

Beeches Infant and Junior Schools

Weekly Newsletter



24th April 2026

Issue 13

Beeches Road, Birmingham B42 2PY | Infant Telephone: (0121) 360 4222 | Junior Telephone: (0121) 272 5888

LEAVE IN TERM TIME

We continue to receive a large volume of leave of absence requests. Leave during term time is generally not permitted and will only be authorised in exceptional or extreme circumstances. Parents are expected to arrange holidays outside of school terms, as regular attendance is essential for children's learning and progress. Requests for absence must be made in advance and will be considered on a case-by-case basis, but approval is rarely given, and as a school we will always follow the Local Authority's guidance. Opting for holidays in term time may result in a fine from Birmingham City Council. While we sympathise with requests due to the cost of travel during school holidays, this will not be a basis for leave to be approved. Likewise, we understand that having relatives who are unwell, especially in faraway lands, can be a very difficult experience, but we receive a very large number of requests of this nature and they are always declined. School attendance is a national priority and a priority for our school. Thank you for your support and understanding.

YEAR 1 PHONICS WORKSHOP

Thankyou to our parents who attended our Year 1 phonics workshops this week. The children enjoyed sharing their learning and working alongside their families and friends. As you probably know, the children will sit their Phonics Screening Check in June. Look at the information attached to this newsletter or follow the link below to find more information on how to support reading and phonics at home: <https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>



YEAR 3 VISIT TO THE SYNAGOGUE

Abdul and Evangeline (3L) have written about Year 3's visit to the synagogue:

Last week we visited the Singers Hill Synagogue. When we arrived we saw a very big building with white pillars. A man called Geoff guided us around and told us all about the history of the synagogue. We learnt lots of interesting things about the way Jewish people worship. For example, the women sit on the right side of the synagogue and the men sit on the left side. We also learnt that the Torahs - the special scrolls that Jewish people use when worshipping - are stored in the arc. Geoff told us the stories behind the beautiful stained-glass windows - my favourite part was seeing the special flower window at the front of the building. It has red and blue petals.

RECORDING MEETINGS

Please note that we do not give consent for meetings with staff to be recorded. If there is a particular reason you want to record a conversation, please put this request in writing to Mr Smart beforehand: m.smart@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk

Likewise, if another person (e.g. your child's other parent) wants to listen to the meeting via your mobile device, please request this before the meeting starts.

TERMLY INFORMATION SHEETS

Attached to this newsletter, you will find this term's information sheets. For the infants, this is new: it's a one-page summary of a few bits of key information including PE days, where to go for help and what your child will be learning about this term. We hope you find these useful.

ONLINE SAFETY

We urge parents and carers to stay vigilant about their children's online viewing habits following reports that some younger children have accessed content that has left them feeling frightened and distressed. With the wide range of material available online, not all of it suitable for younger audiences, it is important for parents and carers to monitor what their children are watching constantly, use appropriate parental controls and have open conversations about online safety to help ensure a positive and age-appropriate experience. If you would like advice on keeping your children safe online then please visit:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

YEAR 4 VISIT TO THE MANDIR

Awa and Eden (4F) have written about Year 4's visit to the Mandir this week:

At the Mandir on Monday we learned about the Hindu gods and idols names and what their meanings were. They showed us around the temple so we could see them all and understand them. We needed to take off our shoes as a sign of respect before entering where the statues of the gods were.

At the end of the hall was a small room with a picture of a god standing there. There was music playing and there were lots of chairs. On the sides by the statues, there were bells. Every time someone prayed to one of the Hindu deities, they would ring the bell to make the message go to them faster.

At the end, before we left, the Mandir staff handed out some fruit to people as a thank you. We had a lovely morning and learned lots.

