



Beech Newsletter

November 2025

After a very long first term, we are now racing through Autumn towards winter and Christmas! We have a supply of hats, gloves etc but please make sure every item bought in is named. We put so many items in lost property last term as they were not named. We have free uniform available in the office. Our focus books this term are The Runaway Chapati, All Aboard for Bobo Road and Wangari's Trees of Peace.

In **Maths**, we will be learning about part/whole of numbers, composition of 3,4,5, shapes with four sides and matching numbers to quantity to 10. We will need to practise recognising numbers to 1-10 to be able to do this. Hopefully Reception parents are finding the Tapestry small group math sessions useful each week which may help to support your child at home. Nursery will be looking at repeated patterns, exploring 1,2,3 and noticing position through practical tasks.

In **Phonics**, **Reception** are continuing to learn phase 2 graphemes, including some digraphs and also some tricky words. Tricky words are usually the part they find hardest and there are a lot of them this term! A review sheet is sent home each week to consolidate this. Please do spend 5 minutes a day at the weekend learning the sounds in the order they went home.

We have had a focus recently on strengthening fingers. This will help as writing becomes a larger part of their day. Lego, tweezers, scissors, popping bubble wrap, playdough and threading are all excellent ways of developing finger strength.

Reception reading. I hope you are enjoying a regular reading routine at home. Please remember to write a short note in the planner before returning the book on Monday to let me know the children have read with you, thank you. There are suggestions on the back page to enhance the reading or retelling of the story. The book they receive is based on their last phonic assessment and is in line with the number of correct phonemes, in the order given out. Children are reassessed regularly to ensure that they are always on the best book for them.

Nursery children will focus on oral blending, rhyme, segmenting and learning through nursery rhymes as well as regular shared stories, promoting a love of reading. Attentive listening is always a focus. We will also be introducing Dough Disco to strengthen their fingers through playdough activities.

PE

PE sessions are on Fridays.

All Reception and Nursery children are to come to school in school clothes with their named PE kits in a small drawstring bag, so they get changed at school.

This term we are learning about Gymnastics



Topic. Our topic this term is Cultural Stories, looking at how we are the same and different as other countries, focusing on different breads. This will include another baking session! We will be looking at contrasting stories, the different views travelling to school and then the build up to Christmas.

As an introduction to **Geography**, we will look at Google Earth and see where we each live in relation to our school. We will notice that the land around us is mostly farmland but some of us live in towns or villages. We made a 3D map of the Autumn Walk so now we will examine the journey to school. In **Art and Design** we have modelling with recyclable materials as part of continuous provision. In **Science**, we will be learning about Our Senses. In **PHSCE**, we will be using our Jigsaw scheme with a focus on accepting difference. In **RE** this half term, the children will be thinking about different celebrations from different cultures- Diwali, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa and, of course, Christmas. In **History**, we will explore how houses have changed over time.

PJ'S, HOT CHOCOLATE AND STORIES! Come to school at 6pm on Thursday 4th December ready to snuggle up and have some Christmas stories read to you. Bring your siblings, a cuddly toy and a blanket too. (I will ask for numbers nearer the time.) We will offer one session every half term at different days so please don't worry if you can't make this one.

Tapestry. We have been enjoying seeing the picture of special events from home. This is a great opportunity for the children to stand in front of everyone and practice their speaking and listening skills.

Homework

Homework is sent out as a challenge sheet for Reception children to pick from throughout the 1/2 term. They are expected to do at least 3 per half term, some children do all! A phonics review sheet will be sent home on a Friday. Any comments can be shared via the homework book. Reading books will be given out on Wednesdays but we need to have the clear folder returned every Monday please. Library books are also to be returned on Mondays please.