

Dear Year 2 Beech Parents,

This information sheet tells you about the theme being followed for this half term and which subjects are being linked to it and those which will be taught separately. We hope that you find it useful.

Theme: How do maps help us?

The children will learn about different types of maps and how to use them. They will learn about the symbols used on maps, as well as studying aerial views of our local area. They will identify the capital cities of the UK's four countries and they will learn how to follow a compass and how to read a map and they will design and follow their own treasure map. They will also use an atlas to name the UK's surrounding seas and name and locate the world's continents and oceans.

Cross curricular links:

DT: Children will be linking their DT, science and PSHE work and will be looking at healthy eating. They will learn how to prepare food healthily, safely and hygienically and they will be designing, preparing and making a fruit smoothie.

Science: Animals including Humans

Children will be looking at how humans and animals grow and what they need to survive. They will look at the healthy eating plate and they will think about what it means to be healthy by eating well and exercising. Children will also look at life cycles of humans and animals, as well as identifying different animal groups and the diet of different animals

Subjects being taught separately this half term:

English: Children will continue to develop their reading fluency and comprehension, vocabulary, spelling and sentence formation. They will base their work on 'Meerkat Mail' and will look at narrative and description, as well as writing non-chronological reports. They will also be looking at spelling rules when adding various suffixes to words, including *-ing*, *-er* and *-est*.

PSHE: What can help us grow and stay healthy? Children will explore healthy food and will understand what it means to be hygienic and how they can keep themselves clean and healthy.

Music: Charanga: Around the World. Children will be listening to and appraising vibrant music from around the world.

RE: Buddhism – What can we find out about Buddha? Children will explore the story of Buddha and how Buddhists worship.

PE: Games (Striking and Fielding) and Net and Wall Games (NUFC).

Computing: Children will be introduced to the written programming language of Logo. They will program an on-screen robot to move and create drawings using repeat commands.

Maths: Children in Year 2 will continue to measure, looking at mass, capacity and temperature. They will begin to understand fractions and how to find fractions of shapes and amounts.

How can you help?

Practise spellings (including Year 1 and Year 2 common exception words) with your child.

Share your child's school reading book with them. There are discussion points on the back cover to help you with this. This is best done often and in short bursts.

Practise mental maths, particularly number bonds to 10 and 20, discuss time and measure (including money) with real examples. Practise the 2-, 5- and 10-times table, both in and out of order.

Encourage your child to tell you what they have been learning about at school and where possible, extend their learning at home, through books, outings, discussions and the internet.

Please check your child's book bag frequently for newsletters and other information.

Class Reminders:

PE: Tuesday and Friday

Please ensure children come to school dressed in their PE kits on their designated PE day. (PE kit: white t-shirt and navy / royal blue shorts with plain dark coloured joggers and their green school jumper on top. *No logos*)

Please make sure PE kit and uniform are labelled.

Spellings: Spellings will be given on **Tuesday** to be tested the following **Monday**. Children will be given 10 weekly spellings to learn in Y2. **Spellings will be given out each week on a single piece of paper, which does not need to be returned to school.**

Library: Children will be able to choose a school library book every **Monday**. Library books should be returned the following week and can then be swapped for a new one.