English

The class books for this term are' 'Iron Man' by Ted Hughes and then 'Stig of the Dump'. These will be supplemented with other materials from non-fiction texts associated with our Science and History topics including 'A Visitor's Guide to Ancient Rome' and 'Sun Up Sun Down' by Jacqui Bailey. During their writing sessions, the children are focusing on their descriptive writing. They will write about monsters being trapped and then set free, following the outline from the Iron Man plot. Their first non-fiction topic will be explanation writing, which will eventually enable them to write and scientifically explain the experiments they will complete during Science Week and Safer Internet Day. At the end of the first half term, they will finish their Roman topic by writing a diary entry about a day in the life of a slave girl in Rome. The second half of term will start with more fictional writing, based on the book Float' and will follow the adventures of a paper boat. The children will then write their own stories about the adventure of a paper aeroplane. The final writing section is linked to poems about colour described through metaphors based on the book 'Colours through Time'. It is based on the poem, 'I Asked a Little Boy Who Cannot See'. During the term, oracy and acting objectives will be linked to our play, 'Wind in the Willows" which will take place in the last week of term.

Religious Education

This term will start by focusing on 'How does what you believe affect what you choose to eat?' It will compare different world religions and their views on food, focusing especially on Judaism and the Passover. Eventually, the children will write a leaflet explaining about peoples' views and the decisions people make when living according to the rules of a religion. The second half of term examines the question, 'Is forgiveness always possible for Christians?' It starts by looking at how we say sorry and then expands the theology and looks in detail at the Last Supper and crucifixion. The children will understand by studying biblical sources that the Christian view is that Jesus death was part of God's plan to show people they can be forgiven.

History, Geography –Romans and Italy

The children start by finding out about the Celts and will research, using primary and secondary sources, all about the Roman invasion. During the term they will learn about Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni and why she is so important locally and nationally. This information will be reinforced during our visit to Colchester Castle where they will view artefacts from this important age. They will compare how Celts and Romans dressed, what they ate and how they fought, what they believed and how this was left as part of our culture today. Geography will be linked to the Romans, when the children will compare Italy and the UK in the second half of term. They will compare agriculture, climate and physical geographical features between our local area and Italy.

Ways you can help at home

Please read each night with your child—we check the planners each Friday morning.
Each Wednesday the spellings will come home in a handwriting book. Please just write a sentence containing that spelling so the child is familiar with the word. This is also vital handwriting practise.
Times tables awards—learn tables please! We will send home more information but we test the tables on a Wednesday weekly!
Creative homework is over a six week period and we expect a child to complete roughly half an hour a week—this can be on long or short projects.
Conquering Rickling leaflets have been given out for the year. And Mrs Bratley is always thrilled to see completed sections on Mondays.

RICKLING C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Through Faith and Nurture, We Thrive
'Life in all its fullness' John 10:10
Be Loving
Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Be Positive
Be You

Beech Class Spring 2026

PE—Thursday and Friday

During Thursday's sessions, the children will be measuring their fitness, recording data and measuring their heart rate.

On Friday, The children will learn a variety of skills: to design their own dance phrases; link and combine movements; perform with expression; respond to a changing stimulus; create and perform a dance—this will be performed in our show.

Music

This term we are learning all about musical motifs with a Roman theme. The children will learn to compose using tuned and untuned instruments as well as transpose their motif, using sharp or flat notes where necessary changing rhythms. They will learn how to write down music using notation and learn the different notes. At the end of term, they will learn songs linked to their play.

Maths and Mathematical Reasoning

The Spring Term starts with 'Calculations', when the children move forward from the compact methods learned in the Autumn term by focusing on division and multiplication. We reinforce these methods using more practical areas, such as measurement, to ensure they can apply their knowledge tot other areas. The children will continue with the times tables each week, so please help them practise at home using Times Tables Rockstars' as well as the Mathsframe site. Year 3 are progressing well with tables fluency and Year 4 should now focus on gaining instant recall without counting up on fingers. There are other mathematical sections on fractions, decimal fractions, linked to money statistics ,and units of measurement to ensure we will be covering the full national curriculum.

Science

This term's main topic is 'May the Force Be with Us' and investigates the invisible forces all around us. The children will start by investigating what a force is and how it makes objects move, stop and change direction. During lessons, they will investigate friction make their own fair and comparative tests. They will research the force of magnetism, designing experiments to see if the size of magnets affects its strength. During Science week they will make catapults, parachutes and fly kites. At the end of the second half of term, the children will start the topic 'Can you see me?' when they investigate light and all its properties. They will measure how a shadow changes during the day and understand why we have seasons.

Computing

The children will be introduced to the concept of networks, learning how devices communicate. They will identify components, learn how information is shared, and deepen this understanding by exploring examples of real life networks.

PSHE

The children will start the term learning about relationships. This unit will focus on how families differ from each other, family celebrations, how we care for each other within families. After half term, the children will be learning about living in the wider world— belonging to different groups and communities, diverse communities and how different groups make up the wider/ local community around the school.

MFL- French

The children start by revising how to speak and write numbers to two hundred. They look at different parts of the body and create their own alien adding more description using colours. There is also a section on one on their important family members, pets and animals. Finally, we focus on the months of the year as well as the names of seasons.

Art and DT

The children will finish the topic they started at the end of last term, where they focused on how to draw and use shading to produce more three dimensional images. They will then use these skills to produce a piece of art working using thick paint to make pictures of food based on the work of Pakistani artist Maryam Arslan. During Science Week, they will start a project to complete a design for an Electrical Poster as part of a museum exhibit to show off a Roman artefact. They will finish the term by making a Roman Purse using eyelets and a running cord.