

# Grange View C.E



# First School



Welcome to this half terms'  
Topic Information letter  
for Elm and Beech Class

Miss Darlow  
and Mrs Chapman



# Land

# Ahoy!

Spring half term (2)

## Numeracy;

Our key focus this half term is mainly place value, measurement and positional language. They will be learning to accurately measure using different apparatus and compare the measurements they have found. The children will link their new directional language within ICT and topic work. The children will continue to recap their learning from previous weeks, months and years as part of our new 'flash back 4' programme are now using across the school.

## History/Geography

This term the children will be thinking about lands afar. They will be learning the names of the different continents and oceans and where they are found on a globe and world map. The children will think about past explorers, linking it to their knowledge of transport from last half term.



The children will be conducting geography fieldwork investigations looking at different animals and objects than can be found on the UK coastline.

## Art/DT

The children really enjoyed printing in the Autumn term so we are going to enhance their printing skills to create a key stage display around the rainbow fish.



The children will be working on observation skills following the mantra 'look more than you draw'. They will be learning how to create a design and make their own printing block.

## Literacy

### Reading

During this half term children will read in a variety of situations. There will be shared whole class sessions, Year two will have small group guided sessions, and all will have one to one with an adult weekly as well as encouraging a love of independent reading.

### Reading at home

*We have recently re banded all our books and we're excited to continue to develop a love of reading with the children. They will each have a reading record and bring books home on a daily basis - please read with your child as much as you can and sign their record - we have a new reward system in both classes to celebrate their success and hope to have them progressing through the bandings brilliantly.*

### Writing

The children will write in the following genres; Story writing based on repeating story patterns and postcard writing.

They will learn to improve their sentence structure, grammar and punctuation as well as continuing to work through their spellings in a weekly test.

### Handwriting

We use a pen pals system in school, where they do daily letter join practise. There are many ways you can help build muscle strength for your child - please ask us for suggestions.

### Speaking & Listening

Children will encounter a variety of speaking and listening opportunities. Presenting information to their class during news, show and tell and through team building activities.

## PE - Gymnastics

This half term Elm class are going to be learning about how to jump and move with Beech starting to link their balances and jumps.



We are also very excited to welcome Debbie in on a Wednesday to hold Yoga session with both classes. PLEASE ENSURE THEY HAVE THEIR PE KITS IN SCHOOL TO TAKE PART.

## RE - Why do Christians celebrate Shrove Tuesday?



The children will be learning about the importance of Easter to Christians. They will learn about the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus and why Christians still celebrate it today. They will listen to stories from the bible and think about how this affects Christians everyday lives.

## Educational Visit

This half term we will be going on a trip to the beach.

The children will be creating coastal art work, rock pooling and exploring the beach for hidden treasures.



This will be at the end of the half term to inspire their rainbow fish art work and introduce them to our next 'living things' topic.

## PSHE

The theme this half term is 'Mental Wellbeing'. Following on from mental health week the children and going to be recognizing their own emotions and thinking about how actions can effect emotions.

They will be celebrating successes as well as thinking about ways to manage any anxieties and fears.

## Science-

Throughout the term the children will be developing their knowledge of underwater animals.

They will be starting to look at basic food chains, underwater habitats and different animal varieties.



The children will be combining their science knowledge and geographical fieldwork skills on our educational visit to the beach. They will be sorting and classifying a range of animals and objects they find.

## ICT -

The children will be learning to give clear instructions to programme. They will be programming using half turns, quarter turns to move a beebot from one place to another.



The children will also be learning about programming using different 'unplugged activities' that they can do without any technology.

## Homework

**Reading** - Children will be bringing home their home reading books during the week. It would be helpful if you could either write or sign the book to say you have heard them read, it helps us to avoid repeat reading the same pages. *We would really like to give the importance and value of reading a big push this year to help create confident, fluent readers throughout school.*

Additionally the children may bring home a second book that they have taken out of the library on our Friday visit.

**Spellings and Times Tables** - Children will be given differentiated spellings to learn for their weekly spelling test on a Friday morning. Please help your child as much as possible learn these words as they will help with their confidence and fluency as both a reader and writer.

With the new expectation of compulsory times table tests at Year 4 there are certain times tables we endeavour to have the children fluent in by the end of each year. **Year 1: 2x and 10x table. Year 2: 2x, 3x, 5x and 10x table.** Please whenever the opportunity arises help your child continue to practise these number sequences and become more fluent and confident.

**Maths / English Homework** - Beech children will be given some Maths Homework on School 360, within the Frog resources. These will be available to complete from Friday afternoon to the following Friday morning at 8am. . The maths homework is usually linked to the work they have done that week in Numeracy and should be appropriate for them to complete independently, this is aiming to replace Mathletics as it has proven more popular with the children throughout our trial in KS2 last term.

**Thanks for your help and support.**

## Parental Help/Resources

We would very much appreciate your help/skills/resources that would link to any of our topics for this and the following half term throughout the year. If you feel that you could help us and your children out in any way please contact school and let us know.

## Home Time

If you need to change the usual arrangements for picking up your child from school, please let school know as soon as possible. As you will understand we cannot allow children to leave the school premises unless we have permission from parents or carers.

## Forest School / PE Kits

Classes will be using the forest area whenever possible, we have waterproof trousers which we provide for each child but please ensure that their wellies are in school to avoid their school shoes being ruined. Similarly, a warm winter coat /hat / gloves should be in school so that are comfortable.

Beech does PE on Friday afternoons and Elm on a Monday afternoon and possibly another afternoon when appropriate, so please ensure that they have their PE Kits as well as appropriate footwear in school at all times, especially if they have done an after school club the kit must return the next day.

Last year, across the whole school there was a high demand for the spare PE kit to be used and as a result we have very limited provisions now. Finally, if your child has had their ears pierced - ideally the earring should be removed for PE if not we can provide tape.

In general, long hair needs to be tied up for PE but would be best tied up at all times in school.