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INFANT SCHOOL

STARS OF THE WEEK

For 'letting your imagination go'

Crocodiles: Jace	Dolphins: Rahma
Monkeys: Draisen	Seals: Amina
Tigers: Iffat	Whales: Khloe
Owls: Safaa	
Parrots: Auden	
Penguins: Mohammed	

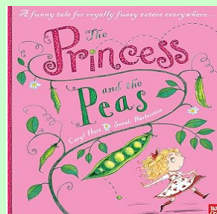
GOLDEN CHILD OF THE WEEK

For Good Behaviour

Crocodiles: Lennie	Dolphins: Marjun
Monkeys: Isha	Seals: Levi
Tigers: Safiyyah	Whales: Elsa
Owls: Sophia	
Parrots: Kayden	
Penguins: Kiaan	

BOOK OF THE WEEK

"The Princess and the Peas" by
Caryl Hart, chosen by Crocodiles



DIARY DATES

Tue 28 Apr, 9am	9am Crocodiles Phonics workshop
Wed 29 Apr, 9am	9am Tigers Phonics workshop
Thur 30 Apr, 9am	9am Monkeys Phonics workshop
Mon 4 May	Bank holiday - school closed
Wed 6 May	Whole school class photos
Thu 7 May	Orthoptist Reception classes
Thu 14 May pm	Family afternoon celebration
Wed 20 May	Break up for half term
Thu 21 & Fri 22 May	Teacher Days - school closed
Mon 1 Jun	School reopens
Fri 17 Jul	Last day of term
Mon 20 Jul	Teacher Day - school closed

JUNIOR SCHOOL

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

3KP: Harry	5C: Ava-Rose
3L: Robert	5L: Amelia
3SP: Husnain	5W: Huraira
4A: Perrie	6M: Thisev
4F: Alex	6P: Willow
4S: Dermaine	6S: Alexis

TEAM POINTS

1.	Team Malala	592
2.	Team Lewis	550
3.	Team Cadbury	548
4.	Team Zephaniah	540

DIARY DATES

Tue 28 Apr	Sch Nurse - Year 6 height and weight
Thu 30 Apr	Year 4 visit to Black Country Museum
Mon 4 May	Bank holiday - school closed
Tue 5 May pm	Pinocchio pantomime in school
Mon 11 - Thu 14 May	Year 6 SATs week
Thu 14 May pm	Family afternoon celebration
Wed 20 May	Break up for half term
Thu 21 & Fri 22 May	Teacher Days - school closed
Mon 1 Jun	School reopens
Fri 5 Jun	Eid celebrations
Wed 1 Jul	Summer Fayre
Thu 2 Jul	Year 3 visit to Botanical Gardens
Fri 17 Jul	Last day of term
Mon 20 Jul	Teacher Day - school closed



We hope you have all had a lovely Easter break. As we are nearing the end of the academic year, we would like to thank you for your continued support. Please continue to help your child by talking to your child about their day, reading consistently at home and practising their Phonics sounds each day.

