



Beech Class ~ Autumn 2024

Routines, Expectations & How You Can Help

Class teachers: Mrs Dean (Mon-Wed) & Mrs Townson (Wed-Fri)



Teaching Assistants: Mrs Gee (Mon & Wed) & Miss Marchetto (Tues, Thurs & Fri)



Reading

- Children should read at home (to an adult or independently) on a regular basis – daily if possible but at least 3 times a week. This reading should be recorded in your child's **Reading Record**.
- Your child's reading record and reading book should be taken home and returned to school every day.
- Books can be changed on **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday** as required. Please write in the Reading Record to show that your child has finished reading the book or needs to be changed for any other reason e.g. if your child is not enjoying the story or the topic.
- You can support by listening to and reading with your child each day and by asking your child questions about their book e.g. what the character is like? How do they know? What is the story setting? What they think will happen next? How we can work out the meaning of unfamiliar words.
- Please encourage your child to read regularly from a range of texts, not just their 'school' reading book – instructions, recipes, signs, leaflets...
- Encourage your children to use their 'Floppy Phonics' phonic knowledge and blending skills to read unfamiliar words.



<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/> gives lots of information about helping your child with reading and phonics as well as **free e-books** that you can share with your child

• **Online stories** are also available on <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/>



Writing

- To support their writing, **model to your child the correct formation of letters** that you notice they incorrectly form e.g. start at the bottom rather than at the top of the letter written in reverse.

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

- We use Penpals handwriting:
- Encourage your child to talk to you about the texts that we are focusing on; explain, in their own words, new vocabulary that they have learnt and used in their own reading and writing.
- **Practise reciting the alphabet to develop their recall of the order of the letters** – as well as thinking about letters before and after other letters - this will support them in using a dictionary/thesaurus.
- As you read with your child (a Home-school reading book or a book from home) discuss words and phrases that are particularly effective and that they could 'magpie' to use in their own writing.



Weekly Spellings

- Your child will receive weekly spellings (on a **Tuesday** – Y3s it was previously Monday) – which they will bring home in a red **Spelling Log** exercise book. These words should be practised throughout the week using the '**Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check**' method. They will then be tested the following **Tuesday**.
- Following the Tuesday 'test', words your child spelt correctly will be highlighted pink for your information. Any words that are not spelt correctly should continue to be practised.
- Spelling the words aloud, playing spelling games or using resources such as magnetic letters with your child can help them to learn their spellings.
- Please ensure the written work completed at home on the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' sheets are neat and written in pencil not coloured pencil, felt-tip pens or biros.

Year 1/2/3/4 Common Exception Words

- At the front of your child's 'Spelling Logs' will be lists of words that the children are expected to be able to spell by the end of their respected year group (and their previous years).

- Words that are highlighted 'Tickled Pink' indicate that your child has independently spelt them correctly. Any words that are not highlighted are words that your child needs to learn and practise further. Spelling these words correctly will support both their writing and reading.



Maths logs

- Your child will be provided with a Maths Log (to be kept in their Book Bags) that contains resources to support your child maths skills, knowledge and recall of number facts e.g 100 square, times table grid and number bonds.
- Weekly number bonds (e.g. $2+8 = 10$, $12+8=20$, $20+80=100$) and times table practice will greatly benefit your child. This includes helping them in their 'Ladder Club' session (which focuses on adding 1, subtracting 1, adding 10, subtracting 10, repeated addition e.g. $2+2+2$, multiplication and division).



Numbots focuses on recall and fluency in number bonds, mental addition and subtraction.

Times Table Rock Stars is a fun and challenging online programme designed to help students master the times tables!

Details of your child's **TT Rockstars & Numbots Login** will be found inside the front cover of their Maths Log, as well as the front of their Reading Record.

Times Tables: National Curriculum expectations include learning all the timetables and related division facts by the end of Year 4. Please support your child to continue to learn their times tables and corresponding division facts by heart in practical ways e.g. multiplication bingo as well as 'good old fashioned' chanting of the facts.

- **Year 2 children should know: x2, x5 and x10 by the end of Year 2.**
- **Year 3 are expected to know the multiplication and division facts for x3, x4 and x8.**

As well as being able to practise their times tables using **TT Rockstars** there are a number of games online and Apps to support their learning:

- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>
- <http://resources.woodlandsjunior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/>
- <http://www.timestables.me.uk/>
- <http://www.maths-games.org/times-tables-games.html>

Speed AND accuracy are important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations.

Everyday Maths

- Do talk about numbers & shapes that you and your child may see at home and whilst out and about.
- Do model to your child the correct reading and formation of numbers that you notice they incorrectly form or write in reverse.
- Do encourage your child to use their maths applying skills in a variety of 'practical and real-life; situations e.g. adding up amounts whilst shopping, working out what coins can be used to pay and how much change they will be given.

Telling the Time: Help your child read the time using a range of clocks (including clock faces with Roman numerals) is also a skill for the children to practise at home.

PE

- Beech Class will be having PE lessons with Mrs Townson on **Wednesday afternoons**.
- Your child should wear their outdoor PE kit (with trainers) to school
- Please ensure all kit is **named**.
- Please remember long hair needs to be tied back and any jewellery removed.

Please do not hesitate to speak with us if you have any further questions regarding Beech Class routines and expectations and how you can help. ~ Mrs Dean, Mrs Townson, Mrs Gee & Miss Marchetto