



Together we can!

Beechwood JUNIOR SCHOOL

Autumn Term



YEAR 6

6KA – Mrs Furby (Year leader) / Mrs Antrobus

6M – Mrs Morris

6W – Miss Webb

Mrs. Weet is the Higher Level Teaching Assistant.

Mrs Lerego is the Learning Support Assistant.

Dear parents,

Firstly, I would like to welcome you and your child to Year 6 and their final year at Beechwood! We know that the children are likely to be a bit nervous about coming back to school but we are so excited for this year and all the exciting things we've got planned.

Year 6 is always a special and exciting year as we start to prepare for the transition to secondary school and the SATs tests. There will be lots of opportunities for you to talk to us about SATs but let us reassure you that there is nothing to be worried or anxious about and that by the time they get to them the children will be ready (and most of the time a little bit excited).

We are starting the year with our history topic which is all about Southampton during World War Two. It is our local history study and absolutely fascinating to learn about the impact of the war on our city and how it changed it. We have also got a theatre company coming in to help hook us into our topic. As well as this, in early October, we're going to the D-Day museum in Portsmouth to help solidify our learning (more details to follow).

We are really looking forward to working with you all and if you have any questions or concerns please get in touch with your child's class teacher.

With very best wishes,

The Year 6 Team



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Mrs Weet



Mrs Lerego

IMPORTANT DATES FOR AUTUMN TERM

Autumn 1

2 nd & 3 rd September	INSET DAYS
6 th September	First day back to school
10 th September	Applications due in for House Captains (Y6) and Sports Captains (Y5)
13 th September	House and Sports Captains interview week
16 th September	World War Two Theatre Day in school
22 nd September	Election Day for House and Sports Captains
23 rd September	Reading Ranger Launch Day
24 th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning
24 th September	School Council (all years) applications due in
4 th October	Open week (booking info to follow)
4 th October	D-Day Museum Trip (more info to follow)
5 th October	Individual photos
8 th October	Maths Sheriff Launch Day!
18 th October	Harvest Assembly (more info to follow)
21 st October	Halloween Disco (after school until 4:30pm)
25-29 th October	Half term

Autumn 2

10 th November	Teacher consultations
19 th November	Non-school uniform day
24 th November	Christmas Fayre
29 th November	INSET DAY
30 th November	Health and Wellbeing Week for the children
9 th December	Year 4 Christmas Performance (more info to follow)
13 th December	Christingle service for children in school
14 th December	Lower School Concert 2pm
15 th December	Christmas Lunch (booking info to follow)
16 th December	Upper School Concert 9am
16 th December	Christmas Disco (after school until 4:30pm)
17 th December	Last day before the Christmas break! Christmas Jumper Day and Class Parties

We re-open after the Christmas holidays on Tuesday 4th January.

REMINDERS:

School uniform:

- Grey or black trousers or skirts
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Red cardigan, jumper or fleece
- Red and white gingham summer dress
- Black or grey smart summer shorts
- Sensible shoes or trainers in a plain dark colour

Children should not be wearing jewellery into school except stud earrings and a watch. Jewellery worn for religious reasons is of course an exception. Make-up and nail varnish should also not be worn during the school day.

PE:

PE is part of the National Curriculum and it is very important that your child takes part regularly. If you do wish them to not take part, you must send an email to your child's teacher clearly stating the reason why you wish them to miss their PE or Games lesson. If we do not have an email, they will be expected to take part.

PE kit (children should wear this to school on the days they have PE):

- Plain coloured t-shirt which can be their house colour but we do not allow any football shirts or t-shirts with large logos (except the Beechwood logo)
- Plain black or grey jogging bottoms or shorts
- Trainers or plimsolls

Outdoor PE for this term is on a MONDAY.

Indoor PE Instead of weekly indoor lessons, each class will spend an entire day performing a dance routine. More information and dates will be sent nearer to the time.

MCAS (My child at school)

MCAS is the school's new online messaging and payment system. You will need an online code so that you can set up a MCAS account and then you can access your account via a free app on your phone or tablet. You can also access it via a computer if you prefer: <https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin>



You will be able to use your MCAS account to pay for dinners, Breakfast and After School Club, music lessons, trips and residential visits. All letters, information and messages will be sent out directly to your MCAS account so all your letters will be in one place. You will also be able to view your child's attendance and your contact details to make sure that they are kept up to date.

