



# P.P.S. Beech Class

September 2018  
Autumn Term

## Savage Stone Age/ Sources of Light

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Autumn term. We hope you had a super summer break and enjoyed the (mostly) fabulous weather. We will be beginning this term with a historical focus, through our "Savage Stone Age" topic and after half term will move on to a cross-curricular theme of light.

In Science, we will be learning about rocks and fossils. The children will be closely observing different types of rocks and describe their properties, before applying their acquired understanding within investigations and research. They will be taught the meaning of key terms such as permeability, erosion and how different types of rocks and fossils form. If you have any fossils at home that you would not mind your child sharing with the class, this would greatly enhance their experiences.

Our P.E. lessons will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday. Please make sure your child has full P.E. kit in school on these days. This term, our P.E. lessons will focus on expressing ourselves through dance (with a Stone Age theme.) The children will also be learning to play tag rugby. Core skills such as passing, intercepting and tactical team working will be applied through lots of small and large team competitive games as we near the end of this unit.

Computing lessons this term will focus on programming. The children will get to grips with the fundamentals of programming, using algorithms and devising sets of instructions to achieve a pre-planned outcome. They will use

**This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects**

Scratch software and some web-based games to practice and develop their programming skills. We shall also be discussing the ever changing issue of e-safety to help raise your children's awareness of security online.

Our History for this term is centred on the question: "What was life like in the Stone Age and how did life change as the Iron Age began?" We will be learning about how people lived during this historical period, how historians use artefacts and other sources to uncover these facts. We will be comparing life from this era of history to modern life.

In Art lessons, we will be experimenting with different mediums and creating outcomes using different techniques. We will be focusing on the work of different artists and using this as inspiration to create our own Skara Brae pastel pictures and Stone Henge silhouettes. We will also turn our tables into caves to produce some cave paintings using chalks and charcoal.

In Design and Technology, we will be designing, making and evaluating Stone Age tools, as well as working on creating 3D replicas of Stonehenge using clay.

As well as discussing and thinking about the core values that permeate the school's collective worships this term; we will be focusing on Creation in R.E.. The children will have the opportunity to explore the meaning of this passage from the Bible and reflect on their understanding of it. During the darker half of the term we shall look at how different religions take this time to celebrate light.

Music lessons this term will give the children opportunities to listen to and evaluate different types of music, created by a variety of instruments. They will learn to pick up on



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and follow rhythms and will rehearse and perform a class song.

Mrs Soal will be teaching Year 3 French on Tuesday afternoons. These lessons this term will focus on 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. Towards the end of the term, the children will learn about how Christmas is celebrated in France and the vocabulary related to it.

English and Maths will continue to be taught daily and will, wherever possible, be linked to the topic to give the children's learning cross-curricular context. In English, for example, we will be learning about stories with historical settings and the features of adventure narratives through the text "Stone Age Boy".

As always, we value the support you give your children at home and the work you do with them to consolidate their learning. Year three will be reading daily in class, either independently or with an adult. Our primary focus is to encourage the children to explore reading materials and find enjoyment in reading. It would be helpful if you could listen to your child read regularly at home and record this in their Reading Records.

Maths homework tasks will be set each week on Mathletics. The children's login details will be sent home within the first week. Occasionally, paper tasks will also be set for the children to complete

in their homework books. Homework will be set on a Thursday and will be collected in on a Tuesday. Spellings will follow the National Curriculum spelling patterns and weekly lists will also include two words from the Year 3 statutory list. Times tables and spellings will be tested every week.

We look forward to sharing the children's learning with you over the coming weeks,

Kind regards

Mrs McGrath

Class teacher

### Key dates for your diary

INSET days 18th/19th October

Forest schools will be every Thursday during November (1st–29th)