

Beech Class - Spring Term 2024

Class Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that you all had an excellent Christmas. It is great to see all the children back in school and we are all excited about their learning in the term ahead. This term our project is a Geography-based one and is called '**Under the Sea**' with our key concepts being: **Change, Morality and Stewardship**. We will be exploring our oceans, comparing and contrasting seaside communities and looking at climate change and plastic pollution.

Homework

As with the rest of the school, the expectations for homework in Beech Class consists of:

Reading: reading to an adult at least 3 times per week and recording this in their reading record book (these must then be handed in on Monday morning for checking). Please note, that unless the book is signed by an adult, it will be assumed that your child has not completed this homework. Book bingo books can be read and you will find the chart in your child's reading record.

Spelling: each child has already been issued with their spellings to learn for the term. Please find their spellings attached inside the cover of their reading record. A list of different strategies to use to support your child with spelling is available on our school website. The spellings will be tested on a Monday.

Maths: if you have a child in Year 1, your focus is shapes and place value to 50. If you have a child in Year 2, weekly practise of the 2x, 5x and 10x table is required for them to be fluent in these before moving into Year 3.

Termly Project Task: each child in school is being asked to produce one project-related task per term which you can work on at home each week. Please select one task from the following list and **submit it before or during our project sharing week - 25th March**

Task 1:

Dive into the underwater world of coral reefs, tropical sea creatures, and blue seascapes with an Ocean Shoebox Diorama craft. Transform an ordinary shoebox into an underwater habitat for ocean-dwelling creatures such as sea turtles, squid, clownfish, and clams.

Task 2: Can you create your own sea creature fact file or create a PowerPoint presentation to share with the class about an Ocean creature or the Oceans.

Task 3: Recycle and reuse - make an island or map showing human and physical geographical features from recycled products.

P.E.

Our P.E. lessons will be on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon each week and will be taught by our coach from Premier Sport. As previous, we are asking children to come into school dressed in their kit on the days that they have PE. Please name all P.E kit. In line with the information on our school website, the P.E. kit must consist of the following:

- a plain round-necked house colour t-shirt
- a pair of black shorts
- a pair of trainers (if PE is outdoors)
- a pair of black plimsolls (with non-marking soles)
- a plain black sweatshirt and jogging bottoms (for outdoor PE lessons when the weather is cold).

All children whose hair is past shoulder length must have it tied back on P.E. days. Please remember that earrings must be removed for any P.E. lessons. If your child cannot take part in P.E. for whatever reason, then this must be put in writing via email to the school office.

Coats and Water Bottles

All children should have their own water bottle in school. All children should also have a coat, preferably a waterproof one for wet weather. Both of these must please be named.

Healthy Snacks

Please ensure that the snack you give your child for break time is a healthy one. Examples include:

fruit	dried fruit	plain crackers	rice cakes
vegetable sticks	plain popcorn	dry breakfast cereal e.g. Cheerios cereal bars	

Keeping in touch, assessment and important dates for this term:

Inset Days 4th and 5th of January 2024

Wellbeing Week 5th- 9th of February

Wear Yellow Day Monday 5th of February

Essex Therapy Dogs Visit 6th of February

19th - 23rd February- Half Term

26th February Inset Day

Ellie Irving Author Visit 6th March

World Book Day 7th March

Parents Evening Wed 6th March 3.40-5.40pm Thurs 7th 5-7pm

29th March- 12th April- Easter Holidays

Easter service TBC

Other dates may be added so please continue to check our school website and X(Twitter) page.

We very much look forward to working with you and your children this year. In the meantime, if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Kind regards,

Mr Rippingale