

Little Hadham Primary School



Little Hadham
Primary School
'Believing and Achieving'

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Headteacher : Ms S Connolly

School Year
2024- 2025

Beech Class Beech Class

Autumn Term 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer break and are ready for an exciting Autumn term in Beech class.

We are thrilled to start this term with a diverse range of engaging topics and activities. Below is an overview of what your child will be learning and the skills they will develop.

Geography for Autumn 1: Our Local Area

This term, we will explore "Our Local Area," focusing on Little Hadham. The children will investigate both human and physical features to understand how the natural landscape and human activities shape its character. They will identify key features such as buildings, roads, rivers, and hills, and use simple maps to locate these features. By comparing Little Hadham with other areas, children will enhance their understanding of local geography and develop their mapping skills.

History for Autumn 2: The Great Fire of London

In History, we will study "The Great Fire of London," a significant event that occurred in 1666 and began in a bakery on Pudding Lane. The children will learn about the causes of the fire, how it spread rapidly due to the proximity of wooden buildings, and its impact on the city. They will sequence the key events of the fire and use sources like images and stories to understand its historical significance. This will help them grasp the concept of cause and effect in historical events.

Design and Technology:

Year 1 Autumn DT Project: Sliders and Levers

This term, children in Year 1 will explore sliders and levers by creating a Christmas card with moving parts. They will learn how these simple mechanisms work, with sliders moving back and forth and levers pivoting to create movement. By designing and assembling their cards, they will practice using tools such as scissors and glue to ensure the mechanisms operate smoothly. This project will help them understand basic design principles and improve their fine motor skills.

Year 2 Autumn DT Project: Freestanding Structures

Year 2 children will focus on freestanding structures, learning about stability and balance. They will design and build simple structures using various materials like blocks, sticks, and clay. By exploring how different materials affect the stability of structures, they will gain insights into material properties and structural design. Testing and evaluating their designs will help them develop problem-solving skills and an understanding of how to enhance stability and balance based on observations and feedback.

Art:

Year 1 Autumn Art Project: Paul Klee

In art, Year 1 children will study the techniques of Paul Klee, known for his unique style that combines abstraction, colour, and whimsical forms. They will experiment with shapes, lines, and colours to create their own abstract artwork inspired by Klee's techniques. This project will enhance their creativity and ability to use abstract concepts in their artwork, allowing them to express ideas and emotions through art.

Year 2 Autumn Art Project: Georges Seurat

Year 2 children will explore Georges Seurat's pointillism technique, where small dots of colour are used to create vibrant and detailed images. They will learn how to apply this technique to their own artwork, focusing on detail and precision. This project will develop their understanding of how artistic techniques can be used to convey depth and texture in visual art.

English:

In our **English** lessons, we have an exciting line up of diverse books scheduled for each week, all with the aim of instilling a deep love for reading and storytelling within our children. To commence the term, Year 2 will immerse themselves in the enchanting world of 'The Storm Whale' by Benji Davies. Their initial focus will revolve around the art of crafting vivid character descriptions. As the term progresses, Year 2 will be actively engaged in expanding and enhancing their sentences by incorporating a range of subordinating conjunctions.

Meanwhile, in Year 1, we will be diligently reinforcing their grasp of sentence construction. This will be achieved through an exploration of memories and personal experiences, allowing them to refine their sentence-writing skills.

Our ultimate goal is to nurture strong literary foundations and a genuine enthusiasm for language and storytelling among our students as we embark on this literary journey together.

In this upcoming half term, Year 1 will be immersing themselves in daily phonics lessons. Their journey will lead them to explore new sounds within Phase 5 of phonics learning. Year 2 will be focusing on consolidating their understanding of Phase 5 phonics before exploring new spelling rules involving the addition of suffixes and prefixes to words.

Mathematics:

Year 1:

Year 1 children will focus on place value, addition, subtraction, and basic geometry. They will work with numbers up to 10, learning to compare and order numbers, and understand number bonds. They will explore basic shapes and their properties, which will help build their foundational mathematical skills.

