you for this.

It has also been wonderful to welcome the children back who were with us last year. We have spotted many new friendships starting to bloom and we are very much looking forward to extending their learning further. Below, you will find information about this term and the curriculum.

### General Notices

#### Physical Education

P.E. will take place twice a week on a Tuesday and Thursday and the children will have additional physical activities built into provision, daily. On our P.E. day, the children will need to attend school dressed in full P.E. kit. This includes black shorts/joggers, school P.E. top, school jumper/hoodie and plimsolls/trainers. May I please remind children that school uniforms should be worn on any other day, except for Forest School days.

#### Forest School

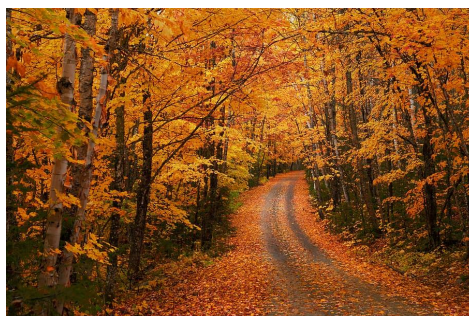
Forest School will be a rolling programme with the other classes this term. We ask that your children are prepared for all weathers as the Autumn Term can often be unpredictable.

Our sessions are:

Thursday 10th October Year 2

Thursday 17th October Year 1

Thursday 24th October Reception





### Reading

Reception children will start to learn their Little Wandle phonics next week. Year One children will be continuing their Little Wandle phonic journey and Year 2 will be learning new fluency skills and developing their spelling.

Reading books will be issued for home practice after your child has read their book 3 times in school. We aim for 80% fluency before your child reads to you at home. Reading books will be changed on Mondays and reading records checked every day; please ensure your child brings these into school each day so we can create consistency with reading both in and out of school. We encourage you to read with your child daily as this regular practice is essential to develop their confidence and fluency. Furthermore, please remember to make a note each time you read with your child at home; it is wonderful for us to hear how they are getting on.

Children will be issued a library book every Friday to share at home and these will be changed each week too.

### Communication

We use Tapestry, Big Books and workbooks in school to share, evidence and assess the children's learning.

Reception parents should have received a letter asking to provide an email address to link your Tapestry account to. If you have any difficulties with your Tapestry account, then please either catch me in the playground or email [tapestry.support@eyfs.info](mailto:tapestry.support@eyfs.info) to seek advice.

Year One parent's access to Tapestry will remain for this year as the children change how they present their work independently.

Year Two parent's, please look out for an email/notification from Tapestry which will allow you to download your child's completed Learning Journal. Once you have completed this please let me know.

Furthermore, if there is anything you would like to discuss during the school year, please speak to me on the playground at the end of the school day or contact the school office to arrange a telephone call with me. Any additional notices will be communicated to you via your child's reading record book, email, Tapestry or our class white board.

### Healthy Eating

At St Benet's, we encourage the children to eat healthy and nutritious food. Each day, we offer the children fruit, milk (Reception only), and water during snack time. Therefore, we ask that snacks brought into school from home are healthy e.g., fruit/cereal bars. If your child chooses to bring in a lunch from home, then may I make a friendly request that they be filled with healthy choices too. We are a nut free school.





### School Timings

We understand that time in the morning is very precious, and we thank you for bringing your child in promptly and calmly to start their day at 8.45am.

### Reception Eligibility Check for Free School Meals

Within your child's transition pack was an application to free school meals. Children in Reception and Key Stage One automatically get free school meals, however this check also releases funding which benefits other activities for your child too, such as school trips, etc. If you feel your child may be eligible, please fill in this form and return it to the school office.

### Thursday Stay and Play

On some Thursday afternoons 14:45 -15:00 you will be welcomed to come into Beech Class for a Parent/Carer Stay and Play session. You can have a sneaky peek into your child's learning and find out more about their time in school.

We will notify you once these times are confirmed.

## Children's Learning

Please visit our Beech Class page on the school website. Here you will find a copy of the EYFS curriculum and the Year One/Two Spiral Curriculum detailing the areas of learning we will be focusing on throughout the year. There are also some useful websites to use at home to support your child's learning.

### R.E.

In R.E., we will begin with our first branch of Creation and Covenant. We will learn how God created the earth and that he loves us. We will retell the Noah story, focusing on Noah and God's promise to all living creatures in the sign of the rainbow. Furthermore we will understand the term 'stewardship' and what it means for caring for God's world.

In Autumn 2 we will move into Prophecy and Promise where we will we will learn, with increasing detail, one of the religious accounts from the Annunciation and the birth of John the Baptist and of the Annunciation and the birth of Jesus from the Gospel of Luke.

### Phonics

This term, the children will be starting, continuing or extending their phonic learning. Little Wandle Phonics will be taught through daily sessions and will be embedded throughout the provision. If you wish to find out more, a link to Little Wandle can be found on our Beech Class Page on the website.

### Maths

In Maths, Reception we will be learning the order of the counting system and singing lots of songs! We will discover through comparison of characteristics, attributes, and amounts, how to sort objects and small parts. We will develop our knowledge of our environment and learn about their pattern and sequence. Year One and Two will deepen their learning by focusing on place value, addition and subtraction, and extending their knowledge in geometry.





### English

In English, Reception we will think and understand more about ourselves and our surrounding family and friends. We will look closely at books and share stories to ignite a pleasure for reading and build our fine motor skills to develop our writing.

Year One and Two will explore a variety of focus books this term. Our first book is 'Look Up' by Nathan Bryon. We will be focusing on creating quality writing and being able to retell the stories through drama by expressing our emotions. We will be developing effective sentences for our Meteor Shower report using rich vocabulary. We will then be moving on to The Lonely Beast by Chris Judge, The Owl and the Pussy-cat by Edward Lear and lastly Rapunzel by Bethann Woollvin.

### Science

In Science the children will be exploring autumn and all its delights and we will be thinking about our Big Questions such as - Do living things change or stay the same? Throughout our science lessons we will be working scientifically by performing simple tests, identifying, and classifying, observing things over time and gathering and recording data to help answer these questions.

### History

This is an area of focus this term. We will be looking at changes in our own lives and family history by sequencing key events and learning about timelines. We will be learning about significant individuals, such as Mary Seacole, who have helped shape our history and find out about the Great Fire of London!

### Computing

Our focus for computing will be technology. We will learn to use technology and develop mouse and keyboard skills. We will then move on to creating media by digital painting.

### Spanish

In Spanish we will be learning core vocabulary such as greetings, numbers and colours. We will have a Spanish song for each half term that we will learn and extend our vocabulary.

### Music

In music we will explore keeping the pulse together through music and movement, by exploring their favourite things. Through fairy tales, children will be introduced to the concept of sound patterns. They will explore clapping along to repeated words and phrases, creating rhythmic patterns to tell a familiar fairy tale.

### Art

In Art, we will be creating in our own sketchbooks that will start with the exploration of line and extending this to create characters.

### Hygge

Our continuous provision will be inspired by our Hygge Approach. We explore various natural autumn elements which all the children will have the opportunity to explore and deepen their own knowledge and understanding further.





### Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 10th Sept. Bollywood Dance

Mondays - Reading books changed (although it's best to keep the books in your child's bag every day).

Tuesday and Thursday - P.E.

Fridays - Library Books changed

Forest School Sessions

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Remember to read the weekly school newsletter issued every Friday for further news and updates.

We thank you all for your continued support and please do not hesitate to catch us on the playground for a friendly chat about how your child is getting on.

😊 Mrs Huxtable, Mrs Sheen and Miss McEntee 😊

