

St. Peter's Academy - Newsletter

Beech Class.

Staff:

Mrs Gilbey – Beech Class Teacher
Additional support – Mrs Smith.

Date: Friday 17th January 2025



General news:

The children have continued to settle back well into the new term and have once again worked extremely hard all week. I have been particularly impressed with their spelling and times table test scores since before Christmas – thank you for your support with these. I am also pleased that most children are enjoying their reading and can discuss their current book with me when asked. We complete a range of reading skills over the week in school along with regular reading comprehensions.

The weather has been extremely cold lately and I have spoken to my class about appropriate clothing for outdoor PE (which now takes place on Wednesday afternoons) As the focus this half term is on cooperation skills and working as a team, it is important that they are dressed appropriately as many of the activities do not involve running around much.

This week's other learning:

- Maths – as well as keeping times tables ticking along, we have been continuing to work with fractions by converting mixed numbers to improper fractions and vice versa as well as comparing and ordering them.
- English – The children are enjoying the discussion focus of this unit and have worked on a variety of skills required to create a balanced argument as well as developing their vocabulary.
- Geography – we have continued to look at and compare different allotment locations and from this, the children have considered the importance of soil quality.
- R.E. – This term, we are looking more closely at Hinduism. We have discussed how the elephant is a sacred symbol in the Hindi religion, representing loyalty, power and wisdom.
- Science – To launch our new topic, we have looked closely and compared different life cycles, building on prior knowledge.
- IT – We have researched and answered a range of questions from an alien database.
- Art – As well as looking at line and tone in closer detail, our significant artist for this term is Pablo Picasso – we have looked some examples of his work and style.

Beech Class homework:

- Reading – children should aim to read at least 5 times a week and this can be recorded in the reading section of the school diary.
 - Spellings – Your child will have a list of spellings in their diary to learn ready for either a test or dictation sentences next Friday. As an extension, encourage your child to write their own definition for each word and/or write sentences to include each word.
 - English – Please complete the reading comprehension – the children are familiar with the layout of this.
 - Maths – As well as completing the timed times table grid, please revise all times tables thoroughly for a quick-fire speed test next Friday. This will now be a weekly requirement as part of homework to increase speed of recall.
 - Capital cities to learn for next Friday: Belarus, Romania, Morocco
- Mrs Gilbey's retrieval questions: – tell someone in your family!
- What nationality was Pablo Picasso?
 - What is the purpose of an allotment, and which features contribute to a good location?
 - In the Hindu religion, what does the elephant symbolise?

Key dates coming up:

Please refer to the weekly at a glance and headteacher newsletters for these, as linked below.

[Headteacher Newsletter](#)

[Weekly at a glance](#)

Have a wonderful weekend,
Mrs Gilbey 😊