Year 2:

Year 2 children will focus on place value up to 100, addition, subtraction, and sequences. They will recognise, count, and partition numbers, and improve their counting skills in 2s, 3s, 5s, and 10s. They will apply number bonds to addition and subtraction, enhancing their ability to perform calculations and solve problems.

Science:

Year 1 Autumn 1: Animals, including Humans

Children will explore different animals and their habitats, focusing on their dietary needs and physical features. They will identify and classify animals based on diet and habitat, and understand why different animals live in specific environments.

Year 1 Autumn 2: Seasonal Changes

In Autumn 2, Year 1 will learn about the characteristics of different seasons and how they affect the environment. They will observe and record weather changes throughout the year, gaining an understanding of how seasons impact living things.

Year 2 Autumn 1: Everyday Materials

Year 2 children will investigate the properties and uses of various materials. They will explore how different materials have distinct properties and how these properties determine their uses in everyday life.

Year 2 Autumn 2: Living Things and Their Habitats

In the second part of the term, Year 2 will revisit and expand on the study of living things and their habitats. They will investigate how different habitats support various life forms and understand the interdependence of organisms and their environments.

PSHE:

Autumn 1: Me and My Relationships

During Autumn 1, children will explore self-awareness, personal relationships, and the importance of rules. They will discuss why rules are important and how they impact relationships, enhancing their understanding of self and others.

Autumn 2: Valuing Differences

In Autumn 2, the focus will shift to valuing differences among people. Children will learn to appreciate and respect diversity and individual differences, fostering a more inclusive and empathetic attitude.

PE:

Autumn 1: Forest, Ball Skills, Dance

The PE curriculum for Autumn 1 will include activities in the forest, development of ball skills, and creative dance. Children will improve their coordination, control, and rhythmic expression through these activities.

Autumn 2: Forest, Invasion Games, Gymnastics

In Autumn 2, PE will focus on team games, balance, and coordination through gymnastics and invasion games. Children will develop teamwork skills, strategic thinking, and physical agility.

Music:

Autumn 1: Exploring Rhythm and Beat

Children will learn basic concepts of rhythm and beat through clapping, tapping, and using percussion instruments. They will develop their sense of rhythm and explore different sounds and patterns.

Autumn 2: Musical Performance

In the second part of the term, children will prepare for an end-of-term show, learning songs and dances. They will focus on performance skills and how music elements can tell a story, enhancing their musical expression and stage presence.

Computing:

Autumn 1: What is a Computer?

Children will learn about the basic components and functions of a computer. They will understand how computers are used in daily life and how to operate them effectively, recognizing and naming different parts like the monitor, keyboard, and mouse.

Autumn 2: Animate with Shapes

In Autumn 2, children will use simple software to create animations with shapes. They will learn basic programming concepts and how to bring their ideas to life through animations, developing their creative and technical skills.

Please ensure your child has their wellies and a clearly labelled set of clothes for outdoor learning and forest sessions.

For a more comprehensive view of our class activities, please visit our class page on the school website. Each week, we will share captivating photos and insights into our learning journey.

A crucial aspect of home learning is regular daily reading, which plays a pivotal role across the entire curriculum. Research has shown that children's literacy skills benefit greatly from being read to consistently. So, please, continue those story times at home!

We will be changing reading books throughout the week, so it's essential that your child's reading book and red reading/homework diary are in their bag each day. For our early readers and budding writers, ongoing support with phonics is crucial. A valuable online resource for this purpose is 'phonics play,' and we can provide lists of sounds upon request.

Moreover, logins for TT Rockstars (Year 2's) and Winning with Numbers will be conveniently located in your child's red reading/homework diary. Homework and spellings will be posted on google classroom. Parents new to Beech class will get a separate letter explaining how to join Google Classroom.

We hope you find this information invaluable in supporting your child's educational journey. We sincerely thank you for your active involvement in helping your child achieve their full potential. Should you have any questions or queries, please feel free to drop in and speak with us.

Warm regards,

Ms Goslitski, Ms Bland and Mrs Davies

