

Dear Parents & Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope that you have all had a peaceful and relaxing Christmas. Thank you so much for the wonderful gifts and kind messages, they are all greatly appreciated.

Miss Garrett and myself have many exciting lessons planned and can't wait to start our new topic!

Important Dates for Beech Class this Term:

- Beech Class Assembly-Our class assembly will take place on 25th March 2019 at 3.05pm in the school hall. Please come along, we would love to share our work with you!
- Parents Evening-Tuesday 5th March and Thursday 7th March between 3.30pm and 7.00pm.

Our overarching topic for this half term is 'Growth and Green Fingers'. The focus subjects will be, Science, Art and Design, alongside other core subjects.

Science

In Science we will be looking at a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. Also we will be learning how to describe the basic structure of a variety of flowering plants and trees. This will provide the children the opportunity to engage in first hand 'green finger' experiences.

Art

Our focus for Art will include learning about impressionism and developing the children's understanding, imagination and creativity in art. This will provide the children with the opportunity to look at complementary colours, learn new techniques of shading; and creating highlights and shadows to enrich their work. We will focus on great artists, architects and designers such as, Rousseau, Monet and O'Keeffe to allow the children to create their own masterpieces in the style of their works.

Design

In Design the children will develop a concept, draw, plan and create a product using fruit and vegetables, whilst developing their food vocabulary using, taste, smell, texture and feel. The children will learn how to cut, peel, grate and chop a range of ingredients and also learn how to work safely and hygienically.

Literacy

In literacy, we will be reading a range of traditional tales and exploring the many opportunities to write about events and characters from these fantastic stories. The children will be sequencing events and re-telling stories in their own words using adjectives to describe their tales. Some of the stories we will be reading and retelling will be 'Three little Pigs', 'Billy Goats Gruff', 'Little Red Riding Hood'.

We will compare fiction and non-fiction books and discuss how they are different. We will be finding facts from various 'plant' themed information books and using these in our writing. We will also be learning the purpose and how to find words in a dictionary.

Mathematics

In Mathematics we will be practising, number and place value, understanding multiplications as additions, division, mass weight and shape. We will focus on halves and doubles and counting forwards and backwards. We will also be comparing the capacity of different containers, identifying coins and their values and using positional language.

Phonics

At this point in the academic year we are practicing word recognition and language comprehension through reading and writing sentences and practicing reading and spelling high-frequency words. Please continue to support your child in learning all of the High Frequency words sent home and any additional phonics homework.

Supporting your child's learning at home

Homework will continue to be a variety of activities linked to the subjects we are learning about. We thank you for all the fantastic homework that has been completed and for the effort put in by yourselves and your children. The time you spend with your child completing these activities is appreciated and will allow your child to practise the skills learnt at school and for you to see the progress they are making.



We are enormously pleased with the progress Beech class are making with their reading. We would like to thank you for your continued hard work and practice. The time you spend with your child is instrumental to their learning and makes such a difference.

P.E will continue to take place on a Wednesday and a Friday. Please ensure your child has full P.E kit in school.

We look forward to the Spring Term and watching your children progress and enjoy their learning.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Patisso & Miss Garrett