



Cedar and Beech - Year 3 & 4 Newsletter Autumn 2018

We would like to welcome the children back after their Summer holidays, and a warm welcome to anyone who is joining us for the first time.

English

We will begin the term with a short visual literacy Mary Poppins themed topic where the children will be describing characters; writing imaginative narrative and instructional texts and exploring the creative use of vocabulary as well as understanding the meaning of more difficult words. Then we shall move on to the topic The Railways to promote other genres of writing, comprehension and research skills. Spelling, handwriting, grammar and punctuation will be taught through stand-alone lessons and practised through the literacy activities of the topic.

Mathematics

Mathematics will be taught daily via a combination of practical activities, regular practice of basic skills and the on-line IXL program. This combination of activities is designed to refine skills, support individual needs and build up a wealth of understanding, confidence and competence. Regular assessments will be used to enable precise grouping of children according to their requirements and where necessary small groups or 1:1 support will be given. The emphasis will, as usual, be principally on number skills, but the children will also practise using and applying their mathematical skills. Later this year the Year 4 children will need to take an external test to assess their times table and related division fact knowledge, so we will be practising these regularly.

Science

Science this term will focus on Forces and Magnets and Scientists and Inventors and will be linked closely with our Railways topic.

History

Our topic of Railways will encompass many historical aspects of the curriculum which will be taught across the range of subjects. We will also be taking time to commemorate the First World War in its centenary year.

French

The children will be learning key words and phrases relating to greetings, sports and hobbies and food and drink that are used in everyday French as well as exploring some of the customs and traditions of the French culture. This will often be taught through games, songs and art activities as well as some written work.

ICT

ICT is an integral part of the school day and the children will be developing and furthering their skills in the use of iPads. They'll develop their coding skills through practice, creating character actions and games. The iPads will be used to record some writing and for research and investigation. Internet safety is central to all of their 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

Art and Design work will be inspired by the current topics and other traditional events and celebrations such as Remembrance and Bonfire Night. The children will investigate and develop the skills needed for a range of techniques.

PE and Games

PE this term will introduce and explore Yoga, whilst the games aspect will develop the children's skills needed for invasion games. Please be reminded that PE and Games are on Tuesday and Thursday but as this could change we ask that all PE kits are in school for the whole week. You will need to provide surgical tape for your child to cover their earrings and ensure that they have spare socks if wearing tights on PE days.

PSHE

At the start of a new term we will be focusing on New Beginnings and thinking about how to make the most of new opportunities and build towards goals and personal achievements. After half term we will be exploring the theme of Getting On and Falling Out.

Religious Education

During this term we will be following the "Discovery" element of the RE curriculum and focusing particularly on beliefs and traditions of Sikhism.

Music

This term the Year 4 children will be learning to play the violin with the Dorset Musicianship scheme. Music for Year 3 will be following the Charanga scheme.

Homework

Spelling, times tables and other basic English and Maths skills lie at the core of the homework, but other subject areas will feature as well. The children will have 2 weeks to complete the number of homework activities set.

Please do not hesitate to contact us, in person or through the school office, if you have any concerns regarding your child. We look forward to a great year teaching your children.

Mrs Garton (Beech Class Teacher) Mrs Goodall (Cedar class teacher Monday, Tuesday, Friday) and
Mrs Carpenter (Cedar class teacher Wednesday and Thursday)