



Beech Class Information Letter

Autumn 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the start of another school year. Although it seems miles away, Year 6 is about getting the children ready for their next stage of education and making sure they are prepared for their transition into secondary school. This will be done through challenging the children and giving them more responsibility in their learning. With assistance from Mrs Delve, I am looking forward to working with the class to unlock their talents and give them confidence to take risks with their learning.

I imagine that some of the children may feel a little bit nervous about coming back to school as they have had a lot of time off due to Covid-19. However, from what I have seen during the first few days, they are a very resilient class and will fit straight back into school life in no time.

I would like to take this opportunity to go over a few things so that the children and yourselves are ready for their return.

TIMETABLE

An example timetable for a week in Beech Class will also be uploaded to the school website where you can expect to see the general timings and lessons for each day. Please note that this is only a guide. It remains flexible so that we can accommodate ambitious activities for the different subjects which may require extra time.

Below are some general timings for the school, for your information.

Arrival time: 9:00am

Registration: 9:05am

Morning break: 10:45am – 11:00am

Lunch: 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Assembly: At the moment there will not be assemblies as usual, however there may be opportunities for class assemblies/bubble assemblies as the first term progresses.

End of day: 3:30pm

SCHOOL UNIFORM

As always, the children will be expected to wear the correct uniform to school each day. Details of the school uniform requirements can be found on the school website. As Health and Safety is so prominent these days, we ask that all jewellery is kept at home with the exception of stud earrings. All children with long hair must tie it back and children's hair should be a natural colour. Please note that the wearing of nail varnish is not permitted in school. Please ensure your child has a raincoat in school, preferably that can fit into their bag. We ask you to label all items of footwear and clothing with your child's name or initials, including items in their P.E. kit and their coat. I also ask that both your child's drink bottle and snack are marked with their

initials or name, to avoid confusion when children have the same bottle or snack. Given the current situation we are in, this is especially important and if something is not named, we will label it for your child.

STAYING HEALTHY

As a school, we encourage the children to bring healthy snacks into school for break time and to have a balanced lunch. We would also like to ask for your co-operation in not bringing birthday treats to share with the class when it is your child's birthday. Although we appreciate the gesture, it will help us promote a healthy school environment.

Earlier this week, a letter was sent via ParentPay regarding allergies. Please can you ensure you do not send your child to school with any food products containing nuts.

READING

During the first few weeks of the term, I will be helping the children to choose their new books. To do this, the children will also take a 'Star Reading Test' for the Accelerated Reader system in the library. This test will give the children a range of books to choose from in the library, which match their performance in the reading test. The library system is a little bit different this year as each bubble will have access to their own set of books which still include a wide range of genres and those that are easier as well as those that are more challenging. As a school, we expect the children to be reading every day at home, whilst also providing them with opportunities to read in school throughout the week. For maximum reading development, it is recommended that children read for 30- 40 minutes every day. This could include time that they have read in school and might also include times when children have been engaged in a story or book that is being read to them, or even an audio book. Please continue to encourage your child to read as often as possible.

This year, the class will also take part in a range of reading activities through whole class shared texts in English as well as small group and independent reading opportunities during guided reading sessions. The children will complete different activities linked to the text and designed to build their reading comprehension skills, as well as encourage their enjoyment of reading books and stories. It is my aim to promote a love of books and develop the children's enjoyment and curiosity within reading.

HOMEWORK

At this present time, we are going to put a delay on homework until the week commencing 21st September, as we want to make sure the children have a gradual introduction to normality. If you are looking for anything extra in the meantime, the children can work on Spelling Frame or get a head start on the Times Tables Rockstar's half term competition.

When we start homework again, we shall be following a similar format to last year, the children will continue to receive homework every Thursday which should be handed in the following week on Tuesday. The homework will either be a piece of maths or English from the homework books (alternating each week) that supports their learning. This continues as a school wide approach. The homework can be set to consolidate learning that has taken place in class or practice a new skill that we will be moving on to in the upcoming weeks so that I can assess the children's prior knowledge before teaching a new unit of work. If your child would like to practice any maths and English in addition to the weekly homework set, please encourage them to practice their times table and division facts. It will be your child's responsibility to make sure that their homework is completed on time and if they have any problems, they speak to myself or Mrs Delve for help and support.

P.E. & GAMES

This year, all children in the school will have P.E. for two hours each week. Willow class sessions will be taught by Mr Maloney on a Monday afternoon and by myself on a Wednesday afternoon. More information

will be sent about these as needed. Please ensure that the children come to school in PE kit on both our PE days (Monday and Wednesday).

MEDICATION

The school can only administer prescribed medication which needs to be left in the office with a signed permission form. Any other medication, including over-the-counter medications, will need to be administered by parents/guardians.

Any other information about their return can be found on the school newsletter, which has been sent via ParentPay.

If you have anything you wish to discuss with myself. Please pass the information onto a member of staff and I will contact you as soon as I can.

Wishing you a happy term,



Mr.T.Horton