Staff Team <u>Teachers</u> Crocodiles: Ms Baldwin (Year Group Leader) Tigers: Miss Vasta Monkeys: Mrs Crosbie and Mrs Wiktoroko		<u>Teaching Assistants</u> Mrs Burn/ Mrs Frances Mrs Johnson/ Mrs Cooksey Miss Rushton
Timings Our doors open at 8.45am and children must be in by 8.55am. School finishes at 3.15pm.	Fruit Children are offered a piece of fruit every playtime.	
P.E. days this term Crocodiles: Friday morning Tigers: Wednesday morning Monkeys: Monday morning On PE days, children can wear their PE kit to school but should wear either their school jumper/cardigan over the top or a black jumper. Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and earrings must either be removed or covered.	Key Dates 4 th May: Bank Holiday – school closed 14 th May: Family Afternoon Celebrations 21 st May & 22 nd May: Teacher Days 5 th June: Eid ul-Adha Celebrations 1 st July: Summer Fayre 20 th July: Teacher Day	
Homework: The most important thing is to talk to your child every day about their day at school and what they have learnt. Please also read lots of stories to your child as this supports their language and vocabulary development. Children bring home a library book for you to read to your child each week. They also bring a Phonics book which is closely matched to their reading level. Please hear your child read their Phonics reading book every day if possible to develop their confidence and fluency. Please use the Phonics homework each work to consolidate sounds and new words. Children also have a Numbots login so please access this each week.	Concerns: Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually, the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Ms Furnivall, our SENDCo. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our pastoral leader, Mrs Frances, is here to help. Please contact the school office to arrange a meeting.	
Curriculum Overview Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:		
Literacy: We are learning to read words containing adjacent consonants e.g. nest, skip, scrap. We will consolidate digraphs and trigraphs from Phase 3 and start to 'blend in our head' to develop the fluency of our reading. In writing, we will write dictated sentences related to our stories, including The Three Little Pigs, The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Oliver's Vegetables. We will segment to spell words containing the sounds that we have learnt and develop our use of finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. We will continue to practice and perfect our letter formation.	Summer 1 P.E: Manipulation & Coordination Summer 2 PE: Speed & Agility	
Maths: We will add and subtract within 10 and develop our fluency with number bonds to 5 and 10. We will learn to double, halve, group and share numbers up to 10. We will count above 10 and learn to recognise teen numbers. We will create shape pictures and explore patterns.	Computing: Using Beebots Online Safety	
Understanding the World: Science: Exploring changes in seasons from Spring to Summer. Lifecycles of plants and minibeasts. Sorting and grouping minibeasts. Geography: Exploring different areas – trip to Castle Bromwich Hall gardens. RE: Places, people and objects that are special to me and to different religions.	Expressive Arts and Design: Music: Using bodies, voices and instruments to explore and copy sounds that different types of transport would make. Learn about different instruments in an orchestra. Art: Exploring pattern, texture, form and line. Learn about the artist Andy Goldsworthy. D&T: Design and make a house for the Three Little Pigs. Design and make a fruit kebab.	




We hope you have all had a lovely Easter break. As we are nearing the end of the academic year, we would like to thank you for your continued support. Please continue to help your child with their homework tasks, reading consistently at home.

Staff Team <u>Teachers</u> Penguins: Mrs Paterson (Year Group Leader)/Mrs Ward Owls: Mrs Ahmed/Mrs Harris-Murdock Parrots: Mrs Kirkham/Mrs Baird			<u>Teaching Assistants</u> Mrs Dor Mrs Jones		
Timings Our doors open at 8.45am and children must be in by 8.55am . School finishes at 3.15pm.		Fruit The children will be offered fruit each day at playtime. If you would like to send a particular piece of fruit, you are more than welcome.			
P.E. days this term Penguins – Thursday pm Parrots – Thursday am Owls – Friday pm On PE days, children can wear their PE kit to school but must wear their school jumper/cardigan over the top. Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and children who wear earrings must have these removed to be able to take part in PE lessons.			Key Dates 4 th May: Bank Holiday – school closed 14 th May: Family Afternoon Celebrations 21 st May & 22 nd May: Teacher Days 1 st July: Summer Fayre 20 th July: Teacher Day		
Homework: The main things that we ask are your child has an opportunity to read with someone every day , learn their weekly spellings and they continue to learn their number bonds – we recommend children use Numbots for this. The children enjoy our home reading scheme, and we ask for your support by ensuring that books are well looked after and that your child's reading book and reading record come to school every day. Please make a note in their reading record each time your child reads. The children will be given a homework sheet each week with spellings, phonic sounds and a Numbots reminder. At the end of each half term the children receive a topic-based homework to explore their creative side.			Concerns: Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually, the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Ms Furnivall, our SENDCo. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our pastoral leader, Mrs Frances, is here to help. Please contact the school office to arrange a meeting.		
Curriculum Overview Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:					
English: In Writing, we are learning basic sentence structure, how to compose sentences correctly, using basic punctuation independently. We will continue to work on letter formation and handwriting practice. Our learning will be based on the texts, Augustus and his Smile, Daisy Doodles and The Slime Book. A range of fiction and non-fiction writing will be covered.				PE: Games and athletics.	
Maths: A range of topics will be covered in the summer term: Multiplication and division, fractions, position and direction, place value within 100, Money and time.				Computing: Maze explorers Coding	
Science: Introduction to plants. Investigating Science through stories.			History: How have explorers changed the world? Geography: How is life different in China?		
PSHE: Economic wellbeing Transitional periods		RE: How do we know that new babies are special? Why should we care for others?		Music: Pitch. Musical symbols.	
Art: Craft and design – Woven Wonders.		Design & Technology: Mechanisms – Wheels and axles.			



