

Year 3

Spring Term 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas Break. We have a busy and exciting half term ahead. Mrs. Munn and Miss Shorten are very excited to be working with Beech class and are looking forward to meeting you all. Below is an overview of the forthcoming half term. We hope that you find it useful.

Best wishes,

Mrs. Munn and Miss Shorten (Beech) and Miss Marshall (Ash)

Topics:

	Spring
Topic	Volcanoes and Earthquakes
Key question	What effect do volcanoes and earthquakes have on society?



Trips: Later in the term we will be planning a trip to the Natural History Museum to learn about Volcanoes and Earthquakes. More details of this will follow shortly.

Literacy: In Literacy we will be learning to recognise and use the language of persuasion. We will learn to use persuasive language in debates and in letters. We will then move on to fiction texts and will explore the features of traditional stories. We will end the half-term by exploring biographical texts. Later in the term we will be exploring diary writing, stories from other cultures and poetry.

Maths: This term we will be learning to recognise and represent place value for numbers up to 1000. We will be learning to add and subtract amounts of money and to recognise the properties of 2D shapes. We will learn to count in multiples of 4 and 8. Later on we will explore fractions and measurement. After half term we will be developing our addition and subtraction strategies, interpreting data, exploring multiplication facts and adding and subtracting fractions.

Science: Our science work this term will be linked to our topic of 'Volcanoes and Earthquakes'. We will be looking at different states of matter and explore what volcanoes are made of. We will sort and identify different types of rock. We will also plan, carry out and evaluate a scientific investigation related to our theme.

PE: This half term we will be developing our gymnastic skills. We will develop our ability to work with others and to travel safely around a space. We will be developing our balance and will be performing and evaluating sequences of movement. We will learn about symmetry and asymmetry in movements and will learn to show fluid progression in movement. Beech class will continue to have PE lessons on a Wednesday and Friday. Ash class will have PE on a Tuesday and Friday. These days may vary due to weather conditions.

Art/DT: We will be using various art and design techniques to explore our topic of 'Earthquakes and Volcanoes'

We will sketch a volcano and will create layered volcano pictures. We will explore some colour theory; learning about hot and cold colours. We will use this theory when creating our volcano pieces. We will also explore and discuss a range of artwork related to our themes.



RE: For the first half of the Spring term we will continue to focus on what different people believe about God. We will continue to learn about Christianity. We will learn more about the Islamic faith and will explore why festivals are important to religious communities. Later on we will explore why some people think that life is a journey.

Computing: In an exciting term for computing we will be learning to present and record our own videos. We will plan and evaluate our performances and learn to operate recording equipment correctly and safely. We will also learn to edit the video and import sound effects.

Music: Our music lessons this term will continue to develop our performance skills and learning. We will be learning to identify musical instruments in pieces of music and learning to understand how musicians use instruments expressively. We will begin to compose our own piece of music relating to our topic.

PSHE: In the first half term we will be discussing physical and mental health. We will discuss strategies and routines to stay healthy and happy. Later on we will be learning to deal with negative relationships and will begin to think about our own strengths and weaknesses.

French: We will continue to expand our French vocabulary this term. We will learn how to describe people in French. We will also look at positional language, animals and pets and will learn our numbers up to 31.

Home expectations: Two pieces of homework will continue to be provided on a Friday, one maths activity and one literacy activity, to be returned by the following Tuesday. Spellings will be given out on a Monday and children will be tested on a Friday. Please also continue to encourage the children to read at home and to participate in the school's reading at home reward scheme as this really supports their reading progress.

CREATIVE PROJECTS

We encourage you to attempt at least two creative projects. There are some ideas to choose from listed below. If you have any other ideas it would be great to see them! Don't forget to bring the work into school to display in class.

Volcanoes and Earthquakes

- Create a volcano from papier mache
- Create a melted chocolate volcano cake
- Create a diorama of an earthquake
- Create an erupting volcano using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MFmw1tuzLQs>)
- Write and illustrate a poem about the effects of an earthquake
- Use cardboard to build an earthquake resistant building