Please be aware that we will be sending all letters and reminders this way to ensure that they do not get lost on the way home. We do not send paper copies of letters in an effort to reduce our impact on the environment. Because of this, it is vital that you have access to MCAS, otherwise you will miss important information.

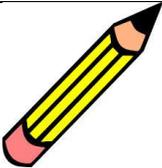
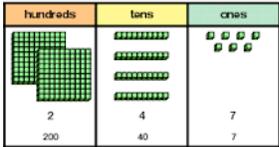
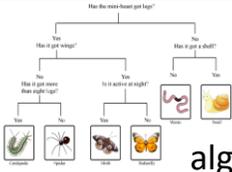
Marvellous Me

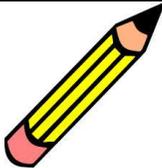
Marvellous Me is a free app which can be downloaded onto smartphones and tablets, or on a computer via the Marvellous Me website, using the parent login (www.parent.marvellousme.com). You will need an email address and an individual code for your child to login initially. If you change your phone or lose the code, you can always request a new one from your child's teacher.



Once the app is set up, you will receive notifications when your child's teacher awards a badge to your child; or lets you know about what they have been learning.

If you have any problems and would like to speak to any of us, please email us or phone the school on 023 80 227692 and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

SUBJECT	WHAT WE WILL BE STUDYING IN AUTUMN 1:
TOPIC	World War 2: Southampton: Britain's greatest war asset? Throughout this term we will be exploring the role of Southampton in WW2. Children will then be given the opportunity to debate and draw conclusions as to whether Southampton was of benefit to Britain's WW2 effort.
WRITING	Diary Entry focusing on using tense appropriately. News Report focusing on using informal and formal language and tone. Persuasive Letter focusing on linking ideas across paragraphs, including using a range of cohesive devices. 
READING	Understanding new and unfamiliar words Retrieve and record information and focusing on collecting evidence from the text
MATHS	Identifying the Place Value of each digit Reading, write, compare and order numbers up to 10,000,000. Dividing in powers of 10 from one hundredth to 10 million Reading scales and number lines Partitioning numbers Comparing and ordering fractions in their lowest common denominators Finding fraction and percentages of amounts 
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)	Classification of living things including microorganisms, plants and animals. STEM outcome: Create a written classification algorithm grid in the style of 20 questions 
COMPUTING	Debug, code and fix algorithms
ART and DESIGN	Mixing secondary and tertiary colours
PE	Dance focusing on using musical structures, rhythm and mood.
GAMES	Tennis 
RE	Concept: Laws (with a focus on Christianity)
MUSIC	Playing: Copy a simple pattern Use an instrument to make loud/ quiet, fast/slow sounds
PSHE	 Taking care of my mental wellbeing. Friendships

SUBJECT	WHAT WE WILL BE STUDYING IN AUTUMN 2:
TOPIC	World War 2: Southampton: Britain's greatest war asset? Children will be continuing their exploration of Southampton's contribution to the war effort and making their final decisions as to how important the city was.
WRITING	Persuasive Speech using a range of sentences to develop reader engagement. Narrative focusing on using dialogue for purpose in order to develop characterisation. Non Chronological Report focusing on using cohesive devices to link ideas across and within paragraphs. 
READING	Summarising across paragraphs Making and justifying inferences and finding evidence from the text to answer different styles of questions
MATHS	Order and compare decimals and fractions Rounding numbers up to 10,000,000 Negative numbers Roman numerals up to 10,000 Addition & Subtraction (to three decimal places) Area, perimeter and volume of different shapes 
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)	Electricity Electrical circuits 
COMPUTING	Keeping myself safe online
ART and DESIGN	Textiles: repurpose a piece of clothing
PE	Dance focusing on varying dancing styles. 
GAMES	Strike and Field (cricket and rounders)
RE	Concept: Prophecy (with a focus on Christianity)
French	Le Temps (weather) 
PSHE	Regulation and choice Drug use, the law and social media Managing change

TOPIC HOMEWORK

DUE IN: WB 6th December.

