



Greenfield Primary School

Excellence and Enjoyment for All

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Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you enjoyed the summer holidays and are ready for the first term of the year. Here's a quick overview of the subjects and topics that will be taught in Class 3 (Birch Class) over the next term and some information regarding homework and PE. I hope you find this useful.

Maths

The focus this term will be number. We will be looking at the themes of 'Place Value' and 'Addition and Subtraction'. This year the children will need to be able to spot times table facts and number bonds so lots of extra work on these at home would be great using sites like Times Table Rockstars and Hit the button.

English

This first term we will be focusing on recapping and embedding some key English skills and language. This will include:

- Handwriting – we will be focusing heavily on presentation of work, speed and fluency. Writing with the correct formation of letters, size and position will be the focus for this first term. We will link handwriting to spellings as learning to join words helps a lot of children (kinesthetic learners) to learn their spellings as they can 'feel' how the word is spelt.
- Spelling – children will explore and learn a different spelling rule and pattern each week and the spellings sent home will reinforce that week's pattern.
- Grammar – indentifying different word types, using the correct tense, improving and extending writing with the use of conjunctions.

Our main English sessions will focus around our class novels and topic. Most of our writing will be drawn from these. Our first class novels will be 'Stone Age Boy' and 'How to wash a woolly mammoth'. Reading a range of books, reading regularly and enjoying sharing stories really help children with their writing. It helps children to see how different texts are structured and gives them a variety and breadth of language they can then transfer to their own work.

We will also base some of our writing around Literacy Shed Videos.

Topics

This term Birch Class will be working on the topic 'Who first lived in Britain?'

During this topic we will be looking at a variety of things including:

- Where in history did the Stone Age happen?
- What do archaeologists help us to understand?
- What were different Stone Age tools used for?
- How did the early Stone Age people survive?
- What is a settlement?
- What are the differences between Skara Brae and Greenfield?
- What is the cultural significance of Stonehenge?



- What happened after the Stone Age?
- What were Bronze Age artefacts like?
- Why was trade important in the Bronze Age?
- How did people in the Bronze Age and Iron Age survive?
- How is an Iron Age settlement different to Greenfield?

As a school we approach each of our topics with a 'big question'. During each topic lesson we then answer a 'small question' linked to our topic which provides a basis for what our lesson will be about.

Science

The science topics being taught this term will be 'Skeletons, movement, nutrition and diet and food waste'. These sessions will include a number of practical activities and experiments. Children will be expected to write up their experiments and discuss aspect such as fair testing, conclusions and presenting data.

Other subjects

We will have at least one hour of discreet Computing each week as well as using ICT as part of some of our other lessons in the classroom. In Spanish sessions, we will be looking at the Spanish alphabet and we will be learning how to say dates in Spanish. We will also have weekly music, art, PSHE and RE lessons.

PE will be taught by a Sports Development Coach on a Monday who will teach dance and by myself on a Thursday. School PE kit is expected to be worn for all PE lessons and any sports clubs attended. All children should come to school in their PE kits on our PE days.

Homework

Homework is a really useful way for children to reinforce and develop the skills they've been learning in class and for parents to have an insight in to what their child is learning at school and how confident they are with it. Homework will be sent home every Friday and will consist of spellings to be practiced on Spelling Shed, times tables to practise on TTRockstars, sentence building activities to be completed in their homework books and a reading book to be shared and discussed at home. Children can keep their school reading book at home until it has been read in full to an adult. It can then be returned to school so that it can be swapped. Please add a comment into your child's reading record when they read to you at home. Please can all homework be completed by the following Friday at the latest.

I hope that this information will be useful and may I take this opportunity to invite you to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns. The best way to do this is to contact the office.

Please keep an eye on our website, especially our class page! Here's looking forward to a happy and successful school year together!

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Miss Sellers
Birch Class – Year 3