



Birch Autumn Newsletter



English

To start the year, we will be basing our work around Journey by Aaron Becker – a beautifully illustrated, wordless book that takes readers on a magical adventure.

We will then move on to The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson, a charming and thoughtful story that offers great opportunities for reading and writing development.

Throughout these texts, we will focus on sentence structure, using adventurous vocabulary, and developing our ideas in writing.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will begin by exploring place value, helping the children build a strong understanding of how numbers work and relate to each other.

Once confident, we will move on to addition and subtraction, using a range of strategies to solve problems. Later in the term, we will introduce multiplication and division, continuing to build fluency and confidence with number operations. Throughout, we'll use a mix of practical activities, games, and problem-solving tasks to make learning engaging and meaningful.

You can support your child at home by practising number bonds, counting in steps

Art and DT

In Art, we will be going on an exploration of coal mining, inspired by the work of Henry Moore. We'll be investigating his powerful "Drawings in the Dark", which capture the lives of miners, before creating our own artwork using similar techniques.

In Design and Technology, we'll be developing our textile skills by designing and making fabric pouches. This will include learning basic sewing techniques and thinking carefully about function and design.

PE

On Monday, children will be learning dance.

On Wednesday, children will be visited by Shrewsbury football club where they will be taught 'Reading the game' which is an excellent way to learn football.

Children will need their school PE kit: a plain royal blue, pale blue, or white t-shirt (or one with the school logo), with plain black or navy shorts, jogging bottoms, or leggings.

Science

To start the year, we will be learning about Animals. We will learn about the different between babies and adults, how to keep healthy and what animals need for survival.

Following this, we will be investigating animal habitats. We will learn about where different animals live.

Computing

We are starting the year by learning about internet safety before we move on to creating media and learning how to be audio engineers.

RE

We are going to start the year by learning about the Creation story. We will learn about what Christians believe and how the Bible says the World was created.

As we near Christmas we will be answering the question: Why does Christmas Matter to Christians?

PSHE

We are going to learn about what makes a good friend and what bullying is and what to do if we experience or witness bullying.

Read Write Inc!

To start the year, all children will be taking part in Read Write Inc lessons. During these lessons, children will develop important skills in inference, decoding, fluency, retrieval, prediction, sequencing and summarising. They will also be working on spelling and handwriting during these sessions. As the year progresses, we will be moving on to other forms of reading comprehension to support these areas.

You can support your children at home by practising reading daily, reviewing the spelling words found within the Read Write Inc books and encouraging them to practice handwriting.

We also strongly encourage children to read a variety of books outside of the Read Write Inc. scheme to help develop a wider reading experience and foster a love of reading. This could include picture books, storybooks, non-fiction, comics, or anything your child enjoys