

What's on this term...

Birch Class



MATHS: We will be using a combination of resources to help the children with their maths learning. In the main, we will follow the age related support resources from White Rose and support and challenge where appropriate. To help with engagement, interest and to develop problem solving skills, the children will be given weekly investigations where they will need to apply their knowledge to a range of enquiries where there may be several possible solutions or strategies to be applied. This is because maths is not something that only happens on a piece of paper – they will need to develop their ability to apply their knowledge in a range of situations as they get older.

WRITING: we started by learning from a wonderful book called, '*Animalium*' by Jenny Broom. It is an explanation text that gives fascinating but accessible details about the animal kingdom – the children learn skills that the writer uses and applied them in their own independent writing about their chosen creatures for a class book. After half-term we will learn from a fiction text, '*Straw into Gold*' by Hilary McKay which is a lovely retelling of some familiar fairy tales, focusing on the perspectives of other characters from the stories.

READING: In our whole class reading sessions, the children will be reading from '*The Girl of Ink and Stars*' by Kiran Millwood Hargrave, another renowned text that tells the story of Isabella as she embarks on an epic adventure, following a map left by her father.

PSHE: Our topic for the first half term is careers. We'll study the skills required for a range of jobs and learn about transferable skills, discovering their own strengths and areas for development in skills for the workplace. We'll cover reasons why people work different hours and what the differences between being employed and self-employed. All of this links well with Preparation for Adulthood work where we're starting to explore their potential next steps.

FOOD TECH & NUTRITION: we will be exploring making some basic dishes to start the year such as pancakes, smash burgers and pizzas and this will be combined with some of the key kitchen safety and hygiene skills as they complete their jobs. It is crucial that, as they develop their repertoire of dishes they can make, they learn the importance of working safely and cleaning-up as they go.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: In our RE sessions the children are investigating the big question: 'What does it mean for Christians to believe that God is holy and loving?' The class will study different accounts from the bible and analyse parables to unpick the deep meanings hidden within. After half-term the children will be learning about what it is like to be a Muslim in the UK today.

PROJECT BASED LEARNING: This term we have a Geography focus. The children will be answering our learning question: 'What is America like and how does it differ from the UK?' We will cover some basics, such as where countries are on the globe, developing our atlas skills. We will discover and evaluate human and physical features as well as detailed analysis of the linked social and artistic similarities and differences.

FOREST SCHOOL: we're going to be getting familiar with their new forest school site and rediscovering campfire cooking skills with Paul each week. Children will also be developing their teambuilding and dynamic risk assessment skills through a range of outdoor activities.

PE: we are learning about basic team games and then moving on to circuit training later in the term.