



# Summer Term 2026

## Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

**English.** This term we will focus on key elements on writing good, with solid sentences that include capital letters, full stops, adjectives and detail to make our writing more interesting. We will begin with a fictional adventure story based off the book 'Wombat Goes Walkabout' by Michael Murpurgo. Next, we will look at a non-fiction unit of a recount which will focus on reporting key information (4 W's: who, what, where, when) and include non-fiction features such as subheadings and a conclusion. We plan to link this to our upcoming school trip in which the children will get to write for purpose on recounting our school trip. After that, we plan to end the year by consolidating and solidifying the Year 1 writing objectives through our last non-fiction text with writing our own instructions.

**Maths** This term, we will finish out learning relating to mass and volume before moving onto multiplication and division. We will investigate making and adding equal groups in addition to making arrays and doubles. Towards the end of the first half term we will learn about fractions and geometry, focusing specifically on positional language and direction. In the second half of the summer term we will revisit place value, learning to count to and from 100, as well as skip counting in 10s. The children will become confident in partitioning larger numbers into tens and ones, and comparing two numbers. Before the end of the year we will be exploring time and reading the time to the hour and

**Science** During the first half term, the children will learn about animals that have a vertebra: birds, amphibians, reptiles, fish and mammals. We will look at each group individually and discuss their key features and the different animals that will fit in with each category. This unit will be supported by our school trip in June. During the second half term, Beech class will learn about plants. They will identify and describe a variety of common garden and wild plants while looking closely at their features. We will also focus on the trees in our environment, learning about the differences between them and whether they are deciduous or evergreen, while revisiting seasonal changes.

**Art & Design** In the first half of the term, we will be designing and making our own stable structure: a pencil pot. The children will learn about what makes a structure stable and then design, make and evaluate their own structure. After half term, in art we will be exploring the relationship between drawing and making, transforming from 2D to 3D by making birds.

**Computing** The first computing topic the children will explore will be making an animated story book using the programme 2Create on Purple Mash. Next, the children will be introduced to digital music and will use 2Explore and 2Bear to create their own music. Towards the end of term, we will also learn about technology outside of the classroom.

**Geography** This term's focus will be on learning about our local area and how it compares to Shanghai. We will begin the unit by investigating the physical and human features of our local environment, and making simple sketch maps. We will then explore a map of the world, naming continents and locating China. We will end the unit by describing what it is like in China and comparing the human and physical geography to our local area in the UK.

**History** During the second half of the term the children will explore the question, 'How have explorers changed the world?' We will learn all about Christopher Columbus and Matthew Henson, and record these events on a timeline. Towards end the unit we will investigate changes and similarities over time and describe the significance of people and events in history.

**Music** This term we will be exploring the song 'Your Imagination'. The children will be split into parts to sing while also playing the glockenspiels. In June, we will focus our learning around two songs: Rhythm in the Way (Reggae style) and Banana Rap (Hip Hop style). At the end of the term, we will review a variety of the different styles of music we have covered throughout the year.

**RE** The key concept we will be explore this term is Prayer and Worship through the Big Question of 'Should everyone learn to pray?'. In the first half term, we will be looking at Judaism and the importance of Tefillah (prayer) in a Jews life. In the second half, we will be looking at Christianity and why/how Christians pray with a focus on the Lord's Prayer.

**PSHE** In PSHE, we will continue to learn about economic wellbeing by investigating how to make good choices with our money and explore different jobs and their roles. After that, we will be on the topic of keeping safe through learning about adults we can trust in the community, what do to if we get lost, contacting emergency services and how to keep safe at home.

### Year 1 Staff

#### **Beech Class teacher**

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

#### **Supported by**

Mrs Alison Jones  
Mrs Rhian Marshall  
Mrs Sarah Gooderham (phonics)

### **Our School Values**

**Respect  
Challenge  
Resilience  
Confidence**

### **Diary Dates for Summer Term 2026**

**14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> April** – Phoincs meeting for parents  
**23<sup>rd</sup> April** – Class photos  
**4<sup>th</sup> May** – **Bank holiday**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> May** – Sports Day  
**25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> May** – Half term  
**3<sup>rd</sup> June** – Trip to Colchester Zoo  
**5<sup>th</sup> June** – Reserve Sports Day  
**W/B 8<sup>th</sup> June** – Phonics Screening Check  
**12<sup>th</sup> June** – Wear Yellow Day  
**10<sup>th</sup> July** – Reports sent to families  
**17<sup>th</sup> July** – Last day of school

### **PE**

The children will participate in PE twice a week on **Wednesdays** and **Thursdays**. During athletics, the children will develop skills such as running at different speeds, jumping and throwing. They will also learn to measure their performance and compete to improve their own score and against the scores of others. In yoga lessons, the children will learn about mindfulness and body awareness. They will begin to learn the poses and techniques to help connect their mind and bodies.

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://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> for phase 3, 4 and 5 phonics games