We hope you have all had a lovely Easter break. As we are nearing the end of the academic year, we would like to thank you for your continued support. Please continue to help your child with their homework tasks, reading consistently at home and engaging with Numbots.

Staff Team <u>Teachers</u> Whales: Mrs Matharu (Year Group Leader) Dolphins: Mrs Garmston Seals: Miss Tillsley		<u>Teaching Assistants</u> Miss Dallison Mrs Weaver	
Timings Our doors open at 8.45am and children must be in by 8.55am. School finishes at 3.15pm.		Author of the term:  <i>Euid Blyton</i>	
P.E. days this term Whales: Tuesday Seals: Tuesday Dolphins: Tuesday On PE days, children can wear their PE kit to school but must wear their school jumper/cardigan over the top. Please ensure your child has suitable footwear for indoor and outdoor activities. Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and if children are wearing earrings, they must be able to remove these by themselves.		Key Dates 4 th May: Bank Holiday – school closed 14 th May: Family Afternoon 19 th May: Warwick Castle trip 21 st May & 22 nd May: Teacher Days 1 st July: Summer Fayre 20 th July: Teacher Day	
Homework: Homework tasks which consist of spellings, writing, reading and maths are sent home on Friday along with home reading books. Please make a note in your child's reading diary each time your child reads. We encourage three reads a week to receive a raffle ticket. Raffle tickets are drawn at the end of each half term and winners receive a book of their choice.		Concerns: Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually, the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Ms Furnivall, our SENDCo. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our pastoral leader, Mrs Frances, is here to help. Please contact the school office to arrange a meeting.	
Curriculum Overview Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:			
English: In Writing, we will be immersing the children in a range of texts such as 'Stuck', 'The Boy who Cried Ninja', 'Stella and the Seagull' and 'Hidden World – Ocean'. We will be consolidating transcription skills by using phonetic knowledge to write unfamiliar words, correctly spelt common exception words and conjunctions (and, but, or, when, if, because) to join and extend sentences. We will be encouraging children to join up their handwriting, proof-read work and make simple additions and revisions.		PE: Hit, catch and run Attack, defend and shoot	
Maths: A range of topics focusing on fractions, time, statistics, position and direction.		Computing: Creating pictures Presenting ideas	
Science: Plant growth and making connections between plant-based materials.		History: What is a monarch? Geography: What is it like to live by the coast?	
PSHE: My Happy Mind: Relate	RE: How do some people talk to God? Where do some people talk to God?	Music: Developing an understanding of structure by exploring and ordering rhythms.	
Art: Painting and mixed media: life in colour	Design & Technology: Healthy eating: making pizzas	UNICEF: Family: giving and taking Co-operation: a traditional story Diversity: is it fair?	



Year 3 staff would like to welcome you all back to school after the Easter break. As we are nearing the end of the academic year, we would like to thank you for all your continued support. Please continue to help your child with their homework tasks, reading consistently at home and perfecting their times tables.

