



Together we can!

Beechwood
JUNIOR SCHOOL

Autumn Term



YEAR 3

3R - Miss Robertson (Year leader)

3C - Mrs Crook

3S - Mr Scott

Mrs Horton is the Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Mr Mason is the Learning Support Assistant

Dear parents,

Firstly, I would like to welcome you and your children to Year 3 at Beechwood! We are really looking forward to meeting you all. We know they are probably feeling very nervous about starting with us as they have not had the normal level of transition opportunities but we are working hard to make them feel as welcome as possible and get them off to a fantastic start at Beechwood.

For the Autumn Term, we will be focusing on our exciting history topic: The Romans! We have a team of historical experts coming in during the second week to really get the children hooked and kick start their love of learning with the topic. We will be investigating the question of whether the arrival of the Romans can be viewed as a positive or negative thing for Britain in our topic – *Romans: friend or foe?*

We are also really looking forward to introducing the rest of our fantastic curriculum to Year 3. This includes indoor PE days, weekly music sessions and using our new school laptops.

We will be holding events later in the year that you will be invited to attend, we hope that you will be able to come into Beechwood and enjoy them with your child and the year group. Throughout the year, we will be sending lots of Marvellous Me messages and pictures so you can see what we've been up to. We will keep you as informed as possible and welcome any communication from you.

If you would like to know anything or if you think there is anything we could improve, please let us know! The email address of your child's class teacher is below.

I look forward to meeting you all very soon,

Miss Robertson (Year 3 leader)



kirstyrobertson@beechwoodjuniorschool.co.uk



Mrs Horton



ianscott@beechwoodjuniorschool.co.uk



hayleycrook@beechwoodjuniorschool.co.uk



Mr Mason

IMPORTANT DATES FOR AUTUMN TERM

Autumn 1

2 nd & 3 rd September	INSET DAYS
6 th September	First day back to school
10 th September	Applications due for House Captains (Y6) & Sports Captains (Y5)
13 th September	Year 3 Roman Day!
22 nd September	House and Sports Captains interview week
23 rd September	Election Day for House and Sports Captains
24 th September	Reading Ranger launch day!
24 th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning
4 th October	School Council (all years) applications due in
5 th October	Open week (booking info to follow)
5 th October	Individual photos
8 th October	Maths Sheriff Launch Day!
18 th October	Harvest Assembly (more info to follow)
21 st October	Halloween Disco (after school until 4:30pm)
25-29 th October	Half term

Autumn 2

10 th November	Teacher consultations
19 th November	Non-school uniform day
24 th November	Christmas Fayre (after school)
29 th November	INSET DAY (no school for children)
30 th November	Health and Wellbeing Week for the children
9 th December	Year 4 Christmas Performance (more info to follow)
13 th December	Christingle service for children in school
14 th December	Lower School Concert 2pm
15 th December	Christmas Lunch (booking info to follow)
16 th December	Upper School Concert 9am
16 th December	Christmas Disco (after school until 4:30pm)
17 th December	Last day before the Christmas break! Christmas Jumper Day and Class Parties

We re-open after the Christmas holidays on Tuesday 4th January.

REMINDERS:

School uniform:

- Grey or black trousers or skirts
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Red cardigan, jumper or fleece
- Red and white gingham summer dress
- Black or grey smart summer shorts
- Sensible shoes or trainers in a plain dark colour

Children should not be wearing jewellery into school except stud earrings and a watch. Jewellery worn for religious reasons is of course an exception. Make-up and nail varnish should also not be worn during the school day.

PE:

PE is part of the National Curriculum and it is very important that your child takes part regularly. If you do wish them to not take part, you must send an email to your child's teacher clearly stating the reason why you wish them to miss their PE or Games lesson. If we do not have an email, they will be expected to take part.

PE kit (children should wear this to school on the days they have PE):

- Plain coloured t-shirt which can be their house colour but we do not allow any football shirts or t-shirts with large logos (except the Beechwood logo)
- Plain black or grey jogging bottoms or shorts
- Trainers or plimsolls

Outdoor PE

For this term is multi-skills, football and hockey. Outdoor PE is on a **Tuesday**.

Indoor PE

Instead of weekly lessons, each class will spend an entire day performing a dance routine. More information and dates will be sent nearer to the time.

