



Beech Class

January 2022



Our learning in January and February:

This half term, we are going all the way back in time to discover prehistoric life in our new topic: Stone Age to Iron Age. During this unit, we will cover the following areas:

- What is prehistory and how do we know about it?
- How did the prehistoric diet change as people moved from hunter-gatherer to farmer?
- How did the discovery at Skara Brae change historians' views of prehistoric life?
- What is the significance of Stonehenge?
- How much had life changed by the end of the iron age?
- How did prehistoric life compare to life today?

To get this topic off to an exciting start, we will have a Stone Age day in school on Wednesday 12th January. On this day, our guest archaeologist will lead the children in an archaeological dig where items will be categorised and assembled into a museum; as well as creating Stone Age tools and jewellery.

English:

Our first unit will be writing instructions on how to trap a woolly mammoth. This will be followed by a portal story based on 'Stone Age boy' by Satoshi Kitamura, where the main character is transported back to prehistoric times.

Our class book will be 'Time Hunters, Stone Age Rampage' by Chris Blake.



Maths:

Our focus for this term will be addition, subtraction and division. We will cover:

- Add and subtract numbers of up to 3 digits mentally.
- Add and subtract numbers of up to 3 digits using a formal written method of column addition and subtraction.
- Estimate the answer to a calculation.
- Use an inverse operation to check answers.
- Solve problems using addition and subtraction.
- Understand division as sharing and the inverse of multiplication
- Use multiplication to support mental division calculations

Children are expected to know their 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables by the end of year 3. We will continue to progress through the times table challenge with a test each **Monday** on the individual table being learnt. They will need to know multiplication facts and be able to complete 38,39 or 40 questions within 4 minutes to progress to the next stage. The first times table test will be **Monday 17th January**.

Practice sheets will be sent home each week to reflect the table children are focussing on. These will now be stuck into their maths homework books and are to be returned every Monday for marking. Please can children continue to practice their target table on 'TTRockstars', selecting the jamming game choice which will then allow them to play focusing on just their own target times table. Other useful websites can be found on the class page under curriculum support, maths.



Beech Class

January 2022



Other curriculum areas include:

- PE – Dance (Mr Singh) / Gymnastics (Mrs Dilleigh)
- Art – Cave paintings and Stonehenge (Mixed media)
- Music – Brass lessons will continue on Tuesday afternoons
- PSHE – Money
- RE - What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?
- French – children will be taught by a specialist French teacher (Mrs Duncan) on a Monday afternoon
- Computing – Creating Media

Supporting learning at home:

- **Spellings:** Spellings will be taught in school and lists will **not** be sent home to learn.
- **Reading:** Every child needs to read frequently. In year 3, children need to read for at least 15-20 minutes every day and talk to an adult about what they have read. Please encourage your child to use their reading diary to record the reading that they have done each day and obtain a signature from an adult who has listened to them. Reading diaries will be checked and books changed every **Wednesday**.
- **Times Tables:** Children will work on our times table challenge with a test on their individual focus table on a Monday.
- **Homework:** Children will be set weekly homework. It will follow this pattern: English will be set on Fridays. This will be due back on the following Wednesday. Maths will be set on Mondays and be due back the following Monday. You may support your child in tasks but, if they are struggling, please ensure they know they can ask us for help. The first homework task will be set on **Monday 17th January**.

Useful information:

Coats: Please make sure your child brings a coat so we can go outside. Also ensure that EVERYTHING is named! If it isn't, we cannot return it.

PE: On our PE days, children will need to come dressed in their **School PE kit**. They will remain in these clothes for the rest of the school day. Please also make sure that your child has a named water bottle. During Spring 1, we will have PE on a **Wednesday** and a **Thursday**.

If you have any questions to ask, or have information to tell us, please contact us via the school office (julie.carter@littleeaton.derbyshire.sch.uk or on 01332 831471). One of us will also be available on the playground at the end of the school day.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Happy New Year!

Mrs Dilleigh and Mrs Williams