



Class Beech Newsletter

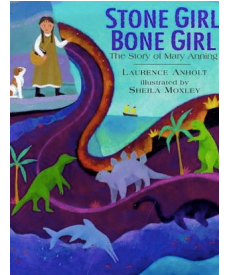
Spring 2nd Half Term

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new half term! We hope you've had a lovely week, although a wet and windy one, and the children are rested and ready to go again.

Topic

Our topic this half term will be answering the question: **Who is Mary Anning?** This is our first History focused topic this year, and is a great opportunity for the children to learn about a very significant woman who changed our thinking about prehistoric times. Yes! You guessed it... dinosaurs! Our topic lessons will be looking at the life of Mary Anning, when and where she lived, and how she became to be a significant woman in our past. We will be story mapping her life, thinking about the important events that led her to becoming a paleontologist, and creating a timeline of her life. We are then going to compare life for Mary Anning in the 18th and 19th Century to our own in the 21st.



English

Year 1 were assessed again in Read Write Inc. before the holidays. It is great to see the children still making good progress, they are obviously working so hard in their English lessons! These lessons will continue alongside Class Willow with Miss Nixon, Mrs Blair, Miss Pattinson and Mrs Johnston. Keep up the good work everyone! The mixed Year 1 and 2 group are going to have such great fun reading stories about dinosaurs! We will use these books as inspiration to write our own adventure stories, poems, newspaper articles, recounts and instructions; making sure we show off by using as many of our writing skills as possible, whilst learning new ones along the way. It's going to be very busy!



Maths

The children have made great progress in Maths this year so far. We have focused a lot on key mathematical skills, so this half term we will be using these mathematical skills to help us solve problems involving measures (length/height), shape and then beginning to look at fractions. The year 2s will also begin looking at practice SATs papers this half term in order to prepare them for May. We do not put any pressure on the children, and tell them it is so we can see what they can do and what they may need more practice on. If any year 2 parents have any questions about this, you are always welcome to pop in for a chat.

Science

Our Science focus this half term will be **Animals**. This will begin with looking at the basic features of different animals. The children will then delve even deeper by thinking about categorising animals on whether they are mammals, fish, amphibians, birds or reptiles. We are then going to look at which animals are carnivores, herbivores or omnivores and what this means. We also have a very exciting science experiment planned to find out which dinosaurs were carnivores, herbivores or omnivores! It will get messy!

PE

For one more half term PE will be taught by Carlisle United Football Club (CUFC) on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Please make sure the children have the appropriate PE clothes – T-shirt, shorts, plimssoles, trainers and long trousers in case CUFC do a lesson outside.

Mrs Carla Clark and Mrs Sue Blair