



Beech Class Autumn Curriculum Overview

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

Subject	Focus	Home Learning
English	We will begin the year by looking at fictional narratives, with a focus on story structure which will centre around Grimms's Fairy Tales, Blue John and an exciting seasonal text Mog's Christmas Calamity. Within our non-fiction work the children will develop letter writing skills along with explanation texts. We will also be looking at different forms of poetry including a WW1 theme.	Share stories from different genres together to help broaden their vocabulary. Give them chances to let their imagination develop through storytelling and writing.
Maths	The children will start the year by looking at place value, moving onto written methods for addition and subtraction. They will be given regular opportunities to practise arithmetic skills previously learnt, as well as a chance to apply new skills to reasoning and problem-solving tasks. In our fluency work, we will be focussing on the 3, 4, 8, and 6 times tables, and spotting patterns within and between these.	Working out change and total costs is a great way to practise addition and subtraction in context. Encourage them to think of solutions to problems independently where possible, and talk about their process.
Science	<p>Rocks & Fossils</p> <p>To compare and group different rocks, how fossils are formed and recognise soil is made from rocks and organic matter.</p> <p>States of Matter</p> <p>To compare and group materials – solids, liquid or gas. Observe materials changing state when heated or cooled and understand evaporation and condensation in the water cycle.</p> <p>Properties of Materials</p> <p>To compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal) and response to magnets.</p>	Look for different and unusual rocks whilst out and about; Dartmoor, Exmoor and coastlines are great for this. If you are successful in gathering different types of rock, challenge children to form their own way of classifying and grouping them based on their properties.
PSHE	In PSHE we will look at what makes a good learner with lessons linked to our school Learning Powers. In addition, we will be touching on grief and talk about how to recognise, cope and manage this emotion in ways that result in the best possible way. Further to this we will look at being able to know the difference between pleasant and unpleasant feelings, learn coping skills and understand that feelings can be communicated with and without words.	Keep talking to your child as they settle back into school and help them name emotions, both their own and those of others.
Geography	We will be studying the water cycle's physical process that happens on the surface of the Earth and Earth's Atmosphere.	Talk to you children about water. Ask questions to provoke curiosity in the subject; Where does it come from? How is rain formed? How could water be linked to the word cycle?
History	Our history unit will be looking at Britain in the duration from the Bronze Age to Iron Age. Also, we will be doing a mini-unit on WW1 for remembrance.	Encourage creative role play, including creating historically accurate characters, settings or even artefacts.

RE	<p>Our first sequence of study will look at Hindu beliefs covering; What do Hindu's believe that god is like; How many Gods are there; What does the Trimurti represent and the duties of Brahman.</p> <p>Following this, the children will study and develop an understanding of the Christian Trinity - making links between some bible texts and examples of their way of life.</p>	<p>Encourage an inquisitive mind by enthusing excitement surrounding the comparison of different religions and how it effects ways of life around the world.</p>
Art & Design	<p>Taking inspiration from Hokusai's great wave, the children will be learning painting skills and developing understanding of textures and colour.</p> <p>Also, we will be observing the work of Ansel Adam's photography of water together with crafting observational fossil drawings skills and creating our own lanterns using our sculpture techniques.</p> <p>DT : We will look at pneumatic powered machines and how they work. This will lead to the children designing their own mechanism through design and construction.</p>	<p>Encourage drawing as an activity at home - try drawing or painting with natural materials.</p>
Music	<p>Children's learning is focused around one song 'Let Your Spirit Fly'. The material presents an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked.</p> <p>After half term we will look at 'Bring Us Together' by Joanna Mangona and Pete Readman. This is a Disco song about friendship, peace, hope and unity.</p>	<p>Listen to, and discuss, a range of different genres of music and try finding the beat in songs. This could be through clapping, or dancing.</p>
PE	<p>Using the Get Set 4 P.E scheme The children will be starting the year by looking at the skills and teamwork involved in playing hockey. After half term we will be developing our gymnastic skills which will focus on balance and creating sequences.</p>	<p>Ensure children have opportunities to practise key skills such as hand to eye coordination and basic drilling skills. Practice at clear and confident communication together with building teamwork skills would be fantastic too.</p>
Spanish	<p>This term we will be focusing on learning Spanish. To begin with we will learn greetings and basic information - leading to them writing words down and engaging in conversations with each other.</p>	<p>At home it would be great if you could ask them about the words and phrases they have learnt. Also, a free app called 'Duolingo' could be used to further their knowledge.</p>
Computing	<p>Children will develop their understanding of digital devices, with an initial focus on inputs, processes, and outputs. They will also compare digital and non-digital devices.</p> <p>After half term the children will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language.</p>	<p>Challenge your children to develop their understanding of digital devices, with an initial focus on inputs, processes, and outputs. Start by comparing digital and non-digital devices.</p>

