

Dear Parents,

We are well into the Spring Term and the children in Beech are really enjoying our work this half term. I hope you all have a fabulous Half Term Break and look forward to the many exciting things planned for the rest of this term.

This term Mrs Tyler continues to teach the class on a Monday and I teach them Tuesday to Friday, supported by Mrs McLeod Monday to Thursday morning and Mrs Baker on a Friday morning. Mrs Presland delivers Art on a Thursday afternoon. Mrs Dean has intervention groups on a Wednesday morning. This term we have a 2nd year, BA Hons student teacher, Miss Carew, working with us until 22/03/24. We also have volunteer assistance from Mr Preston on most Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons.

I would like to thank you for all your hard work at home last term and ask that you continue to hear your child read daily, recording this in their reading record. Although they are all becoming independent readers, it is vital in their progress to continue with this. Please encourage your child to complete 3 mins of tables practice on Times Tables Rockstars (TTR) or Mathsframe at least 4 times per week (or equivalent written practice). This is particularly important for Y4, who will be completing the Statutory Tables assessment in June.

TTR Website: - <https://play.ttrockstars.com/>

Spellings and tables tests will remain on a Monday morning for this term, so regular practice of the weeks spellings is also encouraged.

We continue to use of Atom Learning for homework. The children have their logins in their reading records. I will be setting either English or Maths weekly as well as optional Science/Verbal/Nonverbal Reasoning. This should help to reinforce their learning within school. I have talked to some parents and removed the timer. However children are not expected to do more than 30 minutes homework. The link to the website is: -

https://atomlearning.com/?_ga=2.251868032.881797330.1674398826-1372138844.1672318786

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! All children 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.

Please note that school will start at 8:45 this year and that will be our reading time so please ensure that your child is punctual!

We are continuing with parents coming in for reading on a Friday morning for 15 minutes. This has been lovely and any new parents would be very welcome. If any parent would like to stay for a further 20 minutes to hear a 'guided-reading' group, they would be very welcome.

Below I have put this term's curriculum so that you know what we will be covering. In Maths, we have started with 2D & 3D Shapes and fractions and will be moving on to measuring accurately with a ruler, time and then we will focus on multiplication and division in particular. In English we are looking at Fantasy with 'Leon and the Place Between' by Alison McAllister and Grahame Baker-Smith and traditional tales using 'The Finger Eater' by Dick King-Smith. For

Geography we are looking at Rivers this half term and Mountains after half term. Science is States of Matter and Anim

As always, if you have any questions, problems or worries, do not hesitate to contact me either at the end of the day or by email.

Best wishes,

Vanessa Welch

vanessa.welch@benington.herts.sch.uk

| Beech Class | Spring Term B | |
|---------------------|--|---|
| English | Fantasy | Traditional Tales |
| Maths | Number (including negatives), shape, fractions, measures, time, multiplication, division | |
| Driver project | Misty mountain, winding river – geography | |
| Science | States of matter | Grouping & classifying |
| Art & Design | Vista | Animal |
| Design & Technology | Functional & fancy fabrics | |
| Geography | Geography covered in main project | |
| RE | Incarnation / God Unit 2A.3 (Core learning) | Salvation Unit 2A.5 (Core learning) |
| PSHE & RSE | Digital Wellbeing | Think Positive |
| Music | March from the Nutcracker Rondo structure, beat, higher/lower, staccato, call-and-response, romantic ballet music | Recorder Fanfare for the common man Fanfare, timbre, dynamics, texture, silence |
| PE | Net/wall (Badminton) Dance | Tri-Golf Invasion Games (Basketball) |
| French | Who are you, number, Parts of the body & Colours/Days | |
| Computing | Writing for different audiences | Logo |