

# BEACON CURRICULUM UPDATE

Your newsletter from Beaconside Primary School

**“a light set up in a prominent position as a celebration”**



Our Beacon Curriculum has been carefully planned to provide children with ambitious and memorable learning experiences in and out of the classroom.

We are focusing on three main threads that go right the way from Nursery through to Year 6:

These are allowing our children to develop:

- A deep understanding of the diversity in people
- A deep understanding of the diversity in places
- A deep understanding of people’s innovation



## Our Christian Vision and Values

**Learn to live.. learn to shine  
“Let your light shine before  
others, that they may see your  
good deeds” (Matthew 5:16)**



Our curriculum has been specifically designed to reflect our whole school vision of everyone shining. Our vision is based on the sermon on the mount where Jesus welcomed everyone and celebrated each individual for who they are. Our curriculum is no different. We want everyone to shine in their learning, be celebrated for the person they are and also be given experiences that help develop them into a well-rounded person.

We live in a wonderful county and have such wonderful grounds that it seems only right to make the most of it within our curriculum. We are building our outdoor learning this year so that every year group receives a series of outdoor lessons each term. These will include lessons on fire lighting, shelter building, navigation and using tools (Years 3-6). Four of our teachers have recently been on a two-day course to help prepare us to deliver these lessons and we have exciting plans for 2022 to develop our school grounds even further.

## Reception



This half term the children have been learning about different wildlife and this culminated in a trip up the Beacon for a "signs of Wildlife" workshop with Ernest Trust.

# OUTDOOR LEARNING

## Reception, Year 2 and Year 5

## YEAR 2

Year 2 have been learning about the fire triangle, how to use a flint and steel to make a "tiny fire" and also how to extinguish a fire by "starving it" of oxygen.



## YEAR 5

Year 5 have been learning about different pieces of tinder and how they can be used to start a 'fist fire'. They have also had to 'feed it' fuel and give oxygen blows to sustain it.

Next half term (each year group does one block per term)

**Nursery and Busy Bees:** How and why to treat nature and wildlife with care and respect

**Year 1:** Conservation and nature

**Year 4:** Using tools and first aid

**Year 3:** Shelter building and navigation

**Year 6:** Using tools and first aid



# VISITS AND VISITORS

At Beaconside, we believe children learn best when they experience first-hand. Each half term, children will attend at least one educational visit designed to broaden experiences, enhance understanding and bring learning to life. This half term, three year groups have made their way up the Beacon. Our Busy Bees explored food at Pizza Hut while Year 5 developed resilience and self-belief through a visit to Keswick climbing Wall. Year 4 are still awaiting their rearranged visit to Leeds to enjoy the rainforest however Year 3 did enjoy their visit to Threlkeld mines to enhance their understanding of Rocks. Year 1 enhanced their outdoor learning and Science through a visit to the Watchtree Nature Reserve and Nursery teamed up with Sainsburys to learn where food comes from.



# NURSERY



This half term, the children have continue to follow their interests and explore and use their imagination both inside and out. They have been aided by some exciting enhancements to the outdoors including multipurpose structures that have sent the children's imaginations racing. The children have also enjoyed baking, painting and so much more.



# RECEPTION

The children have been learning about different role models this half term. They had a visit from the fire brigade and met both male and female fire fighters. They also had a special visit from the mayor as well as working with a local unsung hero Susie Grainger who does a lot of great work with the Ernest cook Trust.



# YEAR 1



Year 1 have been inspired by Lowry and Van Gogh this half term . They have used figures to help improve their painting skills and also tried to recreate famous pieces. The children also enjoyed their time learning about conservation and nature.



# BUSY BEES

This term in Busy Bees the children have been working hard on their fine motor skills by making their own playdough and then manipulating it into different shapes. They have tasted different foods from around the world and worked on number work and Phonics.



## YEAR 2

This time the children have been learning about inspirational women. This has included learning from famous female artists, Edwino Bridgeman and using inspiration to make their own peg people. The children have also learnt all about plants including planting hyacinths and learning about germination. The children have also been refining their map skills ready for their hike up the Beacon.



