

# Autumn 1

A new academic year, a new classroom and two new teachers – 1 old-new (Mrs Searle) and 1 new-new Mrs Pilkington.

Firstly, a big welcome back to Lacewood and, more specifically, to Beech Class. We hope you have had a restful summer and feel ready for your new academic year. At the beginning of every half term, you can expect to get a newsletter from us, it will usually include; a few reminders, homework information, topics and themes being covered in the classroom and any important information about the term ahead. You will also be able to see this newsletter on our school website and on our dojo page.

One thing that both of us encourage in our classroom is communication. We are firm believers in working together, home and school, to ensure a successful year of learning and development for your children. If at anytime throughout this coming year you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate in contacting us either via a private message on the class dojo page or contact the school office to arrange a meeting with us for after the school day.

As it is the start of a new academic year, there is lots of information to pass on and so, for this occasion, there is a little more than usual in this newsletter. Please see the next page for topics covered this term and on the following page homework expectations as well as Beech class information. This information will also be shared in our ‘Meet the Teacher’ meeting – dates and times will be confirmed on class dojo.

Mrs Pilkington and Mrs Searle



# **The Great War**

**Literacy – Setting Descriptions, and letters**

**Numeracy – Place Value, Addition and  
Subtraction**

**Art and Design – Georgia O’Keefe -watercolour  
techniques**

**Computing – Computer Networks**

**History – WW1**

**Music –Notation**

**PE – Fitness and Netball**

**PSHE – Relationships**

**RE - How does faith contribute to community  
cohesion?**

**Science – Sun, Moon and Earth**



# Homework Expectations

We know the importance of allowing our children the chance to rest, play and engage with all things outside of academia and therefore do not set huge amounts of homework. Keeping on top of the basic skills, however, is hugely important and is therefore best practised in small sessions **daily**. The best thing is, these tiny activities are great bargaining tools for screen time!

**Reading (daily 20mins)** Your child will have an appropriately levelled school reading book which should be read at home and in school **every day**. The benefits of reading at home as well as in school are invaluable for a child's development. Just 20 minutes of reading a day has a marked impact on a child's attainment across all subject areas. Reading can happen at anytime during the day but if you have a reluctant reader, then putting 20 minutes aside before going to sleep is a fantastic way to wind down and engage with a book as there are no other distractions.

**Spellings (3 times per week - 5mins)** In school we follow a progression of spelling rules from Year 1 all the way through to year 6. Each week we learn about a new spelling rule and practise these in a wide range of activities throughout the week. On a Friday these spellings are sent home as part of the weekly homework sheet which should be practised in short bursts, frequently. The spellings are then tested the following Friday. This way, the children are exposed to, and practise, each set of spellings for almost two weeks. This is a great way of embedding the spellings.

**TT Rockstars (3 times per week- 5mins)-** We will be continuing TT Rockstars this year and with a big push on speed. Much of our year 5 curriculum relies heavily on instant knowledge of our tables. There will be rockstar battles, prizes, certificates and other incentives up for grabs throughout the year.

**Topic homework (half termly)-** will generally be sent home at the end of the half term to be completed during the holidays ready for the next term. There will be a list of homework project ideas to suit all different learning styles. You only need to do one!



# Classroom Information

## Medicines



Teachers are unable to administer any medicine in the classroom. All medicines must be taken to the front office. **Asthma pumps** will be stored in the classroom store cupboard, please ensure these are clearly labelled. **Glasses** should be stored in your child's personal drawer in the classroom.

## **Clothing**

Please ensure that all clothing and shoes are clearly labelled. There is more chance an item of clothing can be returned to the rightful owner if names are clearly visible.



## **PE**

PE sessions will be taking place on a **Wednesday** and a **Thursday**. Please note, PE kit is expected for every lesson as follows; your Lacewood coloured t-shirt, black shorts/trousers and trainers.

## **Bags**

Children need to bring a small bag (ideally a book bag) to school every day. All letters are sent home as a paper copy and are much less likely to be lost in transit if it is placed in a bag. Please bear in mind that our cloakrooms are very tight for space so please consider the size of the bag that is needed.



## **Water bottles**

There is an area in the classroom for children to bring a water bottle. These water bottles are to be taken home at the end of every day. Please note these bottles must only contain water.