



Beech Class Spring Curriculum Overview

We will cover a range of topics in the following subjects during our second term in Year 3/4. The following information applies up until the Easter holidays.

Subject	Focus	Home Learning
English	Our first unit this term will be looking at non-rhyming poetry that tells the story of a journey along a river. We will then move on to a non-fiction unit linked to our science work on electricity. Our narrative text this term will look at portal stories and the techniques used to build suspense. After half-term we will be writing a recount from the point of view of an evacuee during WW2.	Compare how suspense is created in books and on screen. Which techniques are effective? Why? Try keeping a diary of your own to record what happens, your thoughts and feelings.
Maths	This term, we will be applying written methods to calculating length, perimeter, capacity, and mass. We will be learning about the different ways in which we can view and use fractions, which will build on our times table knowledge. This will lead into a short unit on decimals before we move onto data and statistics. In our fluency work, we will be focussing on the 6-, 7- and 9-times tables, and spotting patterns within and between these.	Get cooking! Following recipes is a fantastic way to practise and apply measurement of capacity and mass in a real-life situation. Look for real-life data sets. Continuing to practise times tables will assist with fractions.
Science	Our first unit in science will be electricity with a focus on creating and testing circuits. We will look at electrical conductors and insulators as well as how to stay safe around electricity. This will lead on to a unit on light looking at sources, shadows, and reflections.	Identify electrical items around the home. Can you think of any ways to make your power usage more environmentally friendly?
PSHE	In PSHE we will begin the year by thinking about being on time and discussing the difference between borrowing and stealing. Within this unit we will also look at how chores can help prepare us for the working world.	Together, agree on some chores that could be done at home. Begin to talk about aspirations for the future and paths to get there.
Geography	Prior to half-term we will be learning about rivers, including identifying some key global and national rivers, the journey of a river and how this changes over time. We will also be studying the water cycle.	Go for a walk along the canal and spot the wildlife there. How is the canal different to a river? Make sure to talk about water safety.
History	After half-term we will be looking at WW2 from a child's point of view on the home front. We will cover the Battle of Britain, The Blitz and evacuation as well as identifying key figures and dates during this period.	If you have relatives who experienced WW2 first-hand, arrange for them to tell their story and share memories.
RE	This term, we will be looking at what it is like for people to follow God, based on what Christians can learn from the Old Testament stories. In the lead up to Easter, we will be looking at how festivals and worship show what is important to Muslims.	The stories of Noah and Abraham are important in the Jewish and Muslim faith too. Can you find any other stories these religions share?
Art & Design	In art, we will be looking at painting. Our main focus will be using a range of paint mediums to create different textures, including using acrylics with palette knives and gouache.	Look for naturally formed sculptures and discuss how they change over time.
Music	We are going to be revisiting glockenspiels in our first unit, with opportunities to read and write compositions using musical notations. We are then looking at reggae music by comparing a range of songs to 'Three Little Birds.'	Share some of your favourite songs. Discuss the style and why it's on your list. The more genres children can hear, the better!
PE	The children will be starting this term developing their skills in dodgeball, while regularly reflecting on their tactics. Having swapped our gymnastics unit to last term, we will be looking at different styles of dance from the 1930s and 40s, with a focus on rhythm and performance after half term.	Highlight the importance of honesty in competitive situations. Explore videos of other dance styles or find out about a famous dancer and the training they do.
Computing	Our first unit will look at the internet and how it works, with a link to PSHE and internet safety. After half-term we will be using iPads to create stop-motion animations.	Discuss online safety with your child including online friends. Watch a stop-motion animation.