



Birchwood Avenue Primary School

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Year 1 Class Summer Newsletter

Welcome back to the Summer Term! I hope you all thoroughly enjoyed the Easter break with your loved ones.

As we enter the summer term, our 'Learning Superpower' this half term will be 'Curiosity' where children will be encouraged to ask questions about the world in which we live. We feel, as a school, that our values underpin our learning behaviour and this is reflected in our work.

Our final term is very important as we have the upcoming Phonics screening in June. We will be sending home additional words to support phonics and help your child consolidate their learning. Please come and ask if you have any questions about the screening check.

PE

Our PE days this term are **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. It would be helpful if all PE kits are sent to school at the beginning of each week. It is advised that children wear trainers for PE, which are much more supportive than plimsolls. In PE this term, the children will be focusing on games that use their hands and feet. They will build their attack and defence skills in team games and develop their ability to use a bat or racket. In the second part of the term, we will also be preparing for sports day. All PE lessons will be outside this term, weather permitting. As the temperature rises it will be increasingly important to give access to water. **Please ensure your child has a bottle of water in class every day.**

Phonics and English

In phonics, the children will continue to work in small groups each day with an adult. They will learn new sounds, revise previously taught sounds and apply sound blending to reading and spelling new words. They will build on this by learning how to write sentences and using the correct punctuation. A Year One writer should be able to compose sentences, use capital letters and full stops and use joining words such as *and*. They should also be able to use spelling rules, for example, adding -ing or -ed to words. Within the English lessons, children will be learning to write informal letters, diary entries and poems.

Reading

Children should now be using their phonic knowledge to decode words and read accurately. They will continue to develop their reading by using sounds they learn to read books fluently and with more confidence. During reading sessions, we encourage children to talk about events, characters, thoughts

and feelings in books that they read. The children will continue to bring home a focus phonics book weekly. This will be linked to the text they are reading in their phonics group. It is important to read with your children for up to 15 minutes a day. This will help them to develop a love of reading, which they will carry with them throughout their lives. **Please sign your child's reading record every day.**

Maths

The focus for maths this term will continue to build on the number and place value units from last two terms. To begin with, the children will reinforce their understanding of place value to 50 and then begin to deepen their understanding of the operations of addition and subtraction. Following on from this, the children will learn how to multiply using scaling and counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. Learning to divide by sharing equally and unequally will then be taught. The children will be introduced to fractions, and will learn how to identify halves and quarters of shapes and objects. They will develop their understanding of place value in numbers to 100 and identify more and less than numbers to 100. They will learn to tell the time to the hour and half past the hour.

Science

This term, our science unit is Spring and Summer. We will be learning to describe the four seasons, particularly focusing on the Spring and Summer. Following this, the children will investigate how the weather changes from Winter to Spring and identify what happens to animals and plants in the springtime. They will also learn how the weather changes from Spring to Summer and think about how seasons can affect humans. During the second part of the summer term, we will learn about plants and the children will begin to identify and name a variety of common and wild garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees and to identify and describe the basic structure of plants and trees.

Geography

Our Geography unit this term is *The United Kingdom*. They will become familiar with maps of the United Kingdom and learn to recognise its shape and to locate it on a world map and a globe. Children will identify England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, as well as learning their capital cities, and locate their own town/city within the United Kingdom. They will also learn to recognise the four countries individual flags, as well as the Union Jack and what it represents. In the second part of the summer term, the learning will focus on the seaside. The children will learn about the physical and human geography, as well as considering the different activities that people do there.

PSHE

We follow the Jigsaw scheme for our PSHE. This term, we will be focusing on *Relationships* and *Changing Me*. Children will be considering what being a good friend means to them and understanding that there are different types of families. They will also be learning to understand the changes they see in themselves and others, as well as knowing who to ask for help if they are worried about change.

Art and Design

In Art and Design, the children will explore colour mixing. They will create secondary colours and use the colours that they make in their painting.

Design Technology

In Design Technology, the children will be focusing on cooking. The children will be learning how to identify what is a fruit or vegetable and look at where they grow. They will be tasting ingredients and make their own smoothie.

RE

During the Summer Term, the children will begin by exploring why new babies are considered special and what ceremonies different religions use to welcome them. In the second part of the term, we will ask the question, 'Why should we care for others?'. The children will look at the way different religions and what they say about caring for other people.

Computing

Across this term, we will look at a range of programmes and applications of computing with a focus on digital writing and programming animations. The children will also think about the rules which keep us safe online, the importance of passwords and what copyright means.

Homework

The children will bring home a phonics reading book each week. This will be linked to the text they are reading in their phonics group. It is important to read with your children for up to 15 minutes a day, as this will help them to develop a love of reading which they will carry with them throughout their lives. Each Friday, children will be set a maths task to consolidate their maths learning in class. In addition, children will also have several words each week that use the sounds they have been taught. Please get the children to read these and mark them with their sound buttons.

If you have any questions or queries, we are always happy to help.

With best wishes,

Your Year 1 team,

Mrs Mowatt, Mrs Bird and Miss Charalambous