Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow

Autumn Term I



Friday 4th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to Birch Class!

I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer and are excited about returning to school to begin a brand-new academic year. Along with this letter, you will receive a copy of this term's topic web, which provides an outline of the teaching and learning experiences planned for the Autumn Term.

The start of the term will focus on helping the children settle back into school and adapt to new teachers, routines, a new learning environment, and increased expectations. We will support the children through these new experiences and help them make a smooth transition into their new class.

Reading

This year, Birch Class will continue to read Little Wandle reading books, which were also used throughout Reception and Year 1. Each week, your child will bring home a new reading book along with a reading record. The reading record allows you to record home reading and helps us stay involved in your child's reading journey.

We encourage children to read daily whenever possible. Re-reading familiar books is especially valuable, as it helps children develop fluency, expression and a deeper understanding of the text. It also provides opportunities to consolidate and embed tricky words, grapheme-phoneme correspondences (GPCs) and high-frequency words.

In addition, your child will have the opportunity to take home a sharing book from the library. This is a book for parents and children to enjoy reading together. We visit the library once a week, and children are welcome to change their sharing book weekly if they wish.

Please ensure that all books are looked after carefully. If just one book from a set is lost, the entire set becomes unusable. We would appreciate it if reading books, which will be provided in a plastic wallet, could remain in your child's book bag and only be removed when needed for reading before being returned immediately afterwards. We also kindly ask that water bottles are not placed inside book bags, as spillages can cause damage to books.

Books will be changed every Friday.

Thank you for your support with this.

Spellings

Children will receive a new set of spellings each week and will be tested every Friday. Spellings will be marked, and new spellings will be sent home on a Monday.

The first set of spellings will be given out on Monday 7th September in preparation for the first spelling test on Friday 8th September.

Children are encouraged to practise their spellings at home in the front of their spelling books with parental support. The results of spelling tests will be recorded in the back of the spelling book so that you can monitor your child's progress.

PE

In addition to completing the daily Golden Mile, children will have PE lessons on **Tuesdays** (indoor) and **Fridays** (outdoor). Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on these days.

If your child wears earrings, they should be removed on PE days. Alternatively, medical tape may be kept in their PE bag so that they can cover their earrings themselves. Please note that children are responsible for applying and removing the tape.

Children with long hair must always have it tied back for PE lessons.

Home Learning and Communication

Please ensure that your child brings their book bag to school every day, as important letters, reading books and spelling books will be sent home regularly. We greatly appreciate your support in helping your child practise their reading and spellings at home, as this makes a significant difference to their progress and confidence.

If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We value working in partnership with parents and carers and look forward to supporting your child throughout the year.

Value

In Term 1 we will be learning all about "Thankfulness"

Thinking of good things
Happy memories
All creation praising God
Not taking anything for granted
Keeping focused on the positive
Feeling blessed
Understanding the sacrifices people make for us
Living joyfully
Not complaining
Expressing gratitude to God
Saying thank you to those who help us
Showing gratefulness by our deeds



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to phone or make an appointment via the School Office.

We are very much looking forward to a happy, exciting and successful year of learning with your children.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Dancer, Miss Ayres, Mrs Titchener and Miss Fry