



Welcome to Beech Class, Year 3 & 4

Useful information to know about Beech Class

Staffing

Beech Class will be taught by Mrs Thomond. The children will also work with our Teaching Assistants Mrs Brewer and Mrs Hughes. Beech staff are very excited about welcoming everyone back in September and are already planning lots of exciting activities and trips!

In Class



The children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to have in class (no juice) – please ensure they are labelled clearly. They are not provided with free fruit as they were in KS1, so we encourage the children to bring a healthy snack of either, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, plain popcorn, plain breadsticks, plain crackers, or plain rice cakes. **No nuts, peas or sesame please!**



There is limited space in the classroom so no large bags – a book bag is perfect! For children in KS2 we offer a different design of school bag. The bags are available at a cost of £7.75 and can be bought online by making a payment to Bury Council. We would strongly encourage the children in KS2 to use this design of bag.

Children don't need any stationary, e.g., pencil cases, notebooks, as everything is provided. However, when children are in Year 4, they move from pencil to pen. School will provide a blue biro pen, however, if parents are able to purchase a blue 'Pilot Frixion' pen and refills (pictured below), then that would be hugely helpful. These pens encourage clean, smooth writing and offer the advantage of an eraser on the end of the pen. Unfortunately, this is something the school budget cannot accommodate.



Sensory Toys

Every class has a basket of sensory aids, that are accessible to all children. Please **do not** send your child into school with a fidget toy or sensory aid, as these can easily get lost.

Birthdays

We politely request that you **do not** send in sweets or cakes for birthdays. Instead we suggest donating a book or game for the class. Birthday certificates are stuck into books that are donated.

Mental Maths

It is essential that the children continue to practise and become proficient in mental skills. This includes telling the time, knowing number bonds, times tables and being able to use known facts to help complete calculations. By the end of Year 3, children should know their 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 & 10 tables. By the end of Year 4, children should know all times tables. Please continue to work with your child to help them become, and remain, fluent in these skills.

Reading

The children will not be heard individually in school as often as they were in KS1, although some children will be identified and supported as daily readers. Reading within Beech Class will be taught through guided reading sessions three times per week. We have volunteers who hear children read regularly. If you would like to be one of our reading volunteers please get in touch.

It is essential that the children continue to read with parents at home daily and that children have the opportunity of discussing their reading with someone. Reading books will be changed by the children when they have finished a book. Please fill in the Reading Record as you did in KS1, to tell us how far they have read, if they had any difficulties and whether they understood the book. Please ensure your child has their individual reading book and reading record book in school every day.

Handwriting

Our expectation is that all children by the end of Year 3 will have a cursive style of writing and will be given a pen in Year 4.

Homework

Every Friday on the Seesaw Journal, there will be times tables challenges, and weekly spellings. In addition, a homework sheet for maths and reading comprehension will be sent home. Every child is expected to read their school reading book at home on a daily basis.

PE

In KS2 the children have 2 sessions of PE a week and wear their 'Blue Uniform'. This consists of a white t-shirt, blue joggers, blue sweatshirt (not a hoody) and trainers. If you would like more information about this sports uniform please speak with the office. On the days when the children do PE they will come to school in the sports uniform and wear it all day. **Blues days in Beech Class are Thursday.** The children do not need a PE kit to leave in school.



Uniform

We have high expectations for uniform, and we do not allow logos on clothes or nail varnish. Please ensure long hair is tied up. Children are allowed to wear stud earrings none P.E. days and a watch if they wish.

We will be going off site regularly, therefore please ensure your child has one pair of wellingtons, a waterproof coat and trousers (all named).

Punctuality

Every morning from 8.45am, an early morning activity is set. This will be handwriting, daily reading, maths fluency or catch-up interventions. It would be helpful if your child was in the classroom for **8.45am**, ready to learn. Remember the school gate will close at 8.55am and children who are late will need to be signed in at the school office.

Communication

Any messages regarding well-being or learning can be sent through Seesaw to Mrs Thomond. All other messages need to be sent through the school office e.g. absences, medical appointment, collecting your child early.

In September you are invited to a 'Meet the Teacher' Tuesday 12th September 3.30pm-5pm and Hadrian's Wall Residential information evening in school on Tuesday 26th September at 5.30pm.

A Final word...

We are really looking forward to welcoming the children into Beech Class on Wednesday 6th September. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Have a lovely Summer!