

# Beech Newsletter Autumn 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Beech Class. I look forward to working with you and your children over the coming year. With a little luck, it will be a positive experience during which children develop and grow in all areas of their lives. At this age, it is remarkable how much progress can be made and in the summer term, it is lovely to compare the writing produced in the first few weeks of the year.

The autumn term will be focused on team building, organising routines and even having a go at a bit of morning Yoga. Our science topic is based around the four seasons where we will identify changes, such as to the length of the day, which occur throughout the year. In addition to this, we will learn about the characteristics of the countries within the UK. There will be plenty of opportunities to practise art work, take part in physical exercise and improve skills using ICT.

On most mornings/ evenings I am available for a quick catch-up at the door. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you are unsure or concerned about anything. If you wish to talk in private or would like to discuss any matters which may arise during the year in more detail, please ring or speak to me to organise an appointment. Teaching works best in partnership with parents and I will always do my best to deal with any issues quickly.

Kind regards,

Andrew Smith

## Reading

It would be very beneficial if you could set aside a few minutes each day to hear your child read.

With three young boys of my own, I know this can be a little stressful at times. However, it does have a big impact on their development. Ten minutes on most days will help enormously.

As soon as a book has been finished, sign the Reading Record and return it to school. There is a box on the shelf in the classroom. I will try my best to send a new book home on the same day.

Guided reading takes place most weeks in small groups. The focus will be on understanding texts. I will also monitor your child's progress through the reading scheme very closely.

## Homework

### Minute Maths

Children will be completing 'Minute Maths' several times a week. I will send copies home so that they can be practised if you wish.

Maths homework will be set on a Friday and should be handed in the following Wednesday. Nearly always, this will be consolidating work which has been taught during the week.

## PE

For the first term, outdoor games will be on **Thursday** and indoor PE will be on a **Friday**.

After half term, when Christmas plays are being rehearsed, the indoor PE session may change. For this reason, it is best if indoor PE kits could be left in school at all times. I will ensure that children bring them home in the last week of each half term so that they can be washed.

## LIBRARY

We will be visiting the library every Friday afternoon. Children are free to choose any book they wish and exchange it each week.

## Rewards and Consequences

I try to create a positive classroom environment. Children are regularly rewarded with stars and in some cases certificates.

On the odd occasion when someone breaks our class rules (which are on display in the classroom) there is a consequence. The structure is as follows:

- 1/ Verbal warning
- 2/ Name on the board
- 3/Cross by name (Miss 5 minutes of playtime)
- 4/ Consequence slip sent home to be signed by parents.

I hope you will support me in making sure that everyone in the class feels happy and is able to exercise their right to learn.

Each Friday we have a whole school 'Celebration Assembly.'  
It would be nice if your child/ children could bring in any certificates, medals or evidence of recent achievements.

