



Beecroft Primary School
Curriculum Newsletter Term 1 2023-2024



Dear Parent /Guardian,

Welcome back to school and to Year 3! We hope you all had an enjoyable and well-earned rest this summer. Each half term we send a curriculum newsletter to let you know what we will be learning and to give some information to help your child be well organised and prepared for school each day. As your child is now in Key Stage Two, there are a few changes be aware of below.

English

The children will be taught in groups for reading four times a week. This will be their individual reading books that we send home. In Year 3 the pupils need to read at home as much as possible and it is extremely helpful if parents can listen to their child read, helping to collect and discuss new words. Children will be given homework to continue reading a set amount of pages of the book and to find new vocabulary, facts or answer questions. They write these in themselves and have been shown how to do this in class.

Please help your child by continuing to hear them read / share books – discussing plots and characters, asking them to explain their views on literature, and by discussing and recording new vocabulary in their reading diaries to bring to class. **Please sign your child's reading diary each week** when reading homework has been completed. Reading diaries are signed by the teacher and colour points are awarded on a **Wednesday**. **There should be a minimum of 3x reading (20min) entries each week outside of school.** Children receive 5 colour points for 3 or more reading entries but may receive more for extra independent study such as researching a project or finding more facts.

In class, the children will be reading a non-fiction book about pandas. We will then use information and vocabulary collected from the book to help us write a non-chronological report on pandas. We will then be reading a book called 'The Lost Happy Endings' which is an exciting story involving the theft of all fairytale happy endings! The children will gain rich vocabulary from the book, as well as develop their reading skills by learning how to answer retrieval and inference questions and practise their expression and fluency skills by reading extracts aloud in class.

This term, our spellings will focus on Year 3 and 4 key words - these lists are a mixture of words pupils frequently use in their writing and those which they often misspell. We will also learn spelling rules for the year 3 curriculum. Spellings will be practised regularly in class but you can support your child by practising spellings at home. A weekly spelling list is stuck in your child's orange spelling book and a test takes place every Monday morning. A copy of the Year 1 and 2 and Year 3 and 4 key words lists are attached in their books. Grammar and spelling rules are taught in class and are practised as a giant quiz – these can be revised at home to help consolidate these facts.

Maths

We will focusing on addition and subtraction as well as understanding number and place value this half term. We will be using money regularly in our reasoning and word problems. To help your child, please discuss finding the difference and making change when shopping, either in shops or online.

Numbers will now include 100s. Your child needs to be confident in counting to and from 100, including crossing 10s (81, 80, 79, 78...). They could practise this in the bath/shower along with their times tables!

Addition and subtraction

Please see how we set out formal addition and subtraction (column method) in class.

$\begin{array}{r} 789 \\ + 642 \\ \hline 1431 \\ \hline 1 \quad 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ <p>Answer: 1431</p>	$\begin{array}{r} 874 \\ - 523 \\ \hline 351 \\ \hline \end{array}$ <p>Answer: 351</p>	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \quad 12 \quad 1 \\ 932 \\ - 457 \\ \hline 475 \\ \hline \end{array}$ <p>Answer: 475</p>
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Maths homework will be set on Wednesdays and due in Thursday, however it is crucial that your child practices their times tables regularly as they will complete a full statutory times table test when they move up into Year 4 (six seconds per question) which means they must have a quick recall. Focused times tables in Year 3 are 3x, 4x and 8x tables. Help your child by letting them chant these or by asking some inverse questions such as 'what is 21 divided by 3?'

Science

We will be focusing on animals including humans. We will start by revising animal classification (such as mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, birds), animal diets (such as herbivore, carnivore and omnivore) before using our English text to learn in depth about an endangered species: the panda. We will then move on to explore human diets, human and animals skeletons and the muscles.

Geography

We will refreshing our knowledge of the Kirkstall from Year 2 before moving on to study Otley, another suburb of Leeds, in detail. We will compare different maps of Otley and think about the information maps need to include before completing fieldwork on our trip to Otley.

