

Welcome back to Beech class. I hope that you had an enjoyable break and are looking forward to the exciting summer term ahead!

Reading at home

Please keep reading regularly with your child at home - it is very important that your child is able to consolidate their reading outside of school hours. We will continue to do whole class guided reading lessons, during which we will be working on inferring meaning from texts and developing strategies to read exception words as well as how to use prefixes, suffixes and root words to understand the meanings of unfamiliar words. Children can change their books independently during reading time in class.

Homework

The Summer Term list was given out at the end of last term. It can also be found on the Beech class page on the school's website. Homework books will be checked on Thursdays and given back to children on Fridays. Please try to complete one task from the list per week. Feel free to comment on how well your child managed with each task. It is important for me to know if they have found something particularly challenging. It's also nice to know if they have enjoyed it too! Please make sure that your child completes their homework to as high a standard as possible as we like to display lots of it around the classroom! Children are more than welcome to create their homework on a computer but please ensure that it is in their own words and that they have added something of their own to the work, rather than just taking something from the internet. If you do not have the facilities to print homework at home, feel free to email it to our class email address beech@asfordbyhill.leics.sch.uk and we will print it in school. I am afraid that we cannot take homework from memory sticks.

Spellings

Spellings will be given out on a Thursday and tested the following Thursday, in line with the Year 4 English Curriculum. The children will have 10 spellings to learn linked to a spelling rule or pattern, but when tested will have a few extra spellings from the Year 4 exception words list. During the test I will say the spelling, put the spelling word into a sentence, and then repeat the spelling word again. Once marked, their answer sheet will be attached into their spelling books. This term's spellings can be found on the Beech class page on the school's website, along with the year 3/ 4 common exception words list. These words are really tricky for most children to spell and will benefit from as much support at home as possible.

Times Tables

Times tables will continue to be tested on a Monday this term. Many children have now completed bronze, silver and gold up to their 12 times table and have moved onto the 99 club, which involves completing an increasing number of times tables each week within 8 minutes - up to 99 mixed times tables in 10 minutes. Following this, children will move onto the 99 inverse club. Times Tables Rock stars is a fantastic tool to use at home and supports the children in reaching the expected level of less than 6 seconds per question. We highly recommend this as a method of practicing times tables at home.

PE Kits

Beech Class will have PE every Wednesday and Thursday. PE may take place on the field so PE kits might get a bit muddy, sorry! Please make sure that your child has a jacket/ jumper that they can wear for PE when it is cold and suitable trainers for outdoor activities on the field or the playground.

Names

Please ensure all of your child's school uniform, PE kit, coat, pack lunch and water bottle are clearly named.

Summer Term's Curriculum

Much of this term's work will be based on the topic 'Raiders and Invaders'. It will begin with Britain before the Anglo- Saxons and Vikings, moving on to look at settlements, Gods, Viking boats, warriors and much more! Please feel free to send in any books or items of interest related to the class topic.

The main focus for English will continue to involve vocabulary, punctuation and grammar, as well as writing for different purposes and audiences. Much of our English work will be linked to our 'Raiders and Invaders' topic where appropriate. Weekly themes will include non-fiction work and poetry as well as stories and traditional tales.

Mathematics will be taught through a range of practical and written activities. It will involve developing fluency, reasoning and problem solving across the Year 4 curriculum. We will be covering money, time, statistics and geometry, developing and deepening our understanding, and using this to solve or investigate problems.

During this term we will also be learning about writing HTML, creating digital music, producing wooden bird boxes for the school's sensory garden, talking about our family in French, cricket (with an expert coach) and longitude and latitude. Our art this term will involve creating a whole class piece for this year's art displays as well as individual pieces around the theme of oceans. In PSHE, we will also be learning about personal qualities such as understanding others, enthusiasm, self- control, curiosity, perseverance, gratitude and optimism through our work on 'when lightning strikes... look for a rainbow'. Additionally, we will learn about our British values including democracy, individual liberty, the rule of law, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and belief.

Finally, thank you for your continuing support at home. If you or a family member would like to offer time or skills to support the children in Beech you would be more than welcome. We love sharing what we are learning about with people at home so make sure that you have a look at our class blog which you can access through the website.

Yours sincerely

Miss J Tierney