

Welcome to Year 2!



What will my child be learning?

This term we will be learning about 'South Africa.' We will be using maps to find out where it is and learn about the continents and oceans around the world. We will also be finding out about a very important person called Nelson Mandela and which animals live in the wild there. We have planned an exciting visit to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park on Tuesday 15th October and we will give out more details very soon in a separate letter. Our focus in Science will be all about 'Taking Care.' Later on this year one of our topics will be 'Explorers' and we will explore The Solar System and famous explorers. In the final term, our topic is 'The Seaside' and we even get to visit Scarborough!

Home learning mats can be found in the home learning diary and are added to the class page on the school website each half term, linking to the new topic.

Each year group also have Golden Opportunities which they will tick off as the year progresses. These can also be found in the home learning diaries alongside our Beechwood Golden Opportunities which children will tick off by the end of their time at Beechwood.

Year 2 Golden Opportunities



Golden Opportunities



YEAR 2

We will have the opportunity to:

 re-tell a traditional African tale	 develop a link with our Trust school through pen pal letters	 visit Yorkshire Wildlife Park	 learn about equality and fairness	 learn how to sew	 put on a show with the puppets we make
 take part in drumming lessons	 create maps of South Africa	 learn to skip	 learn different printing techniques	 develop a link with a school in South Africa	 build a den in the woods
 take part in a scavenger hunt	 learn some yoga moves	 step inside a stardome	 become an explorer	 find out about space travel	 carry out our own research
 be a scientist outside	 visit 'The Deep'	 explore the animals live in different habitats	 visit the seaside	 paddle in the sea	 build a sandcastle
 watch a Punch and Judy puppet show	 create our own moving picture	 plant different seeds and bulbs	 observe a plant grow	 have a picnic outside	 read a story out loud

Beechwood Golden Opportunities



Golden Opportunities



Before you leave Beechwood you will have the opportunity to:

 make something to sell	 learn about the library reading challenges	 learn about Remembrance Day	 raise money for charity	 take part in an assembly	 learn and perform different poems
 learn to be resilient, calm, confident, creative and wise through My Mental Health Rocks	 meet an author	 set up your own art exhibition	 become a Beechwood playground leader	 become an eco-warrior	 stand for school council
 choose different after-school clubs	 experience Beechwood Bake-off	 observe Black History Month	 learn about Diwali	 find out about Hanukkah	 learn about Christmas
 celebrate Chinese New Year	 take part in International Women's Day	 find out about Eid	 learn about Pride	 observe Refugee Day	 take part in Afro Hair Day
 be part of Spirit Alive	 Perform on a stage	 Learn PE skills with a professional sports coach	 Help to look after our school gardens	 Experience learning in the amphitheatre	 Consider what we might like to do in the future

How can I support my child at home?

Your child will receive spellings once a week on a Monday. We will test them on a Friday. Maths homework will be set most Fridays to bring in the following week.

Children are asked to read at least 3 times a week and this should be recorded in their home learning diaries.

Please return reading books with your home learning diary every Friday.

Children can access Reading Eggs and Spelling Shed from home.

Year 2 home learning grid

Topic Vocabulary

segregation - where the law or officials keep people apart for different reasons

Apartheid - law in South Africa that kept people apart because of the colour of their skin

prison - building where criminals are kept

Robben Island - a small island in South Africa where the government kept political prisoners

President - the head of state of a country that has no king or queen

government - group of people in charge of running a country who make rules and laws

protest - a complaint or objection against an idea, act or a way of doing things

Useful Weblinks

BBC Bitesize- Who was Nelson Mandela?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zj3p8xs>

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/general-history/nelson-mandela/>

Go Jettters episode - Table Mountain

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p081trc0>

Autumn Term History Learning Grid for Year 2

South Africa



History Facts to learn about Nelson Mandela

He was born on 18th July 1918 in a small village in South Africa.

As he grew up, he noticed that black people were treated unfairly.

In 1964, he was sent to prison on Robben Island for life for protesting.

In 1990, he was finally released after 27 years. In 1994, black people in South Africa were finally allowed to vote for the first time.

Nelson Mandela was elected as the first black president of South Africa.

Home Learning Challenge Ideas

Can you create a poster, poem or fact file to show what you have learned about Nelson Mandela?

Can you create a map or some art work based on South Africa?

We would love to see any of your own topic work that you choose to do at home so you might do something completely different. We are looking forward to sharing it together and displaying it on the Beechwood website.



Who can I speak to?

Your child's teacher and teaching assistant will be available to speak to quickly on the playground in the morning and afternoon.

For any bigger queries or conversations, please speak to our office team and they can arrange a meeting or a phone call with your child's class teacher.

A member of our SLT will be available each morning on the school grounds.

Where can I find out about events in school?

Important dates will be sent out via the school newsletter.

Class pages are updated regularly on the school website showing photos and updates of what your children have been learning about in school. We also have an Awards page to celebrate certificate winners each week.

Texts are sent home via my school app so please make sure you are signed up to this.



What happens before and after school?

All children will wait on the playground accompanied by an adult.

We ask that no ball games are played before or after school and children must stay on the KS1 playground and not climb on the walls, ensuring safety of pupils and adults.

Class teachers will come out to collect their class at 8:50am and children will line up.

At home time, classes will be brought out via the year 2 door and teachers will allow them to leave when they see a parent/carer.

What do I do if my child is being collected by someone else?

Please contact the office to inform us if someone other than a parent or carer is collecting your child that day.

What can my child bring to school?

Children are asked to bring a water bottle into school each day. We ask that these contain water (no sugary drinks are allowed).

Children should bring their home learning diary to school every Friday - please record any home learning and reading completed at home in these. Teachers or Teaching assistants will check these weekly.

PE Days

Children can come to school in their PE kit on their class PE days:

Class 5 – *Wednesday and Thursday*

Class 6 – *Wednesday and Thursday*

School visits!

School visits have been carefully planned to compliment our school curriculum.

In year 2



*More information will follow and you can pay this via parent pay.
Please see the office team if you need any support with this.*

We also have visitors and workshops in school.

Other

Opportunities

Eco club

After school clubs

Place to talk

Sports Coaches (LUFC, GT Sports, Premier Sports)

Singing and drumming sessions

Attendance

In order for your child to enjoy all that is on offer at Beechwood and to ensure that they make the excellent progress that we know they can, it is important that they are in school each day on time. We have many exciting attendance rewards.

Just a few from last year were:

** Cinema vouchers*

** Stationary*

** Silent disco*

Feel free to ask any questions.

*Thank you for coming and helping us to support
your child with their journey in Year 2 😊*