Staff Team - Teachers & e-mail addresses Miss Patel (Acting Year Group Leader) <i>s.patel@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i> 3L: Miss Burness <i>m.burness@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i> 3KP: Mrs Powers <i>k.powers@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i> 3SP: Mr Price <i>s.price@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>		Teaching Assistants Miss Blakemore Miss Jones Miss Cooper Miss Wilson
Timings: Our doors open at 8.45am and children must be in by 8.55am . School finishes at 3.20pm.		Snacks: Please send your child to school each day with a healthy snack for morning break.
P.E. days this term: Swimming will be every Wednesday for all classes until May half term. This counts as one PE session. Children should come into school in normal uniform on these days and their swimming kit in a bag. The second PE session for each class will be an outdoor session on our school field. This will be on Mondays for 3L, Tuesdays for 3KP and Thursdays for 3SP. On PE days children can wear their PE kit to school but must wear their school jumper/cardigan over the top . Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and if children are wearing earrings, they must be able to remove these by themselves. If your child does bring in any earrings or watches, this is at your own risk.		Key Dates 4 th May: Bank Holiday – school closed 5 th May: Pinocchio performance 14 th May: Family Afternoon Celebrations 21 st May & 22 nd May: Teacher Day 5 th June: Eid ul-Adha Celebrations 1 st July: Summer Fayre 2 nd July: Botanical Gardens 20 th July: Teacher Day
Homework: The main things that we ask are your child has an opportunity to read with someone every day , learn their weekly spellings on Spelling Shed and they continue to learn the times tables – we recommend children use TT Rockstars for this. The children enjoy our home reading scheme, and we ask for your support by ensuring that books are well looked after and that your child's reading book and reading record come to school every day. Please make a note in their reading record each time your child reads. The children will be given a homework grid each term relating to the different topics we will be covering. Across the term, the children are asked to complete a minimum of 6 of these tasks. These can be completed in their homework books or any other means (e.g. poster, PowerPoint). Homework is non-compulsory but strongly recommended.		Concerns: Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually, the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Mr. Ellis, our Inclusion Leader. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our pastoral team of Mrs. Liddington and Mrs. Wall are here to help. Please contact the school office to arrange a meeting.
Curriculum Overview: Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:		
English – This term, our writing lessons will be inspired by Lila and the Secret of Rain by David Conway and The Wild Robot book by Peter Brown. We will be looking at using speech, including the correct punctuation, using commas in a list, expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials. In reading, we will be working on our fluency and comprehension, especially inference.		Computing – In Computing, we will use a laptop to explore font, images and other design elements to publish our own work.
Maths – In maths, we will further our understanding of place value and the four operations. We will be applying our learning across the year in problem solving activities and developing our reasoning. We will be looking at measurements, fractions, statistics and shape.		P.E. – In PE this term, we will be taking part in swimming, dodgeball and athletics.
Science - In science this term, we will be exploring magnets and their uses.	Topic (inc. Geography and History) – In History, we will be exploring the Early Islamic Civilisation, focusing on how Baghdad became a blueprint for modern cities. In Geography, we will be learning about the Amazon rainforest and Brazil.	
P.S.H.E. – We will be learning how to form positive relationships and exploring how we change as we grow.	R.E. – First, we will do a unit on Islam, looking at how Muslims develop a relationship with God. Second, we study do a unit on Humanism.	Music – Pupils will explore different genres of music with a focus on tempo, rhythm and pitch.
Art – We will be creating our own calligraphy artwork linked to Islam.	Design & Technology – We will be designing and making delicious and nutritious food.	French – We will be learning about fruit, vegetables and going on a picnic.



The Year 4 staff would like to welcome you all back after the Easter holidays. As we are nearing the end of the academic year, we would like to thank you for all your continued support. Please continue to help your child with their homework tasks, reading consistently at home and perfecting their times tables.

Staff Team - Teachers & e-mail addresses		Teaching Assistants
4S: Mrs Strickland (Year Group Leader)	<i>m.strickland@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>	Mrs Watson
4A: Mrs Ambris	<i>l.ambris@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>	Miss Cooper
4F: Mrs Frost (Acting Year Group Leader)	<i>a.frost@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>	Ms Jones
All classes: Mrs Doherty	<i>k.doherty@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>	

