

"if you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible."
(Matthew: 17 v20)

HEADTEACHER: MR M. REYNOLDS

SENCO: MRS K. MORRISON

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: MRS C. WINSLADE

VICE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: MR B. SEMPLE

Dear Parents/Carers and children,

Welcome back! We hope you have had a lovely time over the summer and that you are looking forward to a new school year in Beech Class! We are looking forward to having an exciting and productive year and hope you enjoy the new challenges that this year has to offer.

Our aim is to ensure that the children experience a smooth transition from the Foundation Stage in to Key Stage 1. Learning through play will continue to be an important part of the day in Beech Class as we build upon and extend the experiences the children have had in their previous learning. The children will gradually be eased into more formal learning as the year progresses, so that they remain motivated, enthused and eager learners.

Topic - Enchanted Woodland

If you go down to the woods today you're sure of a big Surprise!

Foxes and badgers, voles and mice, beady-eyed owls in the swaying tree tops. Beneath the leaves are tiny footprints....animal or fairy? You decide!

Our topic for this half term is Enchanted Woodland where we will be learning about the geography of our local area and woodland. We will be paying particular focus on our map skills by looking at and using aerial photographs of our locality to recognise basic human and physical features. We will explore the use of directional language to describe location and devising our own simple maps of an enchanted woodland! We will be reading texts linked with our Enchanted Woodland theme such as Owl Babies and Hansel and Gretel while focusing on our sentence and story writing skills.

Reading

Phonics will continue to be taught daily to all children following our new programme 'Little Wandle - Letters and Sounds revised'. Children in Year 1 and Year 2 will also take part in Reading Practice sessions where we will focus on decoding (sounding out), prosody (reading with expression), and comprehension. The children will reread the same practice book during these sessions throughout the week in order to develop their fluency. The more children see words, the more they begin to read them automatically without having to sound them out.

Although your child will be taught to read in school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

There will be two types of book that your child will bring home:

- **A reading practice book:** This will have been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. This is to ensure that when your child is reading their book, they should be fluent and automatic. The aim is that the children read these books at 95% fluency.
- **A sharing book:** This is a book that they have chosen for you to enjoy together. In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure.

Maths

In maths Year 1 will be focusing on place value by counting, representing, ordering and comparing numbers to 10 before moving on to addition and subtraction later this term.

Year 2 will begin the year by focusing on place value by counting, representing, ordering and comparing numbers to 100. We will continue to practice counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s, before beginning to count in 3s. Year 2 will also move onto addition and subtraction later this term.

Science

Our science this term will be closely linked with our Enchanted Woodland theme as we learn to identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. We will identify and describe the structure of a variety of common flowering plants and finding out what they need to grow.

RE

In RE we will be asking ourselves the question 'What do Christians believe God is like?'. We will be reading and exploring stories from the Bible and discussing what those stories tell us about God.

PE, Forest School, and French

PE will take place for Beech class on a Friday afternoon. Please make sure that your child comes into school on the day wearing their PE kit.

Forest School will take place on a Monday afternoon with myself and Mr Chidwick. Please can we ask that your child has a Forest School kit available in school from Monday 12th September.

Mrs. Reynolds will be teaching French on Tuesday mornings each week.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office.

We are looking forward to working closely with you and your children this year,

Miss Roberts & Miss Scott