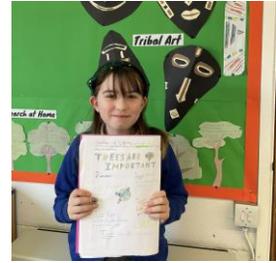
## YEAR 3

Year 3 have begun their learning about mountains, rivers and Landscapes. This has begun with researching local Rivers. The children have been learning about rocks in Science and have had lots of fun testing durability and learning about different rock types.



## YEAR 4

The children in Year 4 have been throwing themselves into the Rainforest. Their classrooms are “emerging” and will soon turn into “canopies”. The children have also been learning about living things and their habitats particularly species found in the tropical climates of Amazonia. In Art, the children have been getting messy in the search of their very own traditional face mask through the use of mod rock.



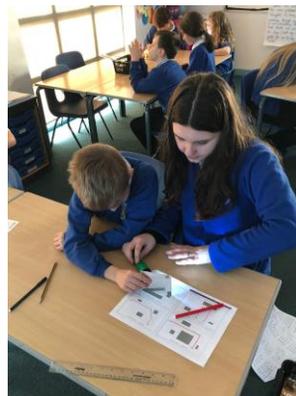
## YEAR 5

Year 5 have been studying Russia and America as part of a space themed topic. They have been learning about the space races in English and also about the comparisons in human and physical features of the two countries in geography. They have had a visit from a planetarium which has enhanced their Science unit on Earth and space which also included the phases of the moon.



## YEAR 6

Year 6 have begun their full term project on learning about natural disasters. Here they are exploring about how tsunamis, volcanoes and earthquakes impact around the world. They have been guided by recent events in Tonga and are now writing as the Tongan natives in need of aid. Children are also working hard on their flood prevention device.





# MUSIC



# SPORT



## Educational visits next half term

	Spring 2
Nursery	Visit to Aira Force Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 AM
Reception	Susan's Farm Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 – RG Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 - RP
Busy Bees	TBC- A visit themed around animals- March 22
Year 1	Visit to Hawkshead Relish Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Year 2	Visit to Eden Rock Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Year 3	Visit to Mungrisdale Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Year 4	Visit to the Beacon Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 PM – 4J Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 AM – 4B PM – 4S
Year 5	The Lounge, Penrith Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 AM – 5D Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 AM – 5T Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 AM – 5I
Year 6	Visit to Swindale Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2022 – 6S Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2022 – 6CG Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 – 6SG

### Experts

- 22.2.22 Rainforest workshop (Yr 4)
- 24.2.22 Hawkshead relish (Yr 1)
- 1.3.22 Wheelchair basketball (Yr2  
and Yr 6)
- 10.03.22- Ernest Trust- Yr 1
- 21.3.22- Roundthorn chef- Yr 5)
- 22.3.22 Fire brigade- First Aid (Yr 4)

...Learn To Live...  
... Learn To Shine...

### Residentials:

We can now confirm the residentials for the Summer term. This includes an overnight stay in every year group from Year 2-5 (Year 6 went in the Autumn term.) This has been carefully considered taking into account cost, taking into account cost of previous residentials and opting for more regular residentials with a similar total cost. It is incredibly important to us that every child has rich and varied experiences therefore if you do wish to discuss any concerns, financial or other, please do contact us and we will work with you to find a solution.

Letters will go out next half term with more information.

**Year 2:** 1 night in Windermere- The wonderful world of Beatrix Potter “ 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> June

**Year 3:** 1 night Camping on the school premises “Living like caveman” 27<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> April or 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> April (two slots)

**Year 4:** 2 nights Visit to the Sill- “Life as a Roman Soldier”

13-15<sup>th</sup> June or 15<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> June (two slots)

**Year 5:** 1 night Camping at Ratlingate- “Learning to survive” 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May or 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May (two slots)

### After school clubs:

After school clubs are now available to book on lunch shop and vary from Netball to Cooking, Tag Rugby to Gaelic football. We also have craft clubs, singing clubs for all ages and orchestra.

### Contact Us

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