

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am very grateful to have welcomed the children into Beech Class this week. On Monday, we spent time settling in and getting to know each other. We had a drama session in the afternoon which encouraged lots of laughter and fun. We kicked off our topic this term, which is Significant Building from around the World, with a walk down to Sibford Village Hall and the local church. I have included lots of information about this topic in the document, 'As a learner I am...' which can be found on our class page. I have also included a special request in the history section!

I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you all and share some of my expectations with you:

Reading

I strongly recommend reading every day at home. This could be in the morning after breakfast or an evening before bed. It really supports the children's development. I would encourage you to build a culture of reading at home, where the children feel they 'want' to read more than they 'have' to read. *"Reading should not be presented to children as a chore or duty. It should be offered to them as a precious gift."* — Kate DiCamillo. Please discuss reading material at home and ask the children questions about what they have read. This will greatly support their comprehension skills.

Spellings

We will send home spellings for the half term in September. There will be a short weekly home-learning task with a focus on spelling. Spelling tests will take place every Friday. We encourage you to support your children with this at home. I will include some game ideas in the home-learning task next week.

Math's

Our lessons at school involve lots of practical activities. We are strongly encouraging the children to develop their reasoning skills with a huge focus on communication and language. In order to support this at home, it is important that you practise fluency skills. There are a number of games on Purple Mash to support you with this. The children will receive a short math's home-learning task weekly with tips and guidance on how best to support their learning at home. Each week we will be checking the children's quick recall of mental math's facts with our 'Beat That' tests.

PE

This term PE will be on Mondays and Tuesdays. Children will need to bring their PE kits in on these days.

Thank you for your continued support. I am so looking forward to the year ahead with Beech Class,

Ms. Keogh