

Dear parents and carers,

We have had a wonderful first week back in school! I have loved getting to know all of the children in Beech Class a little better, and have been impressed with how quickly they are settling into new routines and getting used to new faces. 😊 The children have already demonstrated some fantastic learning behaviours and started earning stickers!

Year 2 Learning Behaviours

Though the animals and behaviours remain the same, there are extra challenges to the Learning Behaviours in Year 2.

Keeping going	I keep going even when things seem difficult.	
Risk taker	I give things a go, knowing that it's ok to make mistakes.	
Respect	I show respect for everyone in the school, including other people's ideas and belongings.	
Motivated and engaged	I sit up straight, track the speaker and listen carefully. I take part in all activities and sometimes take my learning beyond the classroom.	
Taking responsibility	I am always ready for my learning. I will look after my own belongings in school.	
Team Player	I get involved in pair, group and class activities and am kind and considerate to others.	
Aiming High	I always try my best, am proud of my achievements and begin to think about the next steps in my learning.	

We have been discussing these in class and the children will continue to be rewarded for displaying these qualities: we will be celebrating in class as well in our Friday celebration assembly, and I know they will also enjoy telling everyone at home so you can celebrate with them! Also, look out for news on a new learning behaviour to be introduced soon: Confident Communicator. The children will, I am sure, enjoy practising for this by telling you all about it.

We will shortly be holding class elections for two school councillors, two eco-warriors and two arts ambassadors. I have already asked the children to let me know if they are interested and am delighted to say that almost every child has put themselves forward for a role.

Cloakroom

The children have made a great start in organising their belongings as they arrive. Sticking to bringing in just the essential items they need for school, will really help them in this and enable them to build their independence, while keeping their belongings safe. Please could you also ensure that lunch and snack boxes are named so that they can be placed safely for easy access. Water

bottles (which must only contain water, no squash or juice) may be brought into the classroom. As a reminder, snacks may be fruit/vegetables or a small sandwich. Pupils do not need to bring any extra items into school; all equipment needed during the day, will be provided in school.

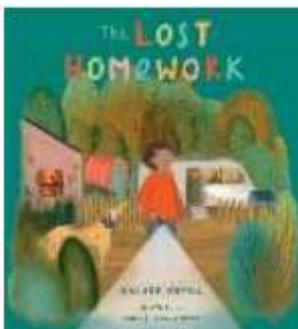
PE

Year 2 will have PE on Tuesday with and on Wednesday day with Mr Bailey. **Named kits** need to be brought in on a Monday and kept in school during the week, hung on cloakroom pegs in a drawstring bag. As the weather gets colder, you may wish to include a pair of tracksuit or jogging bottoms and a jumper. Pupils will bring kits home at the end of the week for washing.

English

Daily phonics sessions will continue, where children will develop their reading and writing at the right level for them. Children will bring home their group storybook that they will have practised reading three times in class to read to you twice more. Once they have read it to you twice, it can be sent back into school. The children should be able to read these storybooks confidently by the time they bring them home, so please do let me know if this doesn't appear to be the case so that we can ensure we tackle any issues straight away. The children will also bring home two further books: firstly, a Read Write Inc. book bag book that they may not have read before, but that they should be able to tackle with minimal help. They should read this book repeatedly as building reading fluency is a vital aspect of the Year 2 reading journey. Secondly, they will bring home a picture book or chapter book that they have chosen for you to read to them for enjoyment. This can be changed each Wednesday, but if it is a chapter book that they are enjoying but haven't finished they are welcome to keep it for longer. Please send in reading records and book bag books every day: reading records will be checked on a Monday. Each week, children who have five reads recorded will have a raffle ticket put into the pot for a chance of winning a book voucher at the end of term.

There will be a phonics information evening on Tuesday 27th September where you will have the chance to ask about anything that you are not sure about, but please do get in touch at any time if you have any questions or observations about your child's reading.



Alongside phonics, the children will encounter many texts on a daily basis, in English lessons and in other subjects. Our first whole class reader this year is *The Lost Homework* by Richard O'Neill, a heart-warming tale set in the traveller community. It is about a young boy who realises that he learns many valuable things at home as well as at school, such as using a map and cooking a meal. I am looking forward to hearing about the many things Beech Class have learnt

at home, too! We have already shared and enjoyed the story *Yokki and the Parno Grey*, by the same author, in class.

Spelling

We will continue to practise spellings on a daily basis: learning spellings supports the children's phonics and vice versa, so please encourage and support your children in using Spelling Frame to practise. <https://spellingframe.co.uk>. Spelling homework will be set weekly using Spellingframe, starting next week. Children will have a sticker stuck into their reading record containing their username and password. It is, however, also helpful to practise writing out words by hand, so we will be sending home a book to practise writing words and sentences in. A sheet of ideas for how to practise these will be stuck into the front, and the children will bring home a bookmark with the spellings they are working on each half term. These books should be kept at home, though please do check to see that words have been copied correctly!

Maths

This term, we will:

- practise counting forwards and backwards to 100
- practise reading and writing numbers to 100 in numerals and words.
- secure our understanding of the place value of two digit numbers and work on various ways of partitioning them.
- compare numbers and use the symbols $<$ $>$ $=$ to write number sentences.
- count forwards and backwards in 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s
- practise adding and subtracting number bonds to 20
- learn bonds to 100 (tens and ones)
- add and subtract one and two-digit numbers
- recognise and know the value of coins and notes
- use problem-solving and reasoning skills to calculate totals, differences and change when using money, including two-step problems
- recap the basics of multiplication before we cover it in greater depth in spring term

Please follow this link to our website to refresh yourself with the school's calculation policy:

Addition [Tatworth-ADDITION.pdf](#)

Subtraction [Tatworth-SUBTRACTION.pdf](#)

Multiplication [Tatworth-MULTIPLICATION.pdf](#)

Science

In science this half-term, we will be learning about biology, looking at living things and their habitats. We have started by thinking about where in the school grounds we might find a variety of living things, and are planning to investigate the types of habitat preferred by woodlice. We have also begun to have some interesting discussions about how we know whether things are living or not. A feather prompted a particularly interesting discussion!

After half-term we will be exploring the properties of different materials.

History, Geography and RE

This half-term we will be learning about maps and using them to explore our local area in geography. This will lead into us considering how the local area has changed over time in history. We will be planning a walk around the village using maps, and will need helpers for the walk, so look out for further information about that. Also, if you have any local maps, either current or historic, that you would be happy for us to borrow, it would be much appreciated.



In RE, we will be learning about religious practices and lifestyle by asking “What is the importance of Torah, the star of David and the celebrations of Shabbat to Jews?”

Music, DT and Art

In music lessons this half-term, we will be performing through call and response. During the second half-term, we will be exploring orchestral instruments. In art this half term, we will be looking closely at birds and their feathers to create bird sculptures. In the second half of term, we will be doing DT and will be exploring how solid structures are made to be strong and stable; we will be designing, building and evaluating solid structures of our own.

PSHE

In the first half-term, our PSHE topic is “My Relationships”, and we will be thinking about our feelings, relationships and what makes a good friend. We will also talk about what bullying is and what we can do if we see or experience it. In the second half-term, we will be covering “Valuing Difference,” and will be working to recognise and celebrate what makes us each unique and to think about how we can make sure everyone in the class feels included and important. In addition, we will cover relevant PSHE topics as and when any issues arise in class or at playtimes.

Thank you for your continued co-operation and support; I look forward to seeing you at a 'Meet the Teacher' session next week.

Kind regards

Mrs Webb