

Beech Class Newsletter

February 2018

Welcome Back!

We hope you had a lovely break over the half term holidays. Last half term we became experts in *Green Machines*; from growing our own beanstalks to exploring the different stages of plant growth through drama and writing. We had a wonderful visit from the Flying Shop of Imagination where we used our skills to create some magical flowers and poems! This half term we will be learning about castles. We are looking forward to our visit to the Castle museum to learn about the history of castles and exploring Castles as a setting for writing. As always, we incorporate the children's ideas and interests into our planning so we look forward to seeing where this topic takes us over the next few weeks!

Our school topic for this half term is: Castles and Dragons
Our enquiry question is: Who was the king of the Castle?

English

Through recounting our holidays we will learn about the different features of recounts before writing about our visit to the Castle Museum. We will also become experts in Castles as a setting to create adverts for other children to read. The Reception children will be story scribing with the adults in the class. We look forward to supporting the children in their writing and reading their marvellous stories.

English in Sycamore Class

In Sycamore Class we will be writing recounts about our half term holidays and our visit to the Castle Museum. We will also be designing our own castles and writing a description of them in the style of an estate agents advertisement.

Maths

In maths we will be exploring different calculation strategies, such as counting on, using numberlines and using concrete objects. We will decide which strategies are appropriate to use according to the problem that needs solving. The children will be encouraged to talk about their learning and give reasons for their answers.

Maths in Sycamore Class

In Maths we will be learning about addition and subtraction and investigating manipulating numbers within a calculation. We will also look at measures and then investigating 2D and 3D shape including shape names and fractions of shape.

Learning Across the Curriculum

Would you like to live in a castle surrounded by mountains? Or a castle by the sea? Maybe a castle on the edge of a cliff? What features would your castle have? We will need to learn about the different features of castles and geographical features so that we can design our own castle. We will also bring our castles to life using stop motion animation apps on the ipads. Through our exploration of castles we will be learning about materials and their properties and which materials were used in the past compared to today.

Reminders

We will have a library visit every Friday.

Your child can choose/change a library book.

Please ensure children have wellington boots and waterproof coats for use in our outdoor area.

How to Support at Home

Please continue to read every day with your child at home.

Don't forget to have a go on Mathseeds and Reading Eggs.

Please continue to share experiences from home on Tapestry. If you have any problems logging on please come and see the class teacher.

Please continue to practise spellings at home. Do bring them in for our display!

Class Dates

Castle Museum visit – 26th February
World Book Day - Thursday 1st March

Sharing afternoon – Thursday 15th March

Parent Teacher Progress Meeting
Friday 16th March – Wednesday 21st March

Class Assembly- Wednesday 21st March 2.30pm

Once upon a time

castle

Sophia

was

dress

for

the

back

Powerful vocabulary

Then

The jacht quickly

stout down the

by the

by the

and

cold

for

help.



The beanstalk
was enormous!

The giant chased Jack
down the beanstalk. Jack
got an axe and chopped
the beanstalk down.

I liked doing
the leaves. We swirled
them with paint.

PIC•COLLAGE