Music

The pupils will be increasing their skills through a variety of activities as they participate in our Key Stage 2 music programme.

PE

Games sense and games skills – Passing and movement skills in order to keep possession during game situations. Working as part of a team, understanding that passing and movement is required in team games to be able to progress. Pupils will be introduced to scoring and the importance of being accurate when aiming at different target

PSHE

Our PSHE focus this half term is learning about **tobacco and vaping**. Children will be taught about the harmful effects of smoking and vaping. In Mindmate lessons we will be thinking about our strengths and what is important to us. We will use this information to try and set goals and reframe difficult situations to make targets.

Support at Home

Although they may be writing in their reading diaries independently now, it would be beneficial to your child if you supported their learning at home. Please can you help by;

- Reading 3 times a week and record a comment including new or unfamiliar words and discussion about the book read. **Dairies will be checked and books changed on Wednesdays**
- Helping your child to practise their spellings in preparation for the spelling test which will be on **Mondays**.
- Encouraging your child to participate in the class reading challenge.
- Supporting your child to complete their weekly maths homework. Collected on **Thursdays** and given out on **Wednesdays**
- Practising the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 times tables, and the number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 with your child.

Equipment and Uniform

- Please make sure **all of your child's possessions are clearly labelled with their name**. Children are responsible for their own possessions.
- **Pencil case**- children are able to bring in their own pencil case. Please make sure these are not distracting with gadgets etc.
- **Cartridge pen- children must bring this daily**. Please ensure children have their own cartridge pen and spare cartridges for each day.
- **PE uniform**: children need a pair of navy blue or black shorts, a pair of navy blue or black tracksuit bottoms and a plain round neck white t-shirt (no logo) as well as a pair of socks and trainers for outside.
- Please make sure your child has the correct uniform each day. Children need to have a navy school jumper or cardigan with the school logo, navy blue or grey trousers, skirt or pinafore- no playsuits, pale blue or white polo shirt and white, navy blue or grey socks or tights. Please do **not** wear leggings as they are not a part of the school uniform.
- Children need to have appropriate **black** outdoor school shoes and a pair of black pumps for indoors.
- Please make sure your child brings a warm, waterproof coat to school **every day** (when the weather permits).
- **Water bottle**- children need to have a full water bottle daily, especially when hot outside!

The beginning and end of the day

The school day begins promptly at 8:30am. 3IW will enter the classroom through the double doors and will go up the stairs to their classroom. Children are collected from the playground and stand with their teacher. Please let me know if someone different is picking up as children will not be allowed to leave with others unless I've been made aware. Please can I remind parents to not enter the building on a morning with your children as it is busy and may disrupt other classes getting in.

Attendance and Punctuality

To ensure the best success for the children, attendance is **crucial**. The expected attendance is 96% or more. Please ensure to bring your child to school every day unless they are very unwell. Good attendance ensures good progress and avoids missed learning opportunities.

Communication

You can communicate by emailing the office (info@beecroft.leeds.sch.uk) or send in a note with your child- please make sure they know they have it! Or if you're able to, please feel free to speak to me at the end of the day or get in touch with the office (01132618820) for me to call you back should you have any questions or concerns to discuss.

Weekly Routine

Monday:	Spelling test
Tuesday:	New spellings given
Wednesday:	PE Kit / Reading records signed/ Maths homework given
Thursday:	Maths homework taken in
Friday:	PE kit/ Library book/Swimming Kit/

Thank you for your support in encouraging children to become well organised, thinking about bringing in the correct equipment for the day's lessons. Please don't hesitate to contact myself or Miss Wade on the above channels if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Carter and Miss Wade

Useful Websites

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Literacy

<https://www.educationcity.com/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling_grammar/

Maths

<http://www.coolmath4kids.com>

<https://www.educationcity.com/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/Key-Stage-2.html>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/ordering-and-sequencing-numbers>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/shape_space/

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/number/>

Science

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zg6r82p>

<https://www.educationcity.com/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>