

Birch Class Newsletter: Autumn Term 2

Class Teacher: Miss Trevor

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all settled into term two well. Birch class have been working so hard in their lessons this term. We have changed the days we do P.E. in Birch Class. On Wednesdays and Fridays, pupils have P.E. and are recommended to keep their kit in school after Wednesday's lesson.

Well done to the boys' football team, who showed great teamwork when partaking in the tournament this term. You did a great job of representing Weston St Mary!

This term, we have started some new clubs...
Booster Club (year six only) – Wednesday afternoons till 4:15 pm
Writing club (KS2 only) – Tuesday lunchtimes

This year will have many exciting learning opportunities. I look forward to sharing these opportunities with you as the year progresses.

You can find more information about our curriculum in this newsletter and follow Birch Class on X (previously known as Twitter) at @BirchWsm where we will share what we have been learning.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk to me. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Trevor

PE

Please ensure children arrive at school with P.E. kits and have earrings removed before the P.E. sessions.

For PE a T-shirt, jogging bottoms/shorts, jumper and trainers will be needed.

Spellings

Y5: Spellings will be tested on Wednesdays.

Y6: Spellings will be tested on Fridays.

Homework

Homework is given out each Friday to be returned the following Thursday for marking.

Reading

Pupils should be reading at least four times a week.

They are to make a note of their progress in their reading diary. Reading regularly at home supports your child's reading fluency and confidence.

Learning to read takes lots of practice. At school, we read as much as possible, but the time you spend reading with your child at home is worth every minute.

Autumn 1 Key Texts

These are the books we share in whole class reading, writing skills lessons and our class reader at the end of the day.

Tom's Midnight Garden

Cosmic by Frank Cottrell

The Origin of Species by Sabrina Radeva

Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo

Moth by Isabel Thomas

In Flanders Field by John McCrae

Science

In this unit, pupils will learn about the classification of living things. We will learn about the kingdoms into which living things are classified and how cells differ.

Key vocabulary for this term is:

- Taxonomy
- Organism
- Animal
- Plant

Writing Skills

In Writing Skills this term, we have looked at Cosmic, where the pupils predicted the end of the book for their big write.

For the upcoming weeks, pupils will look at non-chronological reports and poetry.

Maths

In Maths, we will be looking at fractions and converting units.

Times tables are an integral part of maths and aid children's learning. All pupils have Times Tables Rockstars log-ins and are welcome to practice them at home.

Geography

We will be learning about North America and the critical features of this continent.

The key vocabulary for this term is:

- United States of America
- State
- Mississippi River
- Biome

Birch Class's Curriculum Overview

PSHE & RE

In PSHE this term, our focus is 'celebrating difference'; we will look at what it is like to be different and how to celebrate this.

In RE, we will look at 'Do you have to believe in God to be good?' We will explore what it means to be 'good' and how religions view this.

PE

This term's focus is on dance and fitness.

In dance, we focus on choreography and work together to create dances.

In fitness, we are working on various activities exploring health and fitness, such as speed, stamina and strength.

Art

This term, children will be introduced to Renaissance Art and Architecture. We will be looking at the work of Michelangelo and Ghiberti.

Key vocabulary for this term is:

- Carve
- Guild
- Basilica
- Pope
- Linear perspective

Music

In music this term, we will be looking at Classroom Jazz. We will be using glockenspiels to create music in the form of Jazz.

Computing

This term, we will be focussing on using Python.

We will build on our coding skills and use nested loops within our commands.