Timings - Our doors open at 8.45am and children must be in by 8.55am . School finishes at 3.20pm .	Snacks - Please send your child to school each day with a healthy snack (e.g. fruit or a cereal bar) for morning break.
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P.E. days this term: 4S – Indoor P.E. on a Friday and Outdoor P.E. on a Monday. 4A – Indoor P.E. on a Wednesday and Outdoor P.E. on a Friday. 4F – Indoor P.E. on a Thursday and Outdoor P.E. on a Tuesday. On PE days, children can wear their PE kit to school but must wear their school jumper/cardigan over the top. Please ensure your child has suitable clothing for indoor and outdoor activities. If the weather is dry, we will be outside even if it is a bit cold, so tracksuits & sweat tops are appropriate. Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and if children are wearing earrings, they must be able to remove these by themselves. If your child does bring in any earrings or watches, this is at your own risk.	Key Dates 30 th April: Black Country Living Museum 4 th May: Bank Holiday – school closed 5 th May: Pinocchio by M&M Productions 14 th May: Family Afternoon Celebrations 21 st May & 22 nd May: Teacher Day 5 th June: Eid ul-Adha Celebrations 8 th -12 th June: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check 1 st July: Summer Fayre 20 th July: Teacher Day
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Homework: The main things that we ask are your child has an opportunity to read with someone every day , learn their weekly spellings and they continue to learn the times tables – we recommend children use TT Rockstars for this. The children enjoy our home reading scheme, and we ask for your support by ensuring that books are well looked after and that your child’s reading book and reading record come to school every day. Please make a note in their reading record each time your child reads. The children will be given a homework grid each term relating to the different topics we will be covering. Across the term, the children are asked to complete a minimum of 6 of these tasks. These can be completed on paper, by poster or digitally by PowerPoint.	Concerns: Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually, the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Mr. Ellis, our Inclusion Leader. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our pastoral team of Mrs. Liddington and Mrs. Wall are here to help. Please contact the school office to arrange a meeting.
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Curriculum Overview - Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:

English - This term, we will be developing an understanding of various types of writing genres. Writing learning journeys will be based on <i>The Smeds & the Smoos</i> by Julia Donaldson, <i>Journey</i> by Aaron Becker and <i>Me & Mister P</i> by Maria Farrer. Pupils will write a range of narratives, letters and descriptive writing. Reading lessons will continue to work on comprehension, exploring a range of texts like <i>The Troublemakers</i> by Tamzin Merchant.	Computing – Continuing to develop a range of computing skills throughout the unit ‘The internet: systems and networks’.
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Maths - We will study a range of topics, focusing on embedding the learning from over the year. This will be in place value, the four operations, fractions, decimals, percentages and measurement. As mentioned above, there will be a big focus on rapid recall of times tables and corresponding division facts. Children are expected to learn these for a weekly test and in preparation for the upcoming Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) in June.	P.E. - Outdoor P.E. will be tennis and rounders. Indoor P.E. will be athletics.
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Science - Children will be learning about the classification of living things in ‘Crazy Critters’ followed by sound in our topic ‘Good Vibrations’.	Topic (inc. Geography and History) - We will be looking at the history of our local area, Great Barr and Birmingham. In geography, we will be focusing on map work.
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P.S.H.E. - We will be learning about relationships and changing me.	Music – Learning a range of skills using the glockenspiel, keeping beats and reflecting on music styles.	R.E. - We will be learning about Hinduism and their beliefs and the importance of the River Ganges.
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Art - Our art, this term, will be learning about vanishing points and birds eye views with famous Birmingham buildings.	Design & Technology - Textiles and sewing, creating a Viking purse.	French - A range of conversational and introductory French.
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We hope you have all had a lovely Easter break. As we are nearing the end of the academic year, we would like to thank you for your continued support. Please continue to help your child with their homework tasks, reading consistently at home, engaging with The Spelling Shed and perfecting their times tables recall ready for Year 6.

