

What's on this term...

Summer 2026

Birch Class



English: we're beginning with a persuasive writing unit. The children will learn various persuasive techniques such as powerful verb choices, rhetorical questioning and elaborate noun phrasing. After half term we will do our final narrative piece of writing for the year and this will be based on *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo. We have enjoyed reading *War Horse* by the same author so it makes sense to spend some more time analysing his writing style and use this to learn some new skills.

Maths: we'll cover Pythagoras's Theorem, Graphs, Probability, Transformations and Angles in Polygons. We will also be completing weekly challenges designed to develop the children's problem solving and reasoning skills.

Project Based Learning: we have a Design and Technology based unit –designing and making simple electric toys. The children will learn to be confident at making circuits and understanding how and why they work or don't work. Within this, we will be learning about light in Science and how that affects how we experience the world. In Art sessions, we will be looking at Futurism and how they used light and power to create their stunning artworks.

PSHE: we will begin by returning to Autonomy and Advocacy where the children will learn more about assertive communication, healthy/unhealthy relationships and conflict resolution. After May half-term, we will cover Choices and Influences. We will cover drugs and alcohol and tobacco, first aid, and the importance of physical activity.

Preparation for Adulthood: we will learn about which jobs require knowledge of core subjects like maths and English. The class will visit Ashburton town to investigate where these jobs are in the community. We will move onto investigating apprenticeships and traineeships around the local area.

Religious Education: we'll learn why some people believe in God and some do not. This is a nice topic to analyse how different people behave and why which is always an interesting thing to study.

Computing: we are going to be learning how to use Microbits; these are small computers which can be programmed for lots of different uses. We will make timers and counters as well as experiment with their other functions including motion and sound.

Forest School: warmer weather allows students to engage in freer flowing conversations sat around the fire. The mood is very upbeat with lots of energy and high spirits. Our students have become experts in the basic skills of Forest School like fire lighting, cooking over a fire and knife skills, so are naturally using the Forest environment to build some fantastic new friendships and use it as an outdoor space to explore their emotions and feelings, without pressure. Finally, we have a new, exciting project for all of us to work towards together - a large tree stump which we will use to design and create some new furniture for the Forest (we are thinking of making a Grand Forest Throne!).

PE: students will be introduced to Rounders and develop their understanding of its rules, skills, and tactics. Lessons will focus on building key batting, bowling, and fielding techniques, including striking the ball accurately, throwing and catching with control, and working effectively as part of a team. Through a range of drills, conditioned games, and full matches, pupils will improve their hand-eye coordination, communication, and decision-making.