



Beckley Church of England Primary School

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Friday 13th September 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome back to a full and exciting year to come in Hobby Class. Whether Year 5 or Year 6, we hope that the coming days will see your children happy, reassured and looking forward to what the next term brings. For Year 6, in particular, this will be a busy year from the outset and a chance to make the most of opportunities over their final year at Beckley, whilst Year 5 will work with increasing independence in building and deepening their understanding of the UKS2 curriculum.

Teaching will be shared between Mr Dyer, who will lead on Mondays and Tuesdays, and Mrs Alexander on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. In support, Mrs White will be in class each morning and leading for the equivalent of one afternoon per week, whilst Mrs Hotston-Moore will also join us for two mornings.

Although we will be running a very flexible timetable, 'core' subjects of English and Maths will fill most mornings, whilst other 'foundation' subjects will feature on a rolling basis across the afternoons.

In Maths, and along with regular shared investigations, Mr Dyer's initial sessions will focus on conception of number at UKS2 and Mrs Alexander will extend understanding around shape and position. English content will be broadly split between discrete SPaG-based and reading skills with Mr Dyer, whilst Mrs Alexander's sessions will feature creative writing and extended comprehension, typically around a shared class novel and a range of shorter stimuli, often presenting cross-curricular links to foundation subjects.

There will be regular workshops in Science, putting learning into investigational context and followed in class by reporting opportunities. Lessons will otherwise progress to ensure curricular coverage, starting the year with investigations, conducting fair tests and determining independent, dependent and control variables in various experiments.

Topic lessons will initially see the children considering the nature of sovereign power in a 'Kings and Queens' History unit, with opportunities for independent research and shared projects work. Art & DT opportunities will reflect cross-curricular learning with, for example, plans to link portraiture in a variety of media with our History topic.

RE lessons will start with a focus on Hinduism whilst also incorporating our traditional focus on Christian festivals of Harvest and Christmas as the term progresses. Where appropriate, cross-curricular links will be made with our PSHE, Values, Music and Arts curricula in particular.

ICT will start with using the web as an effective research tool, selecting particular search engines, and then move on to coding sequences.

PE is timetabled for Mondays and Tuesdays for the beginning of the autumn term, changing to Tuesdays and swimming on Thursdays in October. Year 6's programme will also include outdoor/adventure sports and team-building during their week at PGL, whilst cycling proficiency is planned for Year 5. As always, please ensure that PE kit stays in school at all times to accommodate any timetable changes, and that suitable shoes and clothing are appropriate for both indoor and outdoor activity. Swimming kit should be in school on Thursdays.

Homework will be issued on Fridays, for return by the following Tuesday, with occasional discrete project work also set over longer periods. On-going spelling and online maths tasks will also continue and there is an expectation of daily reading, with regular entries into reading diaries expected.

Thank you in advance for your support in encouraging your children in their efforts to do their very best. Our priority, however, is that they stay happy and confident throughout the year, so please feel free to catch us for a brief chat at the end of a school day or, in the event of larger questions or concerns, visit the office to request an appointment.

Our very best wishes

Jude Alexander and Steve Dyer
Hobby Class Teachers