



Dear parents and carers of Beech class,

Happy Spring! Welcome back to school and we hope you all had wonderful Easter holidays! Our new topic is 'Muck, Mess and Mixtures' and it is a wonderful one! We will introduce food around the world and typical dishes from various countries. We will also be setting up lots of plant experiments, making our own salads and creating some super fun digital music. If you would like to know what we will be covering this term, it's all on the topic map on Seesaw.

Secret agent training (SATS) - The Year 2's will have their secret agent training in May! This is no longer obligatory for Year 2's in England but we will do them purely as an extra way of assessment. Also, the children love getting their secret agent badge by the end of it! I'll be sending home past papers after Easter. We'll be doing two reading papers, one maths arithmetic paper, one maths reasoning paper, one grammar and punctuation paper and one spelling paper. I will also put a link on to previous papers for you to have a look at.

Phonics screening check - The Year 1's will have their Phonics screening check in June! A pack of Phonics practice/information will be sent home with your child the first week back. Please do practice at home. I will also put a link on to previous papers for you to have a look at.

PE-Our PE will be on a Monday and Friday and children need to come into school in their PE kit on those days. They can come to school wearing their PE trainers for these days (separate from their daily mile trainers which remain in school). Please provide your child with velcro trainers if they cannot tie their shoe laces.

Daily Mile-We will be doing our Daily Mile if the weather is nice. We aim to go every morning but if the weather is not great, or other circumstances arise we may not on occasional mornings. As mentioned above, please make sure children have their daily mile trainers in school that will stay in class and go home each half term to be washed if needed.

Spellings- On Fridays, children will be sent home with spellings in their reading diary to learn for the week. The following Friday morning we will have our spelling test, and then their new set of spellings will be given. If you need any

tips on spelling practice at home please message on seesaw or chat to me at the gate. Their score is nothing to worry about and just helps to inform me of spellings/sounds we may need to go over. Our first test will be 12th September.

Reading- Reading in KS1 is very important so please read every day if you can - even if it's one or two pages. Please record in your child's reading diary with a signature and page number. If a child has a full Monday-Friday week of reading logged in the diary they get two housepoints! Your child will go home with either a Little Wandle book or a book band book once they've worked their way through the Little Wandle scheme. They'll also be given the option on a Thursday to take a 'reading for pleasure' book home from our class reading garden. These can be brought back on the following Thursday and swapped for another one.

- If your child is reading LW books: We will introduce a new book on a Tuesday in our class reading groups and continue working through decoding, prosody and comprehension skills until the Thursday when it then goes home with them. These books must be brought back to school the following Thursday ready to be swapped over.
- If your child is reading a coloured book band book: These can be changed independently by the children as often as they like but they must have a written record that they've finished the book in their reading diary by an adult. We will assess regularly if a child is ready to move up a book band.

Water bottles-Please bring in a labelled water bottle every day. These stay in school and are rinsed and refilled. They will be sent home on a Friday afternoon and must be brought back to school on Monday.

Named uniform-Please make sure all uniform is labelled clearly as we sometimes find uniform lying around and we struggle to read names or initials. Thank you!

Seesaw- Seesaw logins/family logins have all been given out but please let me know if you need help with getting set up. We use seesaw to upload a few bits of what we get up to in the week/share information. Feel free to also upload any pictures/videos of what you child may be getting up to on their weekends etc as we also love to see this!

Show and Tell - On Fridays we have show and tell. Each week we swap between Year 1's and then Year 2's. The first Friday back (9th) will be the Year 1's turn. If the children wish to, they have the option to bring in something to show and talk about. It has to be something that is either about our learning topics, a special day out, an achievement or something they have made/created. Please no random toys or books etc unless relevant to the above.

Maths Monkey - Maths Monkey is an exciting member of Beech class! If your child comes home with him his information is inside his book for you to read. Please get as creative as you wish to with your Maths fun and we love to see photos/explanations of what you got up to! If you receive him Tuesday, please bring him back to school Friday and if you receive him Friday, please bring him back Monday. Don't worry if you don't have a printer to print photos with him, drawings/pictures are fine.

Letter/number practice - Please continue to practice letter formation at home with your child. Letters need to be formed correctly and sit neatly on the line. We do encourage cursive handwriting however forming letters neatly and correctly comes first - then the joining can begin! Please also check your children can write their numbers the correct way around and not reversed.

TT rockstars- All children have a TT rockstars login in the back of their reading diary. Please do not feel you need to play on these with your child yet as they will be introduced properly in future weeks and I'll explain what they are on seesaw. If you want to explore it already, go ahead!

If you have any questions at all, please speak to myself or another member of Beech class who will be by the gate. Otherwise, please do not hesitate to drop me a message on Seesaw during school hours. We aim to answer all your questions/sort issues as quick as we can!

Best wishes,

The Beech Team. ☺

Miss Collett, Mrs France and Miss Khanam.