



# LEARNING, LOVING AND LIVING TOGETHER WITH CHRIST

## Curriculum Newsletter

**Year 1 Autumn 2 2017**  
**Beech and Sycamore Classes**

### English



In English our story is The Nativity Story. The children will be using the story as a stimulus for their own writing activities. We will be learning the story in detail, both in classroom activities and whilst we are practising the Christmas play. By the end of the term we will be encouraging the children to write the story in their own words using simple sentences.

You can help your child by discussing what happens in the story and talk with them about characters in the story and the other books they are reading. Please talk about the characters feelings and what they are like.

The children will practise phonics and spellings daily and we will also be practising handwriting, using a cursive script.

### Maths

We will be focussing on addition and subtraction. They will begin to use number bonds to 10 and related subtraction facts. Children will use the +, - and = sign accurately and begin to solve one step problems. The children will know addition facts, they will begin to subtract by working out how many are left after taking objects away and they will be able to find the difference between two numbers.

The children will continue to develop their mental maths skills by counting in twos and fives to twenty and back.

You can help your child by practising counting forwards and backwards to 20 in ones and twos and fives.



### Religious Education

Our RE units for this half term are:

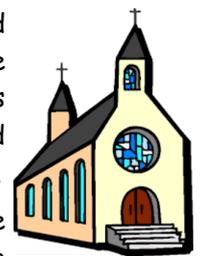
**Jesus: Teacher and Healer** - The children will hear some of the parables that Jesus told to help people understand about forgiveness. The parables are 'The Good Samaritan', 'The Prodigal Son' and 'The Lost Sheep'. The children will then hear some of the miracles of Jesus which include 'Jairus' Daughter', 'The Feeding of the Five Thousand' and 'Healing a Blind Man'. The children will learn how the Church cares for people who are sick and in need today.

**Advent**- The children will learn that Advent is the season in the Church when we prepare for the birthday of Jesus at Christmas. They will learn how Mary and Joseph had to prepare for Jesus' birth. The children will think about how we can celebrate Jesus' birthday both at school and at Church. The children will write Advent prayers in preparation for this special festival.

**Christmas** - The children will hear the story of the Annunciation ( when Angel Gabriel told Mary she would have God' son.) They will also hear the story of the Angel's visit to Joseph in a dream. They will think about how Joseph cared for Mary and then be able to retell the story of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem.

We will also be putting on the Christmas nativity play 'A Midwife Crisis'.

A prayer bag will be sent home on a weekly basis to a different family each week.



# This term's topic is 'Christmas is Coming'

Our topic will be taught through cross-curricular sessions across the subjects.

## Science

During this half term the children will continue to discuss the weather daily and will develop an understanding of seasonal changes. They will discuss how the weather is changing from September to December.

The children will be learning about how we can change materials whilst we are learning about 'Foods from around the World'. The children will learn about reversible and irreversible changes by looking at foods such as chocolate, jelly and bread. The children will predict what they think will happen and discuss what did happen after we have completed the investigation.

## DT

The children will design, make and evaluate a calendar. They will be investigating how to make something move on a picture using a sliding and pulley mechanism.

## Homework to be in by:

### Topic

Please design a Christmas card that reflects the religious significance of the season. To be in by Friday, 8th December.

## Reading

Reading books for Beech Class will be sent out on a Monday so please ensure that the books come in promptly on Monday morning. Reading Books for Sycamore Class will be sent out on a Wednesday so please ensure that the books come in promptly on Wednesday morning.

Children should also be accessing the Bug Club Reading Scheme on the computer as new books will be allocated every Friday for your child to read. Bug Club is vital to make sure your child reaches national expectation in SATs.

Spellings will be sent home on a Friday to be practised ready for the spelling test the following Thursday.

## Maths

Maths homework will be set via Education City every Friday ready for completion for the following Friday. Please practise counting in twos, fives and tens as this will help your children begin to learn these tables.

Your child can continue to use their username and password so that they are able to access Education City. If you cannot log in, please see the teacher.

## Geography

The children will continue to develop their locational knowledge, as each week they will hear either a news item from the UK or from around the world. We will then identify these places on the classroom world map so children begin to get a sense of where different places are in the world.

## History

The children will be learning about Guy Fawkes which is an event beyond living memory and how it has influenced life in the UK today.

## Music

In Music the children will be using their voices to sing a variety of songs as we prepare for the Nativity play. The children will also listen to a variety of Christmas songs including traditional Christmas hymns and secular Christmas songs and discussing the similarities and differences.

## Computing

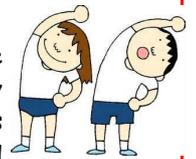
During our computing sessions, the children will continue to learn how to use a variety of simple programs on the laptop. They will be able to switch on the computer and log in using a username and password. They will also be able to turn the laptop off correctly. They will use the program Clicker paint to create firework pictures.

## PE

PE is on **Monday and Wednesday** for both Sycamore and Beech class.

The children will take part in two PE sessions a week; one will be taught by a Sports Coach.

The children will be focusing on the units; Brilliant Ball Skills and Mighty Movers (running skills) These sessions will develop their coordination and agility, as well as increasing their stamina.



Children **MUST** have their kits in school on Monday please. All kit must be clearly named. If your child is wearing tights on a PE day please ensure socks are also provided to wear with PE pumps.

Please make sure that **ALL** items of clothing are named as we have had some go missing during the last half term.

Please ensure that earrings are removed as it is not safe for the children to be wearing them during PE.