



# Spring Term 2026

## Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

**English** This term, the children will explore the rhyming poem, When I am By Myself, and will use rhyme to create an effect when writing. Then they will look at the story of Little Red Riding Hood and explore how narrative approaches are used to engage the reader. Next half term, the children will begin our first non-fiction unit, Toys from the Past, in which we will learn the important features of a report and write our own report. This unit will link with our history unit of study before moving onto the story of 'Wombat Goes Walkabout' to inspire our writing. There will also be a focus on spelling words using strategies taught during phonics lessons, as well as learning to spell the Year 1 Common Exception Words.

**Maths** The children will continue to build on their autumn learning, beginning with a focus on place value, counting, and addition and subtraction within 20. They will continue to develop an understanding of number bonds and how these can be used in different contexts to support their learning. During our maths lessons children will represent numbers to 20 using different apparatus and compare their values. Later in the term, they will learn about length and height. The children will measure by first using objects, then begin to use centimetres as a unit of measurement. At the end of the spring term our learning will focus on mass and volume. We will have great fun measuring and comparing mass, capacity and volume.

**Science** The children will begin the term by revisiting their chosen tree and investigating how it has changed since September. They will also make predictions about the changes they might see in the future. The topic for the rest of the half term will be focused on naming and describing materials. The children will be introduced to a range of basic materials and their properties, learning to distinguish between an object and what it is made from. During the second half of the term, we will continue the theme of learning about materials. We will be deepening our knowledge and investigating the properties of materials and the different kinds of things they might be used for.

**Art & Design** This term will focus on simple printmaking and textiles. The children will explore printmaking through using our bodies, rubbings, impressions and foam. During the second half of the term, the children will make puppets from a storybook character and will have to design their puppets and create it through cutting and joining fabric together.

**Computing** We will finish our Data Explorers topic by using digital tools to collect and organise information. Next, the children will move on to Creating and Following Instructions, learning that an algorithm is a set of instructions, practising how to follow and create simple steps on a device, and exploring why the correct order is important. Later in the term, we will begin Animated Stories using 2Create a Story. The children will learn how digital storybooks differ from traditional ones and will create their own stories by designing characters and backgrounds, adding text and sound.

**Geography** This term's focus will be 'What is the weather like in the UK?' The children will investigate world maps and learn how to find Europe and the UK. They will identify the four countries within the UK and name the one they live in. As the term progresses, the children will track daily weather patterns and begin to make predictions as the seasons change.

**History** During the second half of the term the children will be wondering how toys have changed since their grandparents were younger. They will compare toys and teddies from the past with more modern ones, identifying key similarities and differences.

**Music** This term's topics are 'In the Groove' and 'Round and Round'. The children will listen to several different styles of music throughout the term. Children will continue to find the rhythm of a song and then perform a song by playing an instrument adding more notes with each unit.

**RE** Our big question we will investigate this term is 'Why do people celebrate?' In the first term, the children will look at the theme of celebration in Hinduism by looking at the festival of Holi. In the second term, the children will investigate this theme in Christianity by exploring the symbols of Jesus' death and resurrection at Easter.

**PSHE** The children will learn about citizenship including the importance about rules and voting and the different groups we belong to. During the second half of the term, children will explore the concept of economic wellbeing. The children will look at how we handle and spend money, the concept of budgeting and banking and the range of jobs available.

### Year 1 Staff

#### **Beech Class teachers:**

Mrs. Kristen Jolley (Mon-Wed am)  
Mrs. Elly Reynolds (Wed pm – Fri)

#### **Supported by:**

Mrs. Alison Jones (Mon am, Weds, Thurs, Fri am)  
Mrs. Rhian Marshall (Mon pm, Tues am, Fri pm)

### **Our School Values**

**Respect  
Challenge  
Resilience  
Confidence**

### **Diary Dates for Spring Term 2026**

5<sup>th</sup> Jan – PD Day  
15<sup>th</sup> Jan – EYFS application deadline  
15<sup>th</sup> Jan – School census  
4<sup>th</sup> Feb – Informal Sharing  
9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> Feb – Internet Safety Week  
10<sup>th</sup> Feb – Parent consultations  
12<sup>th</sup> Feb – Parent consultations  
11<sup>th</sup> Feb – Safer Internet Day  
13<sup>th</sup> Feb – Parent consultations  
14<sup>th</sup> Feb – PTA movie night  
16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Feb – Half term  
5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day  
9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> March – STEM Week  
11<sup>th</sup> March – Coffee Morning  
25<sup>th</sup> March – Y1 Be Our Guest  
17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> March – NDD Celebration Week  
30<sup>th</sup> March – 10<sup>th</sup> April – Easter holidays

### **PE**

The children will participate in two PE lessons on Wednesdays and Thursdays. In their dance lessons, the children will learn to move safely in a space and to engage in different travelling actions. They will improve their movement and balancing skills and learn to count to music. The children will then learn to copy and repeat actions and use these in a dance sequence. During our ball skills lessons, the children will be revisiting some basic skills as well as learning new ones including: bouncing, dribbling and tracking.

Useful websites that you may like to try at home to support your child's learning in school.

<https://www.purplemash.com/sch> (logins are in children's reading logs)

<https://littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk> – useful information about Little Wandle, the phonics programme we use at school.

MyMaths – weekly maths homework.

Numbots – an app to support fundamental maths skills and increase fluency, recall and understanding.