



Cedar and Beech – Year 3 & 4 Newsletter Summer 2022

Welcome to Year 3/4,

English, History and Geography

This term, we shall further develop our literacy skills through reading 'Beowulf' and taking the opportunity to write in a variety of genres using the rich language this text provides. We will then be finding out all about the Anglo-Saxons. This will often be looked at in a cross-curricular manner linking our topic learning with texts such as 'You Wouldn't Want to be an Anglo-Saxon'. Spelling, handwriting, grammar and punctuation will be taught through stand-alone lessons and practised through the English activities of the topic. For home learning, Read Theory and Epic are readily available.

Mathematics

Each day will start with Early Bird Maths; this is an independent activity that is completed between 8.40 and 9.00am so it is important for the children to be in school promptly. Early Bird Maths includes some pre-teach activities that allow the children to become familiar with maths topics and language before these are taught discreetly. Maths will be taught daily, primarily following the White Rose Maths programme and will include a blend of practical activities and regular practice of basic skills. This combination of activities is designed to refine skills, support individual needs and build up a wealth of understanding, confidence, independence and competence through a stepped approach using concrete, pictorial and abstract processes. Regular assessments will inform further learning and where necessary small groups or 1:1 support will be available. The emphasis will, as usual, be principally on multiplication, division and fractions, but the children will also practise using and applying their mathematical knowledge. In June, the Year 4 children will take an external test to assess their knowledge of times table and related division facts, so we will be practising these regularly. The Times Tables Rock Stars online learning platform replicates much of the external test set up so it is important for the children to use this regularly.

Science

Science will be taught weekly this half term and we will be looking at plants. During this unit, the children will learn all about the different parts of plants and how they work and the life cycle of a plant. The children will use everything they learn in science this term to create an information booklet all about plants.

Spanish

The children will learn key words and phrases that are used in everyday Spanish life as well as exploring some of the customs and traditions of Spanish culture with our focus this term being eating and family. This will often be taught through games, role play, songs and art activities as well as question / answer routines and some written work.

ICT

ICT continues to be an integral part of the school day and the children will continue to use the iPads and PCs regularly. They will also develop their skills through discrete computing lessons covering topics such as sequencing in programming through the use of Hour of Code. The iPads will be used to record some planning for writing and for research and investigation. Often, Seesaw is also used to display learning activities for the children to work from. Internet safety is central to all of the online learning and this will be reinforced at all times as the children learn about how to keep themselves safe when using the internet.

Art and Design Technology (DT)

Art and Design work will be inspired by the current topics and the class guided reading book. The children will investigate and develop the skills needed for a range of techniques including jewellery making or shield making inspired by the craftsmen of the Anglo-Saxon era. They will follow the process of: plan, design, make and evaluate in DT in order to construct an Anglo-Saxon model village.

PE and Games

PE this term will be dance, dodgeball, tennis and athletics. PE and Games will be on Tuesday and Thursday, children will need to have a PE kit in school (please see the website for the correct kit) and this will be sent home each half term to be washed. Surgical tape for your child to cover their earrings will need to be provided from home if they are unable to remove and replace them independently. There will also be sports day to look forward to - more details to follow.

PSHE

At the start of this term, we will be focusing on 'Relationships' and after half term, we will explore the theme of 'Changing Me'. 'I Can Problem Solve' sessions will regularly take place, promoting discussions about and reflections on the social problems children may encounter.

Religious Education

During this term we will continue to follow the 'Discovery' element of the RE curriculum and focus on the question - 'How could Brahman be everywhere and in everything?' and 'Would visiting the River Ganges feel special to a non-Hindu?'

Music

Using the Charanga scheme as a resource as well as a wide range of percussion, keyboards and guitars, we will learn about a variety of musical styles and genres. Year 4 children will be taking part in the Dorset Musicianship programme on Friday mornings with a focus on Samba.

Please do not hesitate to contact us, in person or through the school office, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child. We look forward to another exciting term of learning!

Mrs Garton (Beech Class Teacher) Mrs Heydon (Cedar Class teacher Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) and Mrs House (Cedar Class teacher Thursday and Friday)