

Inventions and Discoveries



Welcome back! We hope that you and the children have had a very enjoyable Christmas break and we wish you all a happy new year! We would like to say a huge thank you for all the cards, gifts and kind messages at the end of term. We look forward to another exciting term packed with learning and fun. Following the success of our showcase days last term, a new homework grid will be uploaded this week and we look forward to seeing children's creativity flourish again this term. We are so proud of the children for their Phonics learning last term and we will continue to embed these skills in our reading and writing. We look forward to discussing your child's progress in Year 2 at our parents evening at the end of January.

Spellings - Spellings will continue to be sent home in spelling books which must be returned to school each Friday for them to practise and complete their test in. Please help your child to practise their spellings regularly at home. The full list of common exception words alongside other useful home learning resources can be accessed on the website under the 'Year 2 Home Learning' tab.

Reading Books - Please continue to ensure that children are reading each night and change their book at least once per week. As always, once your child has completed their book, please comment and sign their reading communication diary so we know it is ready to be changed. VIPERS can be found in the back of your child's reading diary to help with comprehension skills.

Numbots - Please continue to encourage your child to access Numbots throughout the week to consolidate their Maths learning. Access will continue to be monitored. Thank you for your support with this.

Games with Coach Chris will continue on a Friday and PE will take place on a Wednesday. As a reminder, PE kits should be sent into school on a Monday and come home on a Friday. Please ensure all jewellery (including earrings and watches) and removed. As a reminder, children should continue to bring a filled, named water bottle every day to school. As always, should you have any questions about your child's learning, please send us an email, shulme@birches.staffs.sch.uk / kkandola@birches.staffs.sch.uk and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

Best wishes, Miss Hulme and Mrs Kandola

Y2 dates to note this half term – Y2 Trip (to be communicated), SATs information, Chinese New Year, Arts Week, Parents Evening, Mid-year Reports, Safer Internet Day, Children's Mental Health Week

English

This term, we will continue to read a range of quality texts to develop pleasure in reading and improve our comprehension skills. The children have chosen the books that they would like to share during ERIC time for our class library. We will be learning about the features of Non-Chronological Reports in order for us to write our own. We will also be learning about adventure stories and write our own sequel to the story of Flat Stanley. We will focus on using adjectives and descriptive phrases and using a range of conjunctions to extend our sentences.

Arts We will develop our Art and Design Skills by replicating the recognisable crockery of Clarice Cliff, exploring tone through shading, developing weaving skills, the manipulation of clay and experimenting with brush strokes.

Design Technology We will explore textiles as an introduction to sewing. We will make our own template, accurately cut our fabric and sew a basic running stitch when making a pouch.

Music As musicians, we will use instruments to represent animals. We will copy rhythms, learn a traditional African call and response song and recognise simple notation, progressing to creating animal-based call and response rhythms.

Religious Education We will talk about how symbolic actions, gestures and rituals are used as part of worship & ceremonies, and in daily lives of believers in different religions.

Computing After consolidation our learning on Coding, we will extend our computer skills by using and creating spreadsheets. Then we will learn to use 2Paint to create pictures using technology.

History

As Historians, the children will be finding out about the role of an inventor and exploring how nurses and medicine have changed over time. We will also explore how transport has changed over time and explore inventors and engineers who have shaped Britain and society.

Geography

Later in the term, we will be studying the UK, focusing on the 4 countries of the UK and their capital cities. We will also learn about the seas of the UK and what causes waves in the sea. We will understand what effect waves have on coastlines and compare and contrast London and Codsall.

Maths We will continue to consolidate our addition and subtraction methods involving 2-digit numbers.. We will then understand how equal groups link to multiplication and division and demonstrate our ability to recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We will demonstrate our confidence in these skills by reasoning and solving problems. Throughout the term, we will continue to develop and use our mental methods focusing on numbers bonds to 10, 20 and 100 whilst exploring related facts. We will continue to use concrete materials, pictorial methods and abstract methods to consolidate our understanding.

Science / STEM

This term, the children will be starting our new topic of: Animals including Humans. We will learn about how animals and humans change as they grow and we will find out about the basic needs of animals and humans, for survival. By 'working scientifically' children will explore the effects of exercise on their bodies and understand its importance. We will learn about different food types and understand why it is important to be hygienic.

PE / Games We will use simple movement patterns in Dance showing control, co-ordination and varying level, direction and speed. We will continue to develop fundamental movement skills with Coach Chris in Games.

PSHE We will learn that families are composed of different people who offer each other care and support; how other people show their feelings and how to respond.

British Values Focus: Democracy.

Birches Values Focus: Curiosity