Staff Team <u>Teachers & e-mail addresses</u> 5L: Miss Lawley (Year Group Leader) <i>a.lawley@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i> 5C: Mrs Modi <i>k.parmar@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i> 5W: Miss Weston <i>j.weston@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>			<u>Teaching Assistants</u> Mrs Cartmell Miss Bayliss Miss Cooper		
Timings Our doors open at 8.45am and children must be in by 8.55am. School finishes at 3.20pm.		Snacks Please send your child to school each day with a healthy snack for morning break.			
P.E. days this term 5L: Outdoor – Wednesday Indoor – Monday 5C: Outdoor – Monday Indoor – Thursday 5W: Outdoor – Wednesday Indoor – Tuesday On PE days, children can wear their PE kit to school but must wear their school jumper/cardigan over the top. Please ensure your child has suitable clothing for indoor and outdoor activities. If the weather is dry, we will go outside, even if it is a bit cold, so tracksuits & sweat tops are appropriate. Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and if children are wearing earrings, they must be able to remove these by themselves. If your child does bring in any earrings or watches, this is at your own risk.		Key Dates 4 th May: Bank Holiday – school closed 5 th May: Pinocchio performance from M&M Productions 14 th May: Family Afternoon Celebrations 21 st May & 22 nd May: Teacher Day 5 th June: Eid ul-Adha Celebrations 1 st July: Summer Fayre 20 th July: Teacher Day			
Homework: The main things that we ask are your child has an opportunity to read with someone every day , learn their weekly spellings on Spelling Shed and they continue to learn the times tables – we recommend children use TT Rockstars for this. The children enjoy our home reading scheme, and we ask for your support by ensuring that books are well looked after and that your child’s reading book and reading record come to school every day. Please make a note in their reading record each time your child reads. The children will be given a homework grid each term relating to the different topics we will be covering. Across the term, the children are asked to complete a minimum of 6 of these tasks. These can be completed in their homework books or any other means (e.g. poster, PowerPoint). Homework is non-compulsory but strongly recommended.		Concerns: Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually, the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Mr. Ellis, our Inclusion Leader. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our pastoral team of Mrs. Liddington and Mrs. Wall are here to help. Please contact the school office to arrange a meeting.			
Curriculum Overview Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:					
English: In Writing, we are consolidating parenthesis, speech, adverbial phrases, figurative language, apostrophes (contraction and possession), verb tenses and accurate use of determiners. We will be embedding these skills when writing for a range of purposes whilst ensuring consistency with grammar and punctuation. In Reading, we are reading <i>The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh</i> by Helen Rutter and continuing to focus on exploring the meaning of words in their context, inference, summarising and retrieval.			Outdoor P.E: Athletics and Cricket Indoor P.E: Leadership skills and Dance		
Maths: A range of topics, focusing this term on properties of shapes, position and direction, statistics, percentages and fractions. There will be a focus on arithmetic style questions using the four operations with fractions, decimals and percentages.			Computing: Vector Drawing		
Science: Lifecycles and Changes over time in animals including humans		History: Empire Windrush Geography: Jamaica			
P.S.H.E: Relationships & Changing Me. These units will be taught according to the school’s RSE policy.		R.E: Islam (Prayer and Worship) Judaism (Passover)	Music: Improvisation and creating and performing music as a group.		
Art: Sculptures linked to Nakazzi Hutchinson’s work, who is a Jamaican artist.		Design & Technology: Food technology	French: Asking and answering questions about myself and the planet.		



Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed a relaxing break. The summer term is always a lively and memorable time, filled with SATs week, special events, and the important milestone of moving on from primary school. We understand that SATs can feel challenging, but we will make sure every child feels supported, confident, and cared for along the way. You can be assured that we are dedicated to providing a balanced and enjoyable curriculum, creating lasting memories as your child prepares for the transition to secondary school.