MCAS (My child at school)

MCAS is the school's new online messaging and payment system. You will need an online code so that you can set up a MCAS account and then you can access your account via a free app on your phone or tablet. You can also access it via a computer if you prefer: <https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin>



You will be able to use your MCAS account to pay for dinners, Breakfast and After School Club, music lessons, trips and residential visits. All letters, information and messages will be sent out directly to your MCAS account so all your letters will be in one place. You will also be able to view your child's attendance and your contact details to make sure that they are kept up to date.

Please be aware that we will be sending all letters and reminders this way to ensure that they do not get lost on the way home. We do not send paper copies of letters in an effort to reduce our impact on the environment. Because of this, it is vital that you have access to MCAS, otherwise you will miss important information.

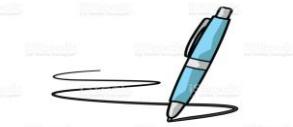
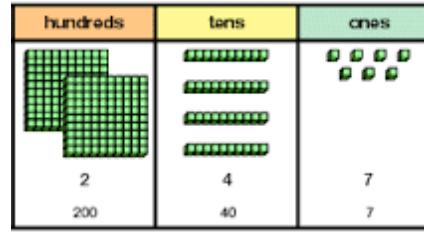
Marvellous Me

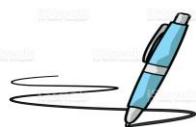
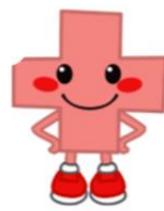
Marvellous Me is a free app which can be downloaded onto smartphones and tablets, or on a computer via the Marvellous Me website, using the parent login (www.parent.marvellousme.com). You will need an email address and an individual code for your child to login initially. If you change your phone or lose the code, you can always request a new one from your child's teacher.



Once the app is set up, you will receive notifications when your child's teacher awards a badge to your child; or lets you know about what they have been learning.

If you have any problems and would like to speak to any of us, please email us or phone the school on 023 80 227692 and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

SUBJECT	WHAT WE WILL BE STUDYING IN AUTUMN 1:
TOPIC	Romans - Friend or Foe? We will be looking at what the Roman's bought to Britain. We will be focused on what changes were made to Britain by the Roman invasion and whether the changes benefitted the people of Britain or not. 
WRITING	Diary writing – we will be focusing on word classes, knowing what they are and how to use them in our writing. Setting description – our focus in this piece of writing will be to choose words and language to make the reader feel a certain way. 
READING	We will be learning all about retrieval and basic comprehension of what we have read. 
MATHS	Place Value (HT1s) Reading, write, compare and order numbers up to 1000. 2, 5 and 10 times tables Fractions 
SCIENCE	We will be investigating plants: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Identifying parts of a flowerIdentify the functions of parts of plants 
COMPUTING	Online safety
ART and DESIGN	 Sketching- creating texture
PE	Dance – Our focus for this dance will be timing. We will be incorporating our topic into our Dance, by using movement to create a dance based on movements of Roman soldiers.
GAMES	 Multi-skills Focus: Practice the fundamental skills of movement, balance, coordination, timings and reactions.
RE	Concept: Message (with a focus on Christianity)
MUSIC	We will be focusing on rhythm, pitch and dynamics and being able to perform from basic notations. We will be learning to play an instrument.
PSHE	We will be looking at Relationships and learn about the concept of Family. We will learn about what makes a family and the features of family life. 

SUBJECT	WHAT WE WILL BE STUDYING IN AUTUMN 2:
TOPIC	Romans- Friend or Foe? We will be focusing on why there was resistance to the Roman invasion; who it involved and what it looked like. We will also be incorporating our writing and topic together to focus on the pros and cons of the Romans in Britain and what their legacy was. 
WRITING	 Writing and rehearsing persuasive speeches- focusing on using a range of punctuation and using subordinate and co-ordinate conjunctions.
READING	We will be learning all about summarising information from a text and then reading and learning some Christmas poetry. 
MATHS	Rounding numbers Addition using column method Add and subtract mentally Equivalent fractions Adding and subtracting fractions 
SCIENCE	We will be learning about: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Nutrition for humans and animalsSkeleton and muscles of humans and animals  <small>shutterstock.com • 580335448</small>
COMPUTING	Online safety
ENGINEERING	 Sewing and cutting skills
PE	Dance – focusing on creating a mood for the audience through our movements.
GAMES	Football Focus: traveling with the ball and keep it under control at different speeds and while stopping. 
RE	 Concept: Angels (with a focus on Christianity)
MUSIC	We will be focusing on rhythm, pitch and dynamics and being able to perform from basic notations. We will be learning to play an instrument.
PSHE	We will continue to look at Relationships and learn about personal boundaries and respect for self and others. 

