



Beech Class Information Letter

Autumn Term 2021

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. Additionally, the Year 5 children will be challenged to take their learning forward through understanding the school values and demonstrating these on a day to day basis to become successful life-long learners. 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 would like to take this opportunity to go over a few things so that the children and yourselves are ready for the start of Autumn 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: 8:40am

Registration: 8:45am

Morning break: 10:45am – 11:00am

Lunch: 12pm – 1pm

Assembly: At the moment, assemblies will continue to take place as key stages.

End of day: 3:10pm

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. 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.

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.

May we also take the opportunity to remind you that we are a 'nut-free' school and, as such, we have in place school-wide measures that will keep all individuals with allergies safe. We are asking for wider parental support in the following ways:

- Please avoid sending nuts or products containing nuts (where known or possible) into school. This includes peanut butter.
 - Please talk to your children about the importance of not sharing their food with other children.
 - Please talk to your child about the importance of washing hands thoroughly both before and after eating.
- Whilst we do not want to limit the food choices for our families, we do want to make sure that everyone at our school is safe and well and hope that you understand the reasons behind our above requests.

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 Achieve4All on a Monday afternoon and by myself on a Thursday 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 Thursday).

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 review club, which we shall be extending and monitoring over the term.

HOMEWORK

The children will receive homework every Thursday, which should be handed in the following week and marked 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.

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 will be 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

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FOR ANDROID AND IPHONE

Keep up-to-date with school news.

Receive notifications on up and coming school events

1. Download the APP from your APP store for FREE.
2. Type the School postcode or find schools near you.
3. Select your school and start using the APP.

