



# Beech Class Information Letter

## Summer Term 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have all had a relaxing holiday! This term, we have got lots to look forward to in Beech Class. There will be a huge focus on celebrating the children's achievements throughout their time at primary school and getting them prepared for their transition to secondary school. I understand that this can be a very daunting time for the children and parents who have not had to deal with this before, but the school will endeavour to make this process as easy as possible for all involved. If you have got any questions or concerns regarding this, please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Miss Crathorne.

I would like to take this opportunity to go over a few things so that the children and yourselves are ready for the start of Summer term.

### 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:** 8:50am

**Registration:** 8:55am

Children with younger siblings will be able to arrive at 8.40am.

**Morning break:** 10:45am – 11:00am

**Lunch:** 12:30pm – 1:30pm

**Assembly:** At the moment, there will not be whole school assemblies, however there may be opportunities for bubble 2 assemblies.

**End of day:** 3:20pm

### SECONDARY SCHOOL

Due to the current restrictions, at present there are some unanswered questions regarding transition days for the children. Secondary schools may contact us or yourselves directly. Any communications we receive from the different secondary schools will be sent out to you as soon as we get them.

### RESIDENTIAL VISIT

At present, the plans for the end of year residential visit to Skern Lodge are going ahead. This is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July. Communications regarding this will be sent out via Parent Pay. Please keep an eye on your inbox and ensure that payments are kept up to date.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

As always, the children will be expected to wear the correct uniform to school each day (leavers hoodies are part of their school uniform). 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. Now that the weather is getting warmer, please ensure your child has a light raincoat and a sunhat in school. If children are wearing sun cream on the hotter days, please could you apply this in the morning before they come to school. 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. 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.

## **READING**

During the first few weeks, the children will take a 'Star Reading Test' for the Accelerated Reader system in the library. This will check the children's progress in their reading and determine the range of books the children should be choosing from in the library, which match their performance in the reading test.



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. As a school, we have decided to create a virtual library for each class in school to help increase the love of reading at home. This can be found on the school website.

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.

The children 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.



As an incentive to keep the children reading, Starbooks will continue this term. Children must read, quiz and review 10 books in order to fill up their 'loyal-tea' stamp card to receive their reward. Last term, the children also set up a book club, which we shall be extending and monitoring over the term. It would be lovely to see some more Beech Class children taking part this term.

## **HOMEWORK**

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. The homework is 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.

## ASSESSMENTS

As you are probably all aware by now, the government have cancelled the SATs assessments this year. To help with the secondary school transition process and to monitor the children's progress, we shall be continuing with our own school assessments. The children will be made aware of when these are. Please can I ask that to do not add any pressure to your children regarding these assessments; they do not need to do any extra revision or preparation as this can give us false results.

## P.E. & GAMES

This year, all children in the school will have P.E. for two hours each week. Beech class sessions will be taught by an Achieve4All coach 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 new information over the term 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.



Best wishes.

**Mr Horton**

