



# P.P.S. Beech Class

Summer Term  
2019

## From Seed to Forest / Dragon's Den

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Summer term.

We have already begun to think about how we can change our environment for the better. Our first text in English, *The Paper Bag Prince*, by Colin Thompson made us consider how a dump can be transformed into something more pleasant or useful. The children looked in their lunch boxes after lunch and we had a discussion about how much rubbish will end up in a dump and how much could actually be recycled. A book by the same author, *Paradise Garden*, leads us into writing about settings in beautiful gardens.

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. Further writing activities include myths, letters and poetry.

In Science, we will be learning about plants. During this term, the children will learn about a plant's requirements for life, different types of plants and what each part of a plant is for. They will be taught the meaning of key terms such as dispersal, germination and pollination. We shall be enjoying watching plants grow, and learning how to care for them.

After half term, we will find out about animals and their skeletons, along with nutrition and keeping healthy.

Our P.E. lessons will be field games, focused on rounders. Later in the term, we will also be learning how to jump, run and throw in our athletics lessons.

Computing lessons this term will focus on presenting learning in different ways and using different software. The children will have opportunities to use Publisher and PowerPoint to create a persuasive advert for their products during our Dragons Den topic.

This cross-curricular topic also lends itself to some fantastic opportunities for teaching geographical knowledge, such as terrain, landscape and map reading skills. The children will read maps and interpret them to help orientate themselves around the local area and will also create their own maps using an appropriate scale.

Looking further afield, we will find out more about forests around the world. Where are they located, how big are they and what is happening to some forests. This leads to investigating what effect deforestation has on the life within those forests.

In Art lessons, we will be learning about the work of the artist Andy Goldsworthy and creating our own natural art in Petworth Park. We will use watercolour paint to create landscapes and will learn about perspective and horizon through the work of Constable. Later in the term, we will be creating accurate and detailed product designs, mastering our sketching and observational skills.





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In Design and Technology lessons, in the final weeks of year three, the children will have an exciting opportunity to become entrepreneurs in our Dragons Den topic. They will use market research to help them create a design brief for a new piece of playground equipment. They will create sketches of their ideas, make prototype models of them and then advertise them to the school. We look forward to discovering what the potential inventors of the future design.



As well as discussing and thinking about the core values, we will be exploring the question "What is the Trinity?"



In R.E. lessons. The children will have opportunities to think about how many different roles they have and this will link to the idea of God as a father, a son and a holy spirit.

They will write letters to a friend explaining what the Holy Trinity means to them.

Mrs Soal will be teaching Year 3 French on Tuesday mornings. In the first part of the term, the children will learn to name colours and revisit parts of the body.

During the second half of the term, they will be taught to have a short interaction using conversational language.

In music, the children have already been learning about 'disco' and they have enjoyed dancing as well as singing. Later in the term, they will experience quite a different musical style; classical with its rich and broad variety of tunes.

Please continue to share books and listen to your child read regularly at home and record this in their Reading Records.

Prodigy has been popular with the children for practising their maths, in school and as part of homework. Times Tables Rock Stars are also important to assist fluency and speed with their tables. 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 continue to be tested every week.

Lastly, I would like to invite parent helpers to join us on a day visit to Petworth Park. The provisional date for this is Wednesday 22nd May. The day will involve map making, art, poetry and some orienteering. Please let me know if you would like to join us.

Kind regards,

Mrs McGrath  
Class teacher