



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

Friday 15th January 2021

Dear Parents

Welcome to the New Year! I would like to start off by saying a big thank you for the Christmas cards and gifts that I received; these were very much appreciated. I hope that you all managed to have an enjoyable break.

Whilst this isn't going to be a typical term in school, I would like to give you some information about what your child will be learning this term. I've been really impressed with how quickly and efficiently the children have taken to completing online work, and in participating in the Google Meets despite the occasional power cut. Google Meets will continue to be scheduled for 9.30am, 10.50am and 1.15pm and the morning Meets will normally include an independent task which can then be submitted (Turned in) via Google Classroom. Thank you for helping your child access the meetings and work at home.

Geography

In Geography we shall be looking at the continent of Africa. We shall be exploring the country of Kenya more closely and looking at different land uses, ways of life, animals and artwork. Key skills for this topic will be comparing and contrasting, asking questions and making suggestions about ways to reduce water consumption. In addition, we will use the topic to link to Art and in our writing.

Science

In Science, our new area of learning is materials. We shall be looking at what different materials there are, what we use materials for, and the properties of materials that make them suitable or unsuitable for making into different objects. We will be looking at different scenarios where we need to make an object, and we will then conduct experiments to see which material works best.

Computing

In Computing, we will be learning about E-Safety. This seems really fitting with the current status of learning! We will be looking into the sharing of information online, what comments are appropriate and inappropriate, and how we can make sure that we are being safe online. The past year has taught us a lot about the benefits of using technology alongside our learning. It is therefore very important that children understand the responsibility that comes with being online.

Religious Education

In RE on Friday afternoons, we will be exploring 'Christianity: Jesus as a friend,' followed by a unit on Salvation after half term.

Given the large amount of screen-time, please encourage your child to take frequent and regular breaks to get some fresh air and exercise and to enjoy the outdoors. Extra homework will not normally be set until children return to school, but I will post links to useful websites (so that children can access useful and appropriate information) on the Google Classroom Stream. Please encourage your child to read regularly, to practise their 0-12 times tables, spellings (from the Year 3/4 list), in addition to going onto the Mathletics website when they have time or have finished an activity early.

Best wishes

Steve Dyer and Mark Szortowski