

# What's on this term...

## Beech Class



**MATHS:** This term, the students have been learning about ratio and proportion, developing an understanding of how quantities can be compared and scaled. They've been solving problems in real-life contexts, such as recipes, maps, and scaling drawings. We've also introduced area and volume, with a focus on calculating the size of different 2D shapes and exploring how this extends to 3D objects. The students are beginning to see how these mathematical concepts link to everyday life.

**ENGLISH:** Students are working towards Functional Skills criteria. We've been exploring how to format emails and letters, learning the difference between formal and informal language and when it is most appropriate to use each style. This gives practical skills to use in everyday communication. We're now moving on to descriptive writing, focusing on using the 5 senses to bring ideas to life and connect them smoothly in sentences and paragraphs. Pupils are practicing making their writing more engaging by adding detail and variety, helping them to express themselves clearly and creatively. In reading, the class is enjoying "*Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*". Pupils are developing key comprehension skills, focusing on retrieval (finding information in the text) and inference (reading between the lines to understand deeper meanings). Alongside these skills, there is also an emphasis on reading for pleasure, encouraging pupils to enjoy stories and develop a lifelong love of reading.

**PREPARATION FOR ADULTHOOD:** Students have been exploring careers and Post-16 pathways, focusing on understanding the different options available after school. They are learning about the qualifications and skills needed for various careers and considering which routes might suit their interests and strengths. This work helps pupils plan for their future, make informed decisions, and develop the confidence to take the next steps towards their chosen career paths.

**PSHE:** We've focused on financial literacy, learning how money can be spent safely and responsibly, with different ways to save and manage money effectively. The lessons encourage practical thinking about budgeting, making informed choices, and understanding the value of money, helping students become more confident and independent in managing their finances now and in the future.

**RE:** pupils have been exploring how different religions understand and experience their relationship with God. They've been learning about the similarities and differences across faiths, discussing how people's beliefs influence the way they live their lives. A key focus has been on developing respect for the views and values of others, encouraging pupils to listen, reflect, and appreciate the diversity of religious experiences in the world around them.

**COMPUTING:** We're working on the "Being Organised" unit for BTEC coursework. Students created two-week planners to manage their tasks and deadlines, helping them develop important organisation and time-management skills. By using these planners, pupils are building independence and responsibility for their learning, preparing them for success both in school and in future study or work environments.

**SCIENCE:** for BTEC coursework, we're focusing on quality testing. Students have been carrying out practical experiments to assess aspects of product quality and learning to record and analyse their results. Discussions have also focused on why quality is important for consumers, helping pupils understand the impact of good quality products in everyday life. This work combines practical skills with real-world understanding, preparing students for further study and careers in science-related fields.