



Beech Class Newsletter

February 2019

Welcome

Hello and welcome back to Beech class. We hope you had a fun and enjoyable half term break and are all ready for the start of an exciting new half term!

Beech class have had a fantastic start to 2019! They have all worked so hard and have enjoyed the introduction to our topic of "Colours". They have created some wonderful group art, taking inspiration from Kandinsky and Jackson Pollock, painted on ice and experienced snow falling on them!

We are now excited for this coming half term and the many different activities that are planned in class, with the other sensory pathway classes, as well as some whole school events too!



If you have any queries please don't hesitate to get in touch via the office, in your child's home school diary or email joanne.baker@saxonhill.shaw-education.org.uk

Jo, Mel and Maria



Thematic Unit

Our thematic unit this half term is **Colours**. Firstly we will take part in our 'Holi Festival' culture day. During this day we will get to join with different classes and collaboratively explore different food, music, clothing, art and items associated with the Hindu festival of colour.

Each week we will be focussing on a different colour or artist. This half term we will be exploring the colours associated with St David's day, Red Nose day, Holi, Mother's day and Easter. We will also be visiting a local garden centre to look at all the colours of Spring.



Cognition

Our sensory story this term is "The Secret Garden". We shall have to see if we can grow our own secret garden! We have got some exciting art activities planned, including melting crayons, painting with daffodils and chocolate too! We shall be working hard on developing our switch skills operating a range of devices, making music using the Soundbeam and recognising the effect we have on the interactive floor projector.

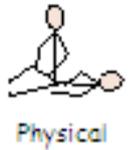


Communication



As always, we will be working hard in our communication skills. In our music sessions we will be engaging in a Carnival theme, with an explosion of colour, noise and lots of fun! In dance massage we shall begin to follow a Spring inspired routine. We will communicate and show our preferences, likes and dislikes and anticipate what is happening next in familiar activities. We have also begun to introduce PODD to our daily routines and activities.

Physical



We have got lots of fluorescent coloured items to explore and experience under UV lights, in Write Dance, which is a new activity for us to participate in. In treasure baskets and Be Active, we will explore different coloured objects with very different textures. The pupils in Beech class have a change of position each session and all follow their own daily physical programmes.

Care, Independence & Social Skills

We will all be working hard to work on our care, independence and social skills targets this term. We will enjoy Soundbath each week, which gives us time to reflect and process where we are and what we have experienced during the day.



FLOW & Rebound

Unfortunately whilst the building work has been going on, we haven't been able to access the rebound room. Hopefully this will be up and running again soon. We have been able to enjoy weekly sessions in the pool, working individual physical programmes.



Rebound will be on Thursday afternoons and FLOW on Wednesday mornings.

Intensive Interaction

We are starting to communicate through Intensive Interaction in class this term. Intensive Interaction is an approach to help people at early levels of development learn the fundamentals of communication. It is lots of fun and we have seen some fantastic communication already. It is hoped that this will continue and that Jo will be able to run an introduction session to Intensive Interaction for parents soon.



Requests

If you have any old adults' shirts that can be donated, which we can use to cover pupils during art and messy activities, they would be much appreciated!
Please could ensure that your child has spare clothes kept in their bag.
Please could you send your child's swimming kit in for Wednesdays and that your child has warm clothing for Forest School on Fridays.