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Beech Class Newsletter – Autumn 2026

Welcome to a new school year in Beech Class!

It is such a pleasure to be welcoming all of your children into Beech Class. We are sure that this is an incredibly exciting time for your child, returning back to school, reuniting with their friends, and re-establishing a familiar routine. However, we are sure that there will be some worries and a period of adjustment. We want you to know that the happiness and well-being of your child is paramount to a successful year in school so please do get in contact if you have any concerns.

Staffing

If we haven't had chance to introduce ourselves or speak to you yet, hopefully we can do so over the coming weeks! Our working days are: Mrs Atkins (**Monday & Tuesday**) and Mrs Leonard: (**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday**). We are incredibly fortunate to have Miss Day working every day in Beech Class. This will be Miss Day's third year at Chesterton and she brings a wealth of experience to Year One. We also welcome Mrs Lay and Miss Taylor into Beech Class. They join us at different parts of the week, and also have a great deal of experience from their previous settings.

Curriculum

This term, we will be exploring our topic of '*Castles, Kings and Queens*'. For more information, please view our Topic Web on the school website.

Reading Books



Children are expected to bring their reading diaries and reading books into school every day. We will always send home a '**Learn to Read**' **Bug Club book**, which has been matched to include sounds that they are familiar with to practise their decoding skills and a couple of '**Love to Read**' **books** with the intention of sharing and discussing these stories with you to develop their comprehension skills.

Please listen to your child read regularly (at least three times per week) - talking about the story and helping them with new and unfamiliar words. We encourage the children to independently choose their own 'Love to Read' books every Friday, and staff will be responsible for changing the 'Bug Club' books.





P.E.

P.E. will take place on Monday (outdoor) and Friday (indoor). Children will come home in their P.E. kits on these days, so they will need to be returned the following day. Please make sure that children have suitable clothing for both indoor and outdoor P.E. (jumper, sports trousers and trainers).

Homework and Spellings

The suggested activities can be found on the Beech Class page of the website. The children should hand in any work that they have done at home on a **Wednesday**, to allow time for marking, before being given back on a **Friday**. Please help your child to complete homework tasks if they need it, but as far as possible let the work be their own.

A list of termly spelling homework will be sent home separately. Please help your child to learn the correct set of 10 words for our dictation sessions each Friday.



Important Dates



<u>Autumn Term 1</u>	<u>Autumn Term 2</u>
23/09 – Macmillan Coffee Afternoon 2pm 25/09 - Flu Vaccination 01/10 - School Photographer (Portraits) 02/10 - Open Classrooms (3.15-3.45) 14/10 - Eco Council Climate Action Day 22/10 - 23/10 - Bake Sale (Maple, Beech, Ash) 23/10 - INSET Day ***October Half Term***	WB 09/11 – Anti-bullying Week 10/11-11/11 - Parents' Evenings 13/11 – Children in Need WB 16/11 – Maths Week 16/11 - SA Bake sale – Maple, Beech, Ash 08/12 - 9/12 (2.15pm) - KS1 Nativity ***Christmas Holidays***

Contact with the class teachers

We are very keen to build strong relationships with families in order to best support the learning and well-being of the children. If you wish to make contact with us, there are a number of ways that you can do this:

- You could send a message (written or verbal) with your child.
- You are able to phone the School Office, who will be able to help you or pass on a message.
- Alternatively, we will usually be available at the end of the school day once all of the children have been collected and this would be a good time to have a quick conversation. A longer meeting can then be arranged at a mutually convenient time if required.
- Emails should be sent via the school office (office.3082@chesterton.oxon.sch.uk), who will forward your message to us if necessary, and you can expect a response within 3 working days.

Reminders

- **Water bottles** – Please make sure children have a water bottle with them every day (separate from any drink in their lunchbox) as this allows access to water as and when they require it. Please note, the children should only have water in these bottles (not squash, juice or flavoured water).
- **Labelled clothing** - Please can we request that all items of clothing are clearly named.
- **Outdoor clothes** – All children should be prepared for outdoor play by keeping wellies and a warm, waterproof coat in school.
- Please can you be mindful on the size of the rucksack/bag you provide your child with as space is incredibly limited in the cloakroom. Furthermore, attachments such as key rings or cuddly toys are discouraged.
- If your child needs to borrow an item of clothing from school, please can you make sure that it is return as soon as possible.



We wish you all a very happy and healthy start to the new academic year.

Best wishes,
Mrs Atkins and Mrs Leonard



Building Firm Foundations For Life

Below are reminder sheets to help encourage independence in your child. You could put it on the fridge or your child's bedroom door so they can ensure they have everything they need each day.

Term 1

Day	I need to take to school my...	Key events are...
Monday	PE Kit Reading Record / reading books Water Bottle	Reading Record Checked P.E. with Mrs Atkins
Tuesday	PE Kit Reading Record / reading books Water Bottle	
Wednesday	Homework book PE Kit Reading Record / reading books Water Bottle	Homework due in
Thursday	PE Kit Reading Record / reading books Water Bottle	
Friday	PE Kit Reading Record / reading books Water Bottle	Homework books given back Dictation / spelling test P.E. with Mrs Leonard

Term 2

Day	I need to take to school my...	Key events are...
Monday	PE Kit Reading Record / reading books Water Bottle	Reading Record Checked P.E. with Mrs Atkins
Tuesday	PE Kit Reading Record / reading books Water Bottle	
Wednesday	Homework book PE Kit Reading Record / reading books Water Bottle	Homework due in
Thursday	PE Kit Reading Record / reading books Water Bottle	
Friday	PE Kit Reading Record / reading books Water Bottle	Homework books given back Dictation / spelling test P.E. with Mrs Leonard