

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome Year 3 to Beech Class

Welcome back after the summer holiday, I hope the children have enjoyed their first week back at school. This letter is to let you know what we will be doing in class over the following weeks and how you can help your child this year.

Our Literacy for the next few weeks will focus on *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens. This links with our topic all about the Victorians. We will be writing diary entries from Oliver's point of view, predicting what might happen next and writing our own version of the story and acting out parts of the story to enhance our speaking and listening skills. Spelling will be taught separately and the children will bring a list home on a Wednesday to be tested the following Wednesday. Handwriting will also be taught separately and we will be focusing on how to join letters and make our writing more cursive. If you'd like to know more about cursive handwriting please ask for a copy of the joins we are learning. It is still extremely important that you continue to read and share books with your child, whether they are reading independently or particularly if they are struggling to read. Lots of children can decode well but it is important that they talk about the stories and words that they read so that they really understand them.

In maths, the first few weeks of the term will focus on place value and this will be followed by addition and subtraction skills, measure (length and perimeter), multiplication and division and consolidation of all these aspects. Your child should continue to learn their times tables, continuing to use TT Rockstars for this. It is vital that your child learn their tables to 12 x 12 and begins to learn the corresponding division facts - this will help them to multiply numbers quickly, divide numbers quickly, spot number patterns, and begin to work out fractions of numbers.

Our overarching project for the term will have a focus on art and Beech Class will be studying the skills of creating silhouettes. We will be creating silhouettes of famous Disney characters, learning how to sketch and draw people in proportion, finding out about famous silhouette artists and creating silhouettes of ourselves and other people. Our art work will link in with our history topic about the Victorians. We will be learning about what life was like for children in the Victorian times including life in school, life in the workhouse, how Dr Barnardo helped poor children and life for servants in a grand stately home. Our topic will end with a trip to Holdenby House in November where we will have the opportunity to dress up as Victorian servants and experience what life would have been like for them. Further details of this trip will be sent out in the coming weeks.

In science we begin by looking at animals, including humans, with a focus on the digestive system, the functions of our teeth and food chains. This will be followed by living things in their habitats, grouping creatures, classification and changing environments.

This term, our PE days will be Monday Tuesday. Please ensure that children have a PE kit in school on these days and that they have something to keep them warm outside as we move into the colder months.

Now that the children are in KS2, a morning snack is no longer provided. If you would like you child to have something to eat at break time, please send a healthy snack in with their lunch.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will do my best to help.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Rosie Gibson (Class Teacher)