My family in World War 2

This term's topic homework is to investigate your own family's World War 2 history. You might decide to interview/have conversations with an individual family member or gain information from a range of different family members.

When you have gained an idea of your own families World War 2 history, you will then need to present your findings. How you decide to present your findings is up to you but you could choose from:

- A poster
- A PowerPoint
- A leaflet
- A video
- A piece of artwork





Reading

We know that being a reader who is fluent, confident and can understand what they have read is a key life skill. We want to encourage children to read as much as possible! At school, at home, on the bus, on the sofa, in a tent...wherever they can! Children who read often and at the correct level for them grow in confidence and learn to love reading and the possibilities it brings. This year, we have introduced a new approach to reading and home school reading in particular.

Our new reading system: *Book to learn, Book to love* and your child's reading folder

Book to Learn

After an initial assessment, each child across the school will be given a book to help them learn. This book will be an Oxford Reading Tree book, which are colour banded for different stages. The idea for these books is to help children practice reading; to read fluently with few mistakes – this allows children to practice expression, punctuation and comprehension. This means they might not be as challenging as you might expect. We give the children a range of challenging texts at school and their book to love can be any book of their choice, including something which is challenging.



The book to learn should be **brought in everyday** as it will be needed in school when children do STAR (Sit Together and Read) sessions. To make sure the children really practice their reading, we would like these books to be read **twice before changing** them.



Book to Love

This book is any book the child chooses. It can be a book such as one from the school library, a book from home or from your local library. This might be a challenging book and this might be a book you share together or read to them. It is something that can spark their love of reading and they are encouraged to read this as much as they want for pleasure.

Your child's reading folder

Your child will be given a named folder to keep their books in. **This folder will need to come in everyday** as we will be using the books in school and offering children time to read both books. Inside this folder they should have:

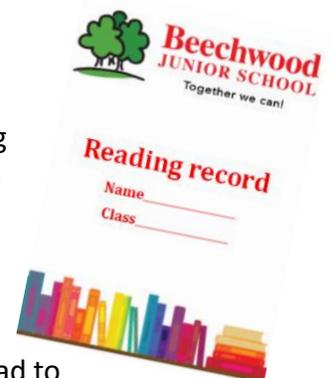
- The Book to Learn
- The Book to Love
- The Reading Record Booklet

Beechwood Reading Scheme – Reading Rangers

To encourage the children to read their Book to Learn, we have set up a home school reading scheme. Each week, if your child reads at home four or more times for ten minutes from their Book to Learn, they will be given a raffle ticket for a grand prize draw at the end of each half term!!!

On top of this, on a weekly basis, the class in the school with the highest number of children who read four or more times, will be given a prize!

An adult at home will need to sign the home school reading record each time a child has read to them for ten or more minutes. This will then be checked each week by the school.



Maths Sheriff

At Beechwood Junior School, we recognise how important basic number knowledge is not only for academic achievements but also as a life skill. Therefore, over a number of years we have introduced our Maths Sheriff challenge books. Through regular practise both within school and with adults at home, children will master the necessary skills and will be able to utilise them. Upon proving their knowledge, your child will be given a pin badge which they can keep and wear with pride.



We do not want the children to rush through these badges, it should be something they aim for across the school year. There are currently 5 badges - bronze, silver, gold, glittery green and glittery blue. Each badge has its own set of skills to work on. Bronze focuses on the Year 3 curriculum skills, silver on the Year 4 curriculum skills and gold the Year 5 and 6 curriculum skills. The glittery green badge is about becoming a Maths Sheriff coach and supporting other children and the glittery blue badge is a problem solving puzzle book that gets the children to think in different ways. Testing takes place in school at break times and lunchtimes and there are also dedicated Maths Sheriff after school clubs.



To support Beechwood's Maths Sheriff we also use the online times table programme Times Tables Rock Stars. Each child has their own secure log in which allows them to practise their times table skills that they need to work on while having fun and earning points and coins for the Times Table Rock Stars shop. All children will have a Times Table Rock Stars session in school approximately once a fortnight where they will be able to play against the class (and sometimes the teacher). There will also be challenges set up for the children to do at home by their teacher as well.

If you have any questions about Maths Sheriff or Times Tables Rock Stars, please get in contact with your child's class teacher or Mrs Furby (Maths Leader).