



# Beech Class



## Spring 1 2020

### Welcome Back

Welcome back and happy New Year! The children have returned full of enthusiasm and energy, and are already immersed in our new learning topics.

### Literacy

Our fiction writing this term will focus on writing a portal story. We will be focusing on writing vivid and expressive descriptions of settings, and using dialogue in our story. The children are already amazing me with their imaginative use of vocabulary!

Following this, we will move on to our non-fiction unit. We will learn how to write a recount in the form of a diary. This will tie in with our Learning Quest work on heroes, and will look at how people remember important events in their lives

We will also continue to practice spelling on a daily basis using common exception words and personalised spelling lists.

### Learning Quest

This term, Beech Class will be continuing our theme of heroes. It was great to see how imaginative the children were with their costumes last term. We had footballers, siblings, parents and explorers, and of course, plenty of Marvel characters!

We will be looking at important historical figures, such as Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks, and will assess how and why they are considered to be heroes.

We will use our discoveries to think about whether anyone can become a hero, and how we can act like a hero in everyday life.



### RE

The children had a wonderful time at the recent Experience Christmas day. They discovered the full story of Christmas and took part in activities to develop their understanding.

Our learning for RE this term will look into other faiths. We will discover what Hindus and Sikhs believe about God and the journey of life, and will investigate how they show their faith in different contexts. This will be enhanced by our trip to the Guru Nanak Gurdwara.



## Numeracy

Numeracy in Beech Class will follow the White Rose scheme of learning, which focuses on developing mastery of each mathematical area. We are continuing with multiplication and division and are looking at efficient methods of completing calculations outside of the 12 times tables. We are also discovering lots of different ways to approach multiplication and division, using both written and mental strategies.

We are continuing to practice our times tables every day, using a variety of songs, games and quizzes. The children are continuing to develop their understanding of how multiplication and division facts work together (e.g  $2 \times 3 = 6$  and  $6 \div 3 = 2$ ), which is allowing them to calculate with increasing speed and accuracy.

## PE

Beech Class will continue to have PE lessons each week on Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons.

The children need to have a named PE kit in school at all times, including footwear please as they will need trainers/plimsolls for both indoor and outdoor lessons.

## French

The children continue to enjoy our French lessons and are having great fun working on their accents! This term's topic is called Food Glorious Food. . We will learn lots of vocabulary to describe food, and learn phrases to help ask for items and explain that we are hungry or thirsty. It will be interesting to see how many French words the children already know without realising it, such as croissant and baguette.



## Reading

We continue to enjoy our daily Reading Pledge time, and are enjoying a wide variety of writing. We are currently reading *Why the Whales Came* by Michael Morpurgo, which the children are enjoying immensely. I always know when a book is well-loved by the children, as I have a long list of names that want to borrow it when we have finished! We will also be studying *The Lion*, *The Witch and The Wardrobe* and *Alice in Wonderland* as inspiring examples of portal stories.

## Behaviour & Reward

The children's behaviour continues to be positive, and they are making a huge effort to take responsibility for their actions. I have noticed many children showing kindness and compassion to others, and demonstrating fantastic friendship skills.

For full details of our behaviour policy, please see the school website.



Please follow @CottinghamCofE for daily news and updates regarding the super children at Cottingham CofE Primary School. It takes just a few minutes to log in and sign up.



## Dates for the diary

### Autumn Term 1

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January**

KS2 school trip to Guru Nanak Gurdwara

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

End of Spring Term 1