



High Beech Church of England Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs. Sarah Roffey B.Ed Hons

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back for another term of hard work in Silver Birch class, when we will be studying the USA.

In **English**, we will be drawing from some of the great American classics – Tom Sawyer, Little House on the Prairie and the Wizard of Oz. We will revisit biographies looking at the lives of Ben Franklin and Harriet Tubman, as well as non-fiction texts connected with American history and culture. Our class novel will be Holes by Louis Sachar. We will also be studying a Midsummer Night's Dream by Shakespeare.

Maths will continue to follow the Inspire curriculum (after a brief break for Y6 to become accustomed to the SATs question types.)

History and **Geography** will be our starting points for the USA study. We are going to have a quick overview of the main events in US history starting with the Native American tribes and moving through the Pilgrim Fathers, the War of Independence, the Wild West/Gold Rush, slavery and the Civil War. These are fantastically interesting events with some great stories and personalities so I'm really looking forward to it. In Geography, we will be learning about features of American geography such as mountains and rivers. We would also like to link up with a school or individual in the United States to find out about their life, so if anyone has any relatives or other contacts, please let us know.

In **R.E.**, we will be learning about the role of the church in the local community.

In **Art**, we will make dreamcatchers, totem poles, and a variety of American-themed art activities, including learning about famous artists such as Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein.

PE – We will continue with biking until the end of the year, and will be adding in more cricket lessons as the weather improves (I hope!)

Music – We have a new music teacher, Mr Oliver, who will be teaching the ukulele among other things on a Monday afternoon for both year groups.

Homework

Homework will still be given out on a Friday for the following Friday. Your child will receive

- Maths (usually practice of something studied in the week)
- Topic homework – initially map work then personal research. A useful website is www.mrnussbaum.com

SATS

The Y6 test week is the week beginning 14th May. Please encourage your Y6 child to use their revision folder to learn their parts of speech and maths vocabulary. Details about the timetable, and, of course, the SATs breakfast, will follow next week.

Thanks for your ongoing support.

Ms Humphrey