



Beech Class Spring 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you had a wonderfully festive Christmas holiday and spent some valuable time with your family and friends. It has been lovely to welcome the children back into school this week and hear about how they have enjoyed their Christmas. We are all very excited to begin 2025 with a spring in our step! Happy New Year!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of all of us in Beech Class for your extremely kind words and generous gifts that you gave us all before Christmas. Thankyou from us all.

Below, you will find information about this term and the curriculum.

General Notices

Physical Education

P.E. will continue to be 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 begin again this term on a rolling programme with the other classes. We ask that your children are prepared for all weathers as this term's weather can be extremely chilly.

Our sessions are:

Thursday 27th February Year 2

Thursday 6th March Reception and Year 1

Thursday 13th March Reception and Year 1

Reading

We will continue to read with your child 3 times in school before we send the reading books home. As always we aim for 80% fluency before your child reads to you at home. **Reading books will continue to 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 always have an open door and please feel free to come and briefly chat with us on the playground. If you would prefer a longer discussion about how your child is getting on then please don't hesitate to email the office and make a longer appointment with me. This can be by telephone or in person.

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 all children fruit, and water (milk 5 years and under) during snack time. Therefore, we ask that snacks brought into school from home are healthy e.g., fruit/cereal bars (no sweets). 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. Furthermore please note that 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.





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 third branch of Galilee to Bethlehem. We will be identifying some of the people that encounter Jesus and recognise that he is special. Then we will reflect on how Jesus cares for other people and what they can learn from his actions.

In Spring 2 we will move into our fourth branch of Desert to Garden. We will learn to recognise that fasting in Lent is giving something up to help others and consider what we might give up and choose to do to help others. Then we will reflect on what we know about Jesus including the events of the last week of Jesus' life and his resurrection.

Phonics

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

Maths

In Reception, we will play games with dice to consolidate our understanding of the stable order of numbers. We will build on composing and flexibly decomposing numbers mentally, (noticing a number is made up from different parts) which will help our understanding of addition and subtraction

In Year One and Two, we will deepen our learning by focusing on the four operations, addition and subtraction, division and multiplication and extending our knowledge of height and length. We will look at statistics and different ways of representing our findings.

English

In reception we will explore our wonderful spring days, nursery rhymes and fairytales to inspire our writing. We will be segmenting words to write CVC/CVCC/CCVC words and developing correct letter formation. Furthermore we will extend these skills to write phrases.





This term in Year One and Two we will be exploring our key texts of *Leo and the Octopus*, *The Story of Castles*, *The Secret Sky Garden* and *If All the World Were*.



These texts will inspire us to write factual reports, fantasy narratives and letters.

Science

In Science the children will be exploring spring and all its delights and we will be thinking about our Big Questions such as - What are the best materials to make Baby Bear's chair? 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.

Geography

This is an area of focus this term. We will be using our skills of making use of maps, understanding meaning with vocabulary, making sense through graphicacy and learning real through fieldwork and the outdoors to answer our enquiry questions such as what is it like to live in the United Kingdom?

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 learn how to identify high and low notes and to compose a simple tune to represent a superhero.

Art

In Art, we will continue to use our own sketchbooks to explore colour and line and build texture into our drawings.





Hygge

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

Dates for your Diary

Mondays - Reading books changed (please keep books in your child's bag every day).

Tuesdays and Thursdays - P.E.

Fridays - Library Books changed

Wednesday 15th January - WOW Active morning - Children to be dressed in PE kits.

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

We thank you all for your continued support,

☺ Mrs Huxtable, Mrs Sheen and Miss McEntee ☺

