

Beech Class

Autumn term 2016



The Stone Age to the Iron Age



Great Adventures

Dear Parents/Carers,

During this term we have some really exciting topics for the children to explore: We will be going back in time to find out about pre-historic Britain and adventuring to the polar regions of the globe!

In **Science**, we will be testing the properties of different rocks and developing our understanding of their formation; this will also help us to appreciate why flint and other rocks were so useful in Pre-historic Britain. Later in the term we will be finding out different forces, including magnetism. We will be planning fair tests and thinking about what our results mean.

Our **History** lessons will develop children's sense of chronology and give them the opportunity to investigate different aspects of life in the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. We will be using artefacts and other sources to find out about the past.

In **Geography**, children will develop some of the skills required to become real explorers such as: using compass points, finding locations on maps and identifying physical and man made features. We will look at different polar expedations and find out about how climate and terrain can affect how humans live.

Computing lessons, will extend children's understanding of file pathways and develop their use of Microsoft Office to create presentations and word documents. Children will also be learning about coding and using software such as Kodu and Scratch to understand basic programming. Throughout the term, children will learn about the importance of e-safety and how to use the internet responsibly.



Our **PE** lessons will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Children will be learning games and sports to improve their balance, co-ordination, strength and fitness. This term we will be focussing on Tag Rugby, Invasion Games, Gymnastics and Football.

We are really excited about using our topics to inspire some creative masterpieces! In **Art**, we will be doing cave-painting, using some of the techniques used in the past. We will also be designing and making some Stone Age jewellery, which we will evaluate against our original sketches/designs (**Design and Technology**). Later in the term, we will find out about famous artists who have painted the polar regions.

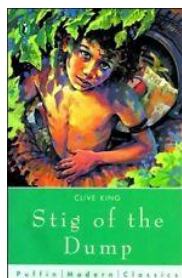


Our **RE** lessons will focus on comparing religious celebration in different faiths, including Harvest and Pongal. We will also be looking at religious stories and considering how these teach us moral values.

This term in **music**, the children will explore how to play and perform in solo and ensemble using voices and instruments when learning a range of songs, chants and rhymes both when preparing for church services and performances and in topic related songs or activities.

They will also be learning how to use and understand staff notation whilst learning to play the ukulele which I am sure will be great fun! If the children have their own ukulele at home it would be great if they could bring this to school (labelled) every Tuesday please.

Mrs Soal, will be teaching **French** to year 3 on Monday afternoons and children will revise how to greet others, introduce themselves and share how they feel. The children will learn how to use the third person singular (he or she) in French to talk about others. This will be done through songs, games and stories. They will continue to learn numbers, days of the week and months of the year. Towards the end of the term, the children will learn about how Christmas is celebrated in France and the vocabulary related to it.



Of course, **English** and **Maths** will be taught on a daily basis and will often be linked to the topic areas listed above. If you would like any additional information about this term's learning please do not hesitate to ask me.

As a school we are focussing on reading this year, particularly developing children's enjoyment of books. It would be helpful if you could hear your child read as often as possible in addition to their independent reading (which should be every day). To support children's language development, it is also really beneficial to read to children. Feel free to ask if you want any book recommendations!

Spellings will follow the National Curriculum patterns along with two words from the statutory list. Arithmetic and spellings will be tested on a weekly basis.



I look forward to sharing the children's learning with you over the coming term.

Kind Regards,

Mr Neary – Class Teacher