



Beckley Church of England Primary School

Church Street, Beckley, Oxford, OX3 9UT • Tel: 01865 351416 • Email: office@beckleyschool.org
Website: www.beckleyschool.org • Headteacher: Mr Mark Szortowski

Monday 13th January 2020

Dear Parents

A very warm welcome back to the new Spring term in Hobby class.

We look forward to another busy timetable which will see the children continuing together in showing ever-increasing independence in their learning, whether working to Year 5 or to Year 6 objectives. Alongside new learning units, Year 6 will be further securing skills and understanding in preparation for next term's SATS, and will encounter increasing assessment opportunities and transitional work. Year 5, meanwhile, will continue to build upon their acquisition of the UKS2 curriculum in core areas, increasingly through discrete sessions and with opportunities to work with their peers in Skylark class.

Mr Dyer (Mondays and Tuesdays) and Mrs Alexander (Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays) will continue to be supported by Mrs White each morning and for the equivalent of one afternoon per week, whilst Mr James will join the class for support in Art and PE. Mrs Cockhill will lead lessons in French this term. As before, whilst our timetable will remain flexible, '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 alongside regular investigations in context, Mr Dyer's sessions will initially focus on multi-step problem-solving, whilst Mrs Alexander will continue with fractions, decimals and percentages. English content will continue to be split between discrete SPaG-based and reading skills with Mr Dyer, whilst Mrs Alexander's sessions will focus on writing and extended comprehension, typically around a shared class novel and a range of shorter stimuli, and often with links to their learning in foundation subjects.

Our popular investigational (SGC) workshops in Science continue on their regular basis, whilst other lessons in Science will start with a focus on Living things and their habitats. Our Topic work will move to Geography, as the children consider issues of Energy and Sustainability, with both directed work in class and opportunities for independent research.

Art will initially be based around a theme of colour and will feature an artist study, whilst opportunities will also be found to make links with the broader curriculum where appropriate. Our focus in RE will be on building the children's deeper understanding of Christianity, including a look at differing denominations to start the term. Where appropriate, cross-curricular links will be made with our Music and Arts curricula and with our PSHE and Values learning which, this term, incorporates the school's Christian value of Respect.

Mrs Cockhill's French lessons will incorporate opportunities for weekly conversation practice and the children will also develop their reading and pronunciation of new vocabulary and writing of grammatically-accurate sentences. ICT will commence with Online Safety and then Coding.

With swimming sessions ended, our PE timetable changes but remains necessarily flexible, and two sessions will take place across the Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday period. Please note, however, that it is important that your child's PE kit stay in school at all times to accommodate a potentially moving timetable. Suitable shoes and clothing must be appropriate for both indoor and outdoor activity (with further, separate outdoor shoes/boots for playtimes, please).

Homework arrangements remain unchanged, with work issued on Fridays. Please encourage your children to complete this promptly, for return by the following Tuesday unless otherwise specified. Additional and on-going spelling, comprehension and maths tasks continue online, along with an expectation of daily reading and of regular entries into reading diaries.

Thank you in advance for your support in encouraging your children to continue to do their very best. As always, please feel free to catch us for a brief chat at the end of a school day as needs be 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