

Birch class Newsletter for spring term 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

In **English** there will be a focus on practising writing skills, with the aim of encouraging more independence and stamina for writing. Children have learnt lots of new writing skills over the Autumn term and will now need time to review those skills and put them into practise. The writing will focus mainly on suspense and mystery. Some of the texts children will study are: *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick* by Chris Van Allsburg and *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman.

In **maths**, the work children 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 spring term, our children will be practising and extending their understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages; algebra and measure. They will be working hard on rapid recall of 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.

Children will learn about electrical circuits in **science** lessons, exploring different components and discovering how electricity flows. They will design an electrical gadget.

As **artists**, children will explore Victorian art and architecture, including the houses of parliament as well as local Victorian architecture. They will then learn about the Pre-Raphaelite and realist art.

Computing this term will involve learning about graphing and making children's own graphs and using spreadsheets. Children

will also learn about online bullying and consider their own online reputations.

During **French** lessons the children speak, read, write and sing in French. This term they will be learning about daily routines as well as transport.

In **geography** lessons, children will study British geographical issues, including pollution and population data.

Children will learn about the **history** of the Suffragettes as well as the suffragists, finding out about some of the famous historical figures who were part of the movement that argued for voting rights for women.

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. They will focus on invasion games this term, including netball.

In **PSHE** Topics to be covered this term are “Dreams and goals” and “Healthy me”.

In **RE**, children will learn more about Christianity and will consider the questions: “Is anything eternal?” and “How strong a religion is Christianity after over 2000 years?”