

Autumn 2025

Beech Class Newsletter

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome to a new term and a new year in Beech class. The Beech teaching team are all looking forward delving into the various subjects of the lower key stage 2 curriculum. We have begun choosing and changing reading books and have started to develop the classroom routines. If you have any queries please catch me or email me at cthomas@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk

The Stone Age to Iron Age—

This term, children will explore life in prehistoric Britain—from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. They will learn how people lived as hunter-gatherers, developed tools and farming, and built monuments like Stonehenge. Through archaeology, they will investigate how life changed across this time and the impact of early Celtic tribes.



This term, children will explore the geography of our world by learning how to locate countries using latitude and longitude. They will study key features such as the Equator, hemispheres, poles, tropics, and the Prime Meridian. Children will also learn about time zones and compare climates in different parts of the world.



This term, our English learning will focus around a theme of 'Imagination' and Invention'. Children will apply their knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes, use dictionaries to check meanings, listen to/ discuss a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. In reading, they will make predictions and inferences. Some of the books that we will be studying include: *The First Drawing* by Joseph Coelho, *The Varmints* by Helen Ward, *The Story of Flight* by Jakob Whitfield and *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes.

Maths

Nearly all learning in maths this term will focus on number—this will start with work on place value and counting. We will move on to look at addition and subtraction strategies, which will include mental calculation and boundary crossing. Children will also learn multiplication and division strategies and will focus on the different times tables. Children will also learn visualisation methods to support learning in maths.



In Science this term, children will learn about animals, including humans, by exploring the digestive system, teeth, and food chains. They will also investigate states of matter, identifying solids, liquids and gases, and observing how materials change state through heating and cooling, including the water cycle and the role of evaporation and condensation.



In RE, children will followed two units: 'What do Christians learn from the creation story?' and 'How do festivals and family life show what matters to Jewish people?'



PE will be on a Monday and Tuesday — please ensure children come dressed in PE kit.

And in other subjects... **Computing:** Computing systems and networks, and creating audio media. **Design Technology:** Mechanisms in pop-up books. **Art:** Autumn art. **French:** School and travelling. **PSHE:** Health and well-being.

Key events: Harvest, Black History Month, Remembrance, Disability Awareness Month and Christmas (*shh*)

We look forward to the exciting term ahead and working together with you to make this the best possible start to the school year! **Mr Thomas** (teaching Mon-Fri a.m. and Mon and Tues p.m), **Mr Bardot** (PPA cover; PE and computing on Wed p.m), **Mrs Sutton** (Art/DT, Music/French and Science; Thurs and Fri p.m) and **Miss Marks** (TA; Mon-Fri)