



# Birchwood Avenue Primary School

Headteacher: Miss E. Hall

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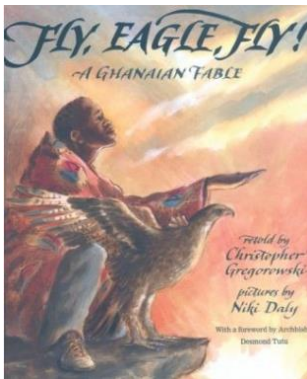
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Dear Families of Year 4,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We are looking forward to having an exciting Spring Term. Our Learning Superpower focus for this half term is 'empathy', where children will begin to understand the importance of understanding how others may be feeling.

Our PE days continue to be Wednesday and Friday. Children will be expected to wear the correct PE uniform (bearing the weather in mind) and getting changed independently at school; this includes wearing the correct house colour t-shirt. We complete our Daily Mile, each day, therefore I ask that children keep a pair of trainers at school so they are available to quickly put on before running. This term we are focusing on Invasions games and gymnastics.



In English, we will begin the Spring Term by focussing on persuasive writing. We will be looking at a variety of texts including 'Fly Eagle, Fly' and 'Arthur and the Golden Rope'. Pupils will deepen their understanding of character, setting, and themes while responding to rich and challenging narratives.

In Maths during the Spring Term, we will start by centring our learning around converting units of measurement. We will be interpreting and presenting data, by creating bar charts and time graphs. We will go on to measure and calculate the perimeter of rectilinear figures in centimetres and metres, and explore shape by comparing and classifying geometric shapes based on their properties and sizes. We will also be identifying lines of symmetry in 2-D shapes. By the end of the

Spring Term, we will solve problems using money and decimals.

In Science this term, we will be learning about 'classification and environments'. Within this unit, children will be learning about habitats and living things, before looking at how organisms depend on each other within a single ecosystem; they look at food chains and are introduced to the concept of a food web. They start their classification journey by revisiting vertebrate and their characteristics before moving onto

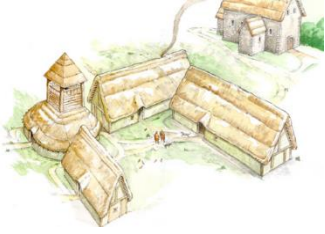


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invertebrate. Using their knowledge of animals, they will be constructing their own branching diagrams and classification keys. The children will then move onto classifying plants.

Pupils will apply their knowledge of the whole unit to discovering what is in their own local environment, considering the positive and negative impacts humans are having on their locality.



This term, we will be developing our knowledge on who the Anglo-Saxons. We will be understanding why they come to Great Britain, where they decided to settle and the impact they had on the lives of those who lived in Britain.

In Spring 2 we will be moving onto Geography, we will be understanding ‘where does our food come from?’ This will allow us to follow the journey from the seed and all the steps it follows before we are finally able to eat it.

During our PSHE lessons in the first half of the term, children will be discussing their ‘Dreams and Goals’. They will consider the steps they need to take to achieve a goal and explore the role of resilience when things do not go as planned. The focus for the second half of term will be ‘Healthy Me’. We will look at forming healthy friendships, and the impact that smoking and alcohol has on the body.

For the first half of the term, we will be focussing on Painting and mixed media: Light and dark in Art. Children will explore using dark and light colours during painting to different levels to their painting-. After the half term, we will focus on Design and Technology, revisiting making a mechanical system and creating a slingshot car.

In Spanish lessons, children will recap previous knowledge and develop their understanding on numbers and learning the 12 months of the year.

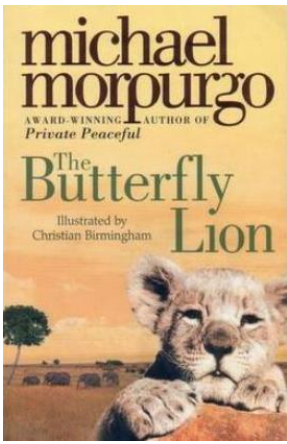
In Computing, for the first half term, children will learn Programming A – Repetition in shapes. They will explore how to programming and how it is useful on computers. The second half term will focus on Data and information – Data logging

During RE this term we will be focusing on ‘Just how important are our beliefs?’ and the steps people take in their faith and beliefs such as being baptised. This will then be followed by understanding ‘Who Jesus really was’.



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Whole Class Guided Reading will continue as usual. As a class, we need to build on our inference skills (as well as develop other skills) and be able to delve deeper into how each character is feeling. As a class we will be reading and interpreting 'The Butterfly Lion' within our guided reading lessons Monday – Thursday. With Friday focusing on comprehension with a wider range of texts. Please continue to support your child, to encourage a love of reading. They will continue to bring a reading book home each week linked to their current reading level. We expect them to read for at least 10 minutes each evening.

In our music lessons taught by Mr Pettifer we will be looking and improvising and composing. This will allow the children to have time performing, composing and listening to music and focusing on recognising simple structure they have heard

within the music.

I look forward to the coming term and am always happy to answer any queries (preferably at the end of the day once all the children have been dismissed).

Many thanks,

Mr Connolly

Year 4 Class Teacher



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