TOPIC HOMEWORK

DUE IN: WB 6th December.

What did the Romans in Britain...?

This term's topic homework is to investigate something that you find interesting about the Romans in Britain. Finish and answer the question- 'What did the Romans in Britain... wear/ eat/ live in/ have as weapons etc. and tell all of Year 3 about your findings! How you decide to present your findings is up to you but you could choose from:

- A model
- A PowerPoint
- A leaflet
- A poster





Reading

We know that being a reader who is fluent, confident and can understand what they have read is a key life skill. We want to encourage children to read as much as possible! At school, at home, on the bus, on the sofa, in a tent...wherever they can! Children who read often and at the correct level for them grow in confidence and learn to love reading and the possibilities it brings. This year, we have introduced a new approach to reading and home school reading in particular.

Our new reading system: Book to learn, Book to love and your child's reading folder

Book to Learn

After an initial assessment, each child across the school will be given a book to help them learn. This book will be an Oxford Reading Tree book, which are colour banded for different stages. The idea for these books is to help children practice reading; to read fluently with few mistakes – this allows children to practice expression, punctuation and comprehension. This means they might not be as challenging as you might expect. We give the children a range of challenging texts at school and their book to love can be any book of their choice, including something which is challenging.



The book to learn should be **brought in everyday** as it will be needed in school when children do STAR (Sit Together and Read) sessions. To make sure the children really practice their reading, we would like these books to be read **twice before changing them**.



Book to Love

This book is any book the child chooses. It can be a book such as one from the school library, a book from home or from your local library. This might be a challenging book and this might be a book you share together or read to them. It is something that can spark their love of reading and they are encouraged to read this as much as they want for pleasure.

Your child's reading folder

Your child will be given a named folder to keep their books in. **This folder will need to come in everyday** as we will be using the books in school and offering children time to read both books. Inside this folder they should have:

- The Book to Learn
- The Book to Love
- The Reading Record Booklet

Beechwood Reading Scheme – Reading Rangers

To encourage the children to read their Book to Learn, we have set up a home school reading scheme. Each week, if your child reads at home four or more times for ten minutes from their Book to Learn, they will be given a raffle ticket for a grand prize draw at the end of each half term!!!

On top of this, on a weekly basis, the class in the school with the highest number of children who read four or more times, will be given a prize!

An adult at home will need to sign the home school reading record each time a child has read to them for ten or more minutes. This will then be checked each week by the school.



Maths Sheriff

At Beechwood Junior School, we recognise how important basic number knowledge is not only for academic achievements but also as a life skill. Therefore, over a number of years we have introduced our Maths Sheriff challenge books. Through regular practise both within school and with adults at home, children will master the necessary skills and will be able to utilise them. Upon proving their knowledge, your child will be given a pin badge which they can keep and wear with pride.



We do not want the children to rush through these badges, it should be something they aim for across the school year. There are currently 5 badges - bronze, silver, gold, glittery green and glittery blue. Each badge has its own set of skills to work on. Bronze focuses on the Year 3 curriculum skills, silver on the Year 4 curriculum skills and gold the Year 5 and 6 curriculum skills. The glittery green badge is about becoming a Maths Sheriff coach and supporting other children and the glittery blue badge is a problem solving puzzle book that gets the children to think in different ways. Testing takes place in school at break times and lunchtimes and there are also dedicated Maths Sheriff after school clubs.



To support Beechwood's Maths Sheriff we also use the online times table programme Times Tables Rock Stars. Each child has their own secure log in which allows them to practise their times table skills that they need to work on while having fun and earning points and coins for the Times Table Rock Stars shop. All children will have a Times Table Rock Stars session in school approximately once a fortnight where they will be able to play against the class (and sometimes the teacher). There will also be challenges set up for the children to do at home by their teacher as well.

If you have any questions about Maths Sheriff or Times Tables Rock Stars, please get in contact with your child's class teacher or Mrs Furby (Maths Leader).