

# Spring 2: Journeys near & far

This half term, Beech Class will embark on an exciting adventure exploring the wonders of space and discovering ways to stay healthy. We'll journey through the solar system, uncover fascinating facts about planets and stars, and learn how our choices can help us feel our best. We hope our class will 'find' plenty of curiosity and inspiration as we reach for the stars and explore what it means to live well!

## English



In Spring 1, our English topics will be looking at the books "The Odyssey" by Gillian Cross and "Flower Block" by Lanisha Butterfield.

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 **Earth and Space** 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:

- Describe the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the Sun in the solar system
- Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth
- Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies
- Use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night
- Explain the apparent movement of the Sun across the sky
- 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 **decimals, percentages, area, perimeter and statistics** and learning to:

- Read, write, order and compare numbers with up to three decimal places
- Round decimals with two decimal places to the nearest whole number and to one decimal place
- Solve problems involving numbers up to three decimal places
- Recognise the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages
- Recognise the percent symbol and understand that percent relates to 'number of parts per hundred'
- Write percentages as fractions and decimals
- Solve problems involving percentage and decimal equivalents of fractions
- Calculate and compare the area of rectangles using standard units
- Estimate the area of irregular shapes
- Solve problems involving area and perimeter in real-life contexts
- Complete, read and interpret information in tables, including timetables

## 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 Shackleton's Journey by William Grill. 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.

# History

This half term, our topic will be The Mayans, where we will explore the fascinating world of this ancient civilisation. In our sessions, we will learn how to:

- Investigate who the Mayans were and where they lived
- Understand the key features of Mayan society, including religion, writing, and daily life
- Explore the achievements and innovations of the Mayan civilisation
- Examine the reasons for the decline of the Mayan civilisation
- Compare Mayan culture with other civilisations and consider its legacy today



# 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.

# PE



This term, we will be continue 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.

# DT

This half term, our topic will be **Food from Around the World**, where we will explore global cuisines and develop our skills in designing and creating dishes. In our sessions, we will learn how to:

- Research and understand traditional foods from different cultures
- Generate ideas for a dish inspired by international cuisine
- Apply practical cooking skills to prepare and present a dish safely and hygienically
- Evaluate our finished product based on taste, appearance, and cultural authenticity

# PSHE

Our topic will be **Healthy Me** in which we will be looking at and exploring:

- What makes a healthy choice
- The dangers of smoking and alcohol
- What activities help us have a healthier life
- Basic first aid and how to put somebody in the recovery position.
- What body image is and what affects it

# Computing

In this unit, learn more about the world of gaming. Children will design and make their own 3D maze adventure game. This will include:

- Evaluating the features of a successful video game.
- Planning a game in 2DIY3D.
- Designing and using game sprites.
- Adding features to a game world and check playability.
- Evaluating games created by others.

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

- Outline the timeline of the 'big story' of the Bible, explaining how Incarnation and Salvation fit within it. The New Testament says Christians believe the 'big story' of the Bible is the need for God to save people. Holy Communion is where Christians share a meal to
- Explain what Christians mean when they say Jesus' death was a sacrifice using theological terms.
- Suggest meanings for the narratives of Jesus' death and resurrection.
- Make connections between the Christian belief of Jesus' death as a sacrifice and how Christians celebrate Holy Communion.
- Show how Christians put their beliefs into practice.
- What is the value and impact of sacrifice in the world today and in own lives?

