

Dear Parents and Carers, Birch have had a brilliant beginning to the Autumn Term and have settled into new routines very well.

This newsletter is designed to inform you of what the children will be learning during the Autumn Term.

Maths: In Maths, the work we do in school is based around the three principles of fluency, problem solving and reasoning. This is taught through the Power Maths curriculum. During the Autumn Term, our children will be practising and extending their understanding of calculations, deepening their understanding of fractions, and furthering their skills in measurement. We will be working extremely hard on rapidly recalling times tables and we ask that you continue to work on these at home with your child as they form an integral part of accessing the maths curriculum. Times Table Rockstars is still available to use at home with the same username and password, which are in the front of your child's homework book.

English: Children will practise handwriting regularly and spelling daily as well as furthering their reading skills through regular reading skills and comprehension lessons, based on a wide variety of texts. Children will also learn to write through exploring different types of text including picture books, chapter books and poetry. Within English lessons, children will practise and understand grammar and build on their writing skills.

Science: This term children will learn about the human body and in particular the circulatory system. Activities will help them explore heart rates, understand how the lungs and the heart work to keep humans alive and learn about the history of our understanding of the circulatory system. In the second half term children will learn about the classification of living things.

Art: The children will be learning about artists from the Italian renaissance. They will practise skills based on famous art from that period.

Computing: Knowing how to keep safe online is an extremely important part of the computing curriculum and one which the children will continue to revisit throughout the year. In addition, this term they will be learning about coding.

French: During French lessons the children speak, read, write and sing in French. This term they will be studying the topics of "The Weekend" and "Clothes".

Geography: We will study Geography during the first half term our topic will be "spatial sense" which includes learning about lines of longitude and latitude, the equator and the poles.

History: We will be studying History after half term and will be learning about World War 1.

Music: In their music lessons the children will be developing a love of music through listening, singing and performing.

PE: PE will take place on a Friday afternoon this year. The children should come to school in their PE kit, wearing suitable shoes and with long hair tied back and earrings removed as appropriate. This term they will be completing a dance unit and will be playing tennis.

PSHE: Topics to be covered this term are "Being Me in My World" and "Celebrating Difference". The children are encouraged to take part in discussions and learn to treat the views of others with respect.

RE: We will be studying the faith of Islam before half term and considering how Muslims show commitment to God. After half term we will be finding out about Christian celebrations and traditions in the lead up to Christmas.