

Spring 1: Lost and Found

This half term, Beech Class will embark on an exciting adventure exploring the theme of Lost and Found through a vivid collection of stories. We'll uncover mysteries in *The Watertower*, rediscover magic in *The Lost Happy Endings*, and celebrate the thrilling conclusion of *Odysseus' epic voyage*. We hope our class will 'find' plenty of wonder and inspiration in these captivating journeys!

English



In Spring 1, our English topics will be looking at the books "*The Odyssey*" by Gillian Cross, "*The Watertower*" by Gary Crew and "*The Lost Happy Ending*" by Caroline Duffy.

We will also be looking at:

- Recognising vocabulary and structures that are appropriate for formal speech and writing, including subjunctive forms
- Using passive verbs to affect the presentation of information in a sentence
- Using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely
- Relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that, or an omitted relative pronoun
 - Indicating degrees of possibility using adverbs [for example, perhaps, surely] or modal verbs [for example, might, should, will, must]
- Use of commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity
- Using brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis

Science



In Science this term, we will look at **forces** which will include exploring the works of Isaac Newton and the use of forces in the world around us.

Through this, we will learn to:

- Explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object.
- Identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction that act between moving surfaces.
- Recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.
- Plan different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary.
- Take measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision.
- Record data and results using tables and graphs.
- Use test results to make predictions and set up further comparative and fair tests.

Maths



This term, we will be looking at a range of topics to develop our arithmetic and reasoning skills. These will include **multiplication, division and fractions** and learning to:

- Multiply numbers up to 4 digits by a one- or two-digit number using formal written methods
- Divide numbers up to 4 digits by a one-digit number using formal written methods
- Divide numbers up to 4 digits by a two-digit number using formal written methods
- Interpret remainders as whole numbers, fractions, or rounding depending on context
- Solve multi-step problems involving multiplication and division
- Recognise and use factors, multiples, squares and cubes to support efficient calculation
- Estimate and check answers using approximation and inverse operations
- Multiply proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers
- Understand and apply the concept of scaling with fractions
- Divide whole numbers by unit fractions
- Divide unit fractions by whole numbers
- Solve problems involving multiplication and division of fractions in context

Spelling & Reading



Each week, we will be looking at a selection of special spelling words linked to our English topics.

These can be found on our class webpage.

In our daily guided reading session, we'll also explore a range of challenging and exciting texts including *Warhorse* by Michael Morpurgo. This will include comprehension questioning, developing our understanding of vocabulary and how authors create their texts.

We'll also work on our reading skills through Reading Plus, our special online reading platform. Make sure you complete you complete your weekly reads at home and Reading Plus assignments.

Geography



The oceans are our focus for this term in Geography, with a focus on how humans impact ocean fauna and flora. This will include:

- Describing the water cycle.
- Explaining how the ocean helps to regulate the Earth's climate and temperature.
- Identifying the Great Barrier Reef as part of Australia.
- Describing how humans impact the oceans and the consequences of this.
- Explaining some actions that can be taken to help support healthy oceans.
- Explaining which data collection method would be best for marine fieldwork and why.
- Collecting data using a tally chart, photographs, and a sketch map..

Art



- This half term, our topic will be **Retrofuturism** in which we will explore the space race and how art was inspired at the time. In our sessions, we will explore and learn how to:
- Explore historical pieces of art and their intent.
- Create a selection of drawings and visual notes that demonstrate our ideas using sketchbooks.
- Generate a clear composition idea for a final piece that shows how it will be drawn.
- Apply confident skills to make an effective collagraph print.
- Use a wide range of artistic skills to create images.

Mindfulness

In Year 5, we make mindfulness a regular part of our daily routine by devoting just five minutes each day to practicing mindfulness exercises. Through these short but consistent sessions, we aim to help our students develop a greater awareness of their thoughts and emotions, improve their focus and concentration, and cultivate a sense of inner peace and calm. By making mindfulness a routine part of the school day, we hope to help our students cultivate important life skills that will serve them well both in and out of the classroom.

PSHE



- This half term, our topic will be **Dreams and Goals** in which we will be looking at and exploring:
- Our aspirations for the future
 - What responsibilities we will have
 - How we can achieve our goals and dreams.

We will also think about Road Safety with a visit from the Hertfordshire Travel Team.

PE

- This term, we will be looking at **Dance and Swimming**, both with an expert coach. This will include:
- Developing a variety of swimming styles to cross a pool.
 - Understanding how to stay safe in water.
 - Building swimming endurance by swimming longer distances.
 - Participating in swimming drills to improve overall fitness.
 - Developing coordination learning a variety of dance moves
 - Planning and following a sequence of actions.
 - Following a set of instructions to create a routine.



Computing

- This half term, we will look at databases, this will include:
- Understanding what a database is.
 - Designing and creating a database.
 - Building queries to find information.
 - Solving problems using a database.

RE

This half term, we will be exploring **What would Jesus do?** as part of our work on the Gospel to strengthen our knowledge of Christ and his teachings. This will include:

- Outlining Jesus' teaching on how his followers should live.
- Offering interpretations of two of Jesus' parables and say what they might teach Christians about how to live.
- Explaining the impact Jesus' example and teachings might have on Christians today
- Expressing their own understanding of what Jesus would do in relation to a moral dilemma from the world today

