

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school. I hope you've all had a good rest and are ready for a busy term, hopefully culminating with some Christmas celebrations.

This year Mrs Tyler will be teaching the class on a Monday and I will be teaching them Tuesday to Friday, supported by Mrs McLeod Monday to Thursday morning and Mrs Baker on a Friday morning. Mrs Presland will be assisting with Art on a Tuesday afternoon. Mrs Dean will be teaching interventions on a Wednesday morning and we will have Mrs Cotton every afternoon for interventions.

Topics we will be covering are as follows:

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> half 2021</b>	<b>Autumn 2nd half 2021</b>
Topic	Stone Age to Iron Age	Egyptians
Big Bang	Celtic Harmony	Egyptian Workshop
RE	Stories of key religious leaders Harvest	Ways of describing God Christmas
Literacy Genres	Poetry - vocabulary Report Writing Newspaper Writing	Instructions Limericks Recipe Writing
Maths	Number and place value Mental addition and subtraction Written addition and subtraction Strands: Geometry: properties of shapes Mental multiplication and division Number and place value Written multiplication and division Fractions, ratio and proportion Decimals, percentages and their equivalence to fractions Measurement Statistics	
Science	Animals, including humans	Animals, including humans
PSHE RSE	Circle time Aiming High	Circle time Safety First
PE	Games Gym	Games Dance
Computing	E-Safety Word Processing	E-Safety Programming Scratch
French	Who are you?/Numbers	Parts of the body
Music	Exploring rhythmic patterns	Exploring arrangements
Art	Chalk/ pastel cave drawings	Clay scarab Christmas card

Can I ask you to please ensure that all uniform, water bottles, trainers and plimsolls are named as returning lost property without names eats into learning time! They will need to have a pair of plimsolls or indoor trainers to be kept in school at all times. This is in case their outdoor shoes get muddy and they need to change.

As Mrs Tyler has already stated in her letters to you, we will be returning to a much more normal way of working - if anyone can remember what that is- we will no longer be in class bubbles and many things like assemblies can now resume. We continue to consider everyone's safety though, and hand washing and hygiene will still be a priority as will good ventilation in the classroom.

**Outdoor PE** remains on a **Tuesday** and **Gymnastics** (Outside where possible) is on a **Monday**. Children will need to come to school in named PE kit on these days and have their water bottle in school which they can take into PE lessons to help avoid dehydration. **(See Checklist below)**

**Homework** is optional in Beech Class this year. I have attached the document for the homework which will need to be stuck into your child's homework book. You may use your own book for this or if you email me I can provide a homework book. If you would like a paper copy of the homework sheet, again, please email me. Please hand any homework in for marking on a Monday after it is completed. Please do all homework in pencil.

**Tables** will be tested on a Monday, we alternate 25 questions with 6 seconds per question (online test). Please use DoodleTables and Times Table Rock stars to practise these. We are taking a slightly different approach to spelling this year and are adopting the Herts for Learning Essentials for spelling scheme. Spellings will not be tested weekly in school, rather a spelling activity based on the rule will be taught each day and spellings assessed throughout the half term. Please use the spelling book to practise the words that are examples of the rule at home. Spelling sounds which we are practising will be allocated on Doodle where possible, but any Doodle Spell is good practice because it follows the year groups' spelling curriculum.

We have regular **ERIC** (everyone reading in class) time. We aim for every child to read in school to an adult once a week and also have the opportunity for comprehension-based tasks. You can help your child by hearing them read frequently and talking to them about their book, including making predictions and talking about their preferences and giving reasons why. Please ensure their book is in school every day. In KS2 they are responsible for changing their own book when it's finished. Accelerated reader children need to do a quiz when they finish their book. Other children need to write a couple of sentences about the book in their reading record. Please cover reading records with wrapping paper or similar if you have not already done so. I will then label and put them in a plastic wallet.

Please encourage your child to use **Doodle Maths**, **English**, **Tables** and **Spell** as these are calibrated to increase in difficulty as each individual child improves and with regular use have been shown to greatly support children's learning.

We are looking forward to our **trip** to The Celtic Harmony Camp on 5<sup>th</sup> October to support our Stone Age to Iron Age topic. Please return the permission slips for this trip as soon as possible so that I can oversee the travelling and finalise the booking. These were sent on parent mail at the end of the summer term.

Trips and workshops planned for the rest of the year can be seen on the rolling program <https://benington.herts.sch.uk/?s=rolling+program> and will cost around £10 per half termly trip.

We will be having a **Parent Welcome Meeting** in the school hall at 9am on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September so I will look forward to meeting many of you then.

If you have any questions in the meantime please feel free to email me or telephone the office and I will respond as soon as is possible.

Best wishes,

Mrs Welch  
[vanessa.w@benington.herts.sch.uk](mailto:vanessa.w@benington.herts.sch.uk)

## Beech Class Checklist

Day	Reminder
Monday Mrs Tyler Mrs McLeod am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework due in (Optional)</li> <li>• Tables Test</li> <li>• PE (outdoors where possible)</li> <li>• Come wearing named tracksuit or navy shorts and white t-shirt</li> <li>• Wear Plimsolls or trainers</li> <li>• Remember earring tape if you can't take your earrings out</li> </ul>
Tuesday Mrs Welch Mrs McLeod am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PE (outdoors where possible)</li> <li>• Come wearing named tracksuit or navy shorts and white t-shirt</li> <li>• Wear Plimsolls or trainers</li> <li>• Remember earring tape if you can't take your earrings out</li> </ul>
Wednesday Mrs Welch Mrs McLeod am	
Thursday Mrs Welch Mrs McLeod am	Science
Friday Mrs Welch Mrs Baker am	