<u>Teachers & e-mail addresses</u>		<u>Teaching Assistants</u>	
6S: Mr Smith (Year Group Leader)	<i>i.smith@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>	Miss Silvera	
6M: Mr Milner	<i>s.milner@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>	Mrs Mitchell	
6P: Miss Patel	<i>s.patel@beechesjnr.bham.sch.uk</i>	Miss Bayliss	
Timings: Our doors open at 8.45am and children must be in by 8.55am . School finishes at 3.20pm .		Snacks - Please send your child to school each day with a healthy snack (e.g. fruit or a cereal bar) for morning break.	
P.E. days this term: 6S: Tuesday – outdoor. Wednesday – indoor. 6M: Monday – indoor. Wednesday – outdoor. 6P: Tuesday - indoor. Thursday – outdoor. On PE days children can wear their PE kit to school but must wear their school jumper/cardigan over the top . Please ensure your child has suitable clothing for indoor and outdoor activities. If the weather is dry we will be outside even if it is a bit cold, so tracksuits & sweat tops are appropriate. Jewellery must not be worn for P.E. and if children are wearing earrings, they must be able to remove these by themselves. If your child does bring in any earrings or watches, this is at your own risk.		Key Dates 24 th April: Veolia Sustainability Workshops 28 th April: Year 6 height & weight measurements 4 th May: Bank Holiday – school closed 5 th May: Pinocchio performance by M&M Productions & Year 6 stage workshop 11 th May: SATs week 14 th May: Family Afternoon Celebrations 21 st May & 22 nd May: Teacher Day 5 th June: Eid ul-Adha Celebrations 10 th June: Athletics Event @ Alexander Stadium 1 st July: Summer Fayre 20 th July: Teacher Day	
Homework: To prepare your child for secondary school, where they receive daily homework, and ensure a smooth transition, homework is strongly encouraged in Year 6 . This is an important year and continuous provision at home is a powerful tool that can accelerate your child's progress. We will be sending home grammar and reading sheets weekly, on a Friday, to be returned on a Wednesday . Children will be directed to homework club if they did not have an opportunity to complete their work at home. In addition to this, the children are expected to read at home at least 4 times a week . Teachers will keep a record of those children completing the homework. Thank you in advance for your support! <i>"Your brain is like a muscle — the more you use it, the stronger it gets!"</i>		Concerns: Do you have any concerns about your child? Usually, the best person to speak to in the first instance is the class teacher. If your child is falling behind in their learning or having a specific difficulty, you may wish to speak to Mr. Ellis, our Inclusion Leader. If your child is experiencing emotional difficulties or friendship issues, or if you are experiencing any problems as a family, our pastoral team of Mrs. Liddington and Mrs. Wall are here to help. Please contact the school office to arrange a meeting.	
Curriculum Overview - Here is a summary of the main learning your child will be doing this term:			
English Throughout the Summer term, we will be completing several exciting writing opportunities, including links to the books <i>From Hereabout Hill & Kensuke's Kingdom</i> by Michael Morpurgo.		Computing 3D modelling	
Maths Revision of all topics		P.E. Cricket & Athletics	
Science Fabulous Fungi (micro-organisms)		Topic Activism & Sustainability	
P.S.H.E. Mental Health, Relationships & Changing Me. Transition to secondary school.	Art Activism Collage	R.E. Humanism & Islam	Music Appreciation of Music
Design & Technology 3D Engineering		French Café culture	



Your child's reading journey

Year 1

Your child is on their journey to becoming a skilled reader. In Reception, they learned all of the single letter sounds, the consonant digraphs and some vowel digraphs (digraph: two letters, one sound) and trigraphs (three letters, one sound).

In Year 1, children will learn the remaining graphemes in the *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised* programme. These are alternative spellings for the sounds that they already know. The children will become more fluent readers and will read increasingly challenging texts.

All for the love of reading

- Teaching children the skills of reading will increase their will to read.
- Children who love reading, choose to read.
- Reading develops children's vocabulary, understanding of the world and empathy.
- A love of reading is the biggest indicator of future academic success! To develop a love of reading, children must have the skills to read, which is why we teach them using phonics.





What is my child taught in school?

- In Year 1, children are taught a 30-minute phonics lesson every day.
- They will also have an opportunity to apply their phonic knowledge to reading a book (matched to their level), at least three times a week.
- Your child may need daily additional practice to help secure their learning.

What can I do to support my child at home?

- Listen to your child practise reading their phonics book to develop their fluency.
- Read to your child daily – choose books that you can enjoy together. The love of reading books we send home are a great place to start.
- Ask your child's teacher if you need extra help with supporting your child – that's what we're here for!

What if my child comes across a word that they can't read straight away?

- If your child is unsure of a word, ask them to sound it out and then blend.
- Ask them if they can spot any digraphs (two letters, one sound) or trigraphs (three letters, one sound) before decoding the word.
- Never ask your child to guess words using the pictures or initial sounds as clues. If they are really struggling just read the word to them.

My child is reading the books fluently at home, do they need a more challenging book?

- No! We want children to be able to read fluently and not find reading a chore.
- Once they can read fluently, they can focus on adding expression when reading aloud and showing their understanding of the book. Use the prompts on the back page of the books to check your child's understanding.

Find further resources and information for parents and carers at:
www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents