



Beech Class Curriculum

Friday 5th January 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new year and a new topic, I hope you had a restful break. Our overarching topic this term is Spain and Mexico.

Literacy

We will start off the term by looking at information texts, exploring their structures and purposes with the aim to be creating our own information texts related to the topic. We will then move on to explore stories from other cultures, with a focus on Spain and Mexico. This will lead us nicely into Aztec legends at the beginning of the second half of the term. We will then look towards studying an author. An author has yet to be chosen, with the aim to be that the children inform this decision to further support their responsibility towards their own learning.

Maths

We will be building on the children's previous knowledge and skills of multiplication and division by moving on to working with larger numbers than last term. We will then move on to a small unit of money, adding and subtracting prices and consolidating our knowledge of money. Following this the children will work on statistics, working on our skills surrounding interpreting and presenting data. The second half of the term will look at measurement, focusing on length and perimeter. The term will then finish with a unit on fractions.

Geography

With the topic of Spain and Mexico we will be exploring the physical and human features of these countries and comparing them to features in the UK. We will develop our map working skills, using atlases and globes to identify countries and their capitals in the world as well as the key physical features of those countries.

History

The second half of the term will focus on the Aztecs and all about the culture of these people. We will create timelines for Spain and Mexico, helping understand the history of the countries and the role that the Aztecs had in this history.

Design & Technology

To help understand the similarities and differences between the cultures in the UK, Spain and Mexico we will be looking into Mexican and Spanish foods. We will look at the foods that they eat and select ingredients to make our own Mexican and Spanish foods.

Science

We will complete our light topic, examining transparent, translucent and opaque objects. We will then move on to look at Animals, including humans. This will include examining the nutrition of a range of animals and the physical structures within their bodies that support and protect animals.

Computing

In Computing we will be learning how to combine text and images together to produce our own information texts about Spain and Mexico. We will go on to creating algorithms using a Softease programme. The second half of the term will then be spent looking into databases and spreadsheets.

P.E.

The class are learning orienteering skills on a Tuesday morning, so they will need to come in in their PE kits, with a change of uniform, that morning. The children will also be learning gymnastics skills on a Friday afternoon and a full P.E. kit should be in school permanently. This should include both indoor and outdoor wear (shorts and track suit bottoms as well as plimsolls and trainers). Please ensure that all clothing is named to ensure that they cannot be lost or misplaced easily at school.

R.E.

In R.E. we will be exploring people who have made a difference to the world because of their faith. We will reflect on their characters and the aspects of their faith that they demonstrated to the world. Finally we will spend a day at the end of the term exploring the question 'Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?'

Art

In keeping with our topic we will be exploring the Spanish architect Gaudi. This will allow us to experiment with shape, colour and structure within our work. We will also look into Aztec masks in the second half of the term, creating our own clay masks with a focus on proportion and pattern.

With regards to homework, the children will be given a homework grid containing set activities related to our learning for the children to complete for a Friday. Reading is a part of homework and your child is expected to read to an adult 3 times a week and for this to be recorded in their reading log book. These entries contribute towards your child completing bricks on their reading wall and aim towards receiving the bronze, silver and gold reading certificates. Completion of the whole wall, as always, results in a book token!

With all of this exciting learning ahead of us, help from you goes a long way. If you think that there is something related to our topic that you think you could support our class with, it would be lovely to hear from you. The children love it when parents come in to support them with their learning and having an expert, or someone who is knowledgeable of these things, will always strengthen the learning experience.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to ask me.

Miss C. Hutchins