



Birchwood Avenue Primary School

Headteacher: Miss E. Hall

www.birchwoodavenue.herts.sch.uk

Birchwood Avenue, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL10 0PS

☎01707 262503 ✉admin@birchwoodavenue.herts.sch.uk 📱@birchwoodavesch

The Hut 2025-2026 Summer Newsletter

We are pleased to welcome you to the summer term at Birchwood Avenue Primary School, as we begin our final term together. This term, we will focus on fostering curiosity by encouraging children to ask questions, explore, and solve problems. Our school values will continue to guide our learning and interactions.

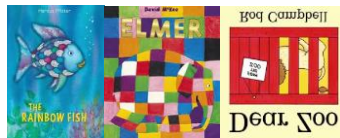
Phonics

We will continue to teach phonics this term. Children are regularly assessed to ensure they receive daily one-to-one support from an adult, enabling high-quality, and personalised learning. They will learn new sounds, practice letter formation, and blend sounds to read and spell words. Phonics knowledge will help children decode words and read accurately. Children will continue to develop their reading skills, using these sounds to read books fluently and confidently. This phase aims to consolidate their knowledge of graphemes, including reading and spelling words with adjacent consonants and polysyllabic words. They will practice saying a sound for each letter of the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs, blend sounds to read words and read aloud simple sentences and books that match their phonics knowledge, including some common exception words.



Literacy

We will continue to use Drawing Club, an imaginative approach that supports early writing, storytelling, and language skills. This term, we will explore a range of engaging texts, including *The Rainbow Fish*, *Elmer*, and *Dear Zoo*. Children will have opportunities to discuss their ideas, develop their imagination, write independently, and expand their vocabulary. They will work towards writing sentences independently with correct punctuation and grammar. Throughout the term, children will participate in daily handwriting sessions to practice letter formation and word writing. Additional writing opportunities will be provided during phonics lessons and throughout the curriculum.



Educating Hearts and Minds



Reading

Children have been reading with an adult every day in our class, and we will continue this practice in the final term. Reading builds vocabulary and introduces new words and phrases. Please continue to support your child to encourage a love of reading. They will bring home a book matched to their current reading level. We expect them to read for at least 10 minutes each evening, discuss the story, and talk about the characters and setting to deepen their understanding. This also helps children understand sentence structure, improves listening skills and attention, and fosters a love of stories.

Maths

This term, we will continue to help children develop a strong understanding of numbers to 10. They will practice recognising quantities up to 5 without counting, using rekenreks, and engage in activities that build their understanding of number magnitude. Children will use counting to compare quantities, identify numerical differences, and understand that numbers are composed of other numbers. They will explore how a whole can be regrouped into parts and how parts combine to form a whole, with emphasis on related vocabulary. We will encourage children to recall number bonds to 5, including subtraction facts. Children will also develop their understanding and use of positional language. Songs, stories, practical resources, and games will support and reinforce this learning.



PE

PE will take place on Thursdays. This term, children will learn different ways to control a ball and how exercise affects the body. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school, including suitable footwear. Both PE sessions will be held outdoors to take advantage of the summer weather, so appropriate trainers are required.

Science

In Science, children will learn about animals and their habitats, exploring both local species and those from other regions such as jungles, polar areas, deserts, and oceans. They will read books, watch videos, and participate in activities to enhance their understanding.

Music

This term, children will continue to develop core musical skills, learn about various musical instruments, and engage with music through songs and games.

History

This term, children will explore 'Adventures through Time' by comparing people from the past and present using photographs, listening to their stories, and learning about their achievements.



Educating Hearts and Minds



PSHE

During PSHE lessons, children will learn about relationships with family and friends, strategies for resolving disagreements, and ways to manage their emotions. We will encourage participation in discussions and activities to deepen their understanding.



While our learning is child-led, the curriculum is carefully planned to ensure progression towards the Early Learning Goals, with a strong focus on developing communication and language skills. We will continue to offer a wide range of learning opportunities to support your child's engagement and success. We look forward to this final term and are always happy to answer any questions. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Markus, Miss Williams, Mr Porter and Miss Eason



Educating Hearts and Minds

