



Spring 2018

Beech Class Newsletter

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome to a another new term in Beech class. I hope you all had a great Christmas holiday. Wow, what a term we've just had! We've got another exciting one coming up. We have our trip from last term on Wednesday of this week and then an exciting term ahead. If you have any queries please catch me on the playground or email me at cthomas@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk

The Stone Age to Iron Age—We'll be travelling back in time thousands of years to early people. We'll be looking at how life was VERY different then to now. Children will learn about how we know about the Stone age, what 'cave art' tells us, how they got their food, etc. Children have a go at telling their own stories through cave art, design a stone age menu, research stone age animals, etc. Learning will 'travel' through to the Bronze Age and then onto the Iron Age taking in the Bell Beaker people, Iron Age houses and much more. Learning will cover much of the curriculum, including English, art, DT and obviously, history.



 We start this term with the second in our series of studies of Aaron Becker's book, *The Quest*. Children will be learning how to use paragraphs, fronted adverbials and create vocabulary 'rich' writing. Comprehension of reading will be covered through weekly guided reading sessions as well as questioning of our class book—the first in the Famous Five series. Spelling will look at suffixes and prefixes.

Maths— 'Further multiplication and division' - commutativity of multiplication, decomposing numbers to multiply, multiplying by 0 and 1, formal methods of multiplication and division.  After this 'chapter' children will look at time, money, decimals, measures, and graphs. Every maths lesson starts around a problem and children spend a fair bit of time solving this problem in year groups and discussing different methods. For support please see the link on the website to parent videos.

 Learning in science focuses around electricity. Children will learn about different sources of electricity and where they are found around us. They will construct some basic circuits and learn the names of the components. Children will also be carrying out investigations.

 PE will be on a Monday (with Mr Bardot) and Wednesday —please ensure children have appropriate, labelled, warm kit.

 DT - Later on this term we will be designing and making torches using our knowledge gained from science. This will involve switches.

RE - Children will learn what it is like for Christians to follow God. Also how individuals follow other religions, with a focus on Islam. We will also take children on the journey through the Easter story.

Thanks to the children for a great start to term. We look forward to the rest of the term! Don't forget homework will be handed out on a Wednesday and collected on a Monday.

Mr Thomas, Mrs Hurst and Miss Smith.