



Birch Class

Spring Term 2021-22

Dear parents/carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you have had a restful and healthy Christmas break and your child is ready for an exciting new school term. This letter is to outline our expectations and share with you what will be happening in Birch class during the Spring Term.

This term Birch class will be continued to be taught by Mrs. Clarke on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with Mrs. Hurst will be teaching on Thursday and Friday. During the week we are supported by Mrs. Perkins. We are here to work with you for the best outcomes for all the children so if you would like to contact us at any time please either wait until we have dismissed the children at the end of the day to speak to us or call the school office who can pass a message on or let us know to return your call.

Our topic next term is *Continents of the World*. Please see the accompanying grid for more details of what we will be covering this term in our main subject areas.

PE: Our PE day is now Friday and all children need to arrive at school in their PE kit. The children will be taught by Mr Smith who is a PE specialist. The children enjoyed their taster lesson with him a few weeks ago and we look forward to welcoming him to St. Nicholas School in January. We also take part in the daily mile each day but this is done in normal school uniform.

Uniform: We expect each child to be dressed in the correct school uniform. If a problem arises and uniform is not available please let us know.

Jewellery, other than a watch (that is not interactive and does not makes sounds) or small stud earrings, is not allowed. On PE days all watches must remain at home and earrings must be removed before coming into school.

Make up (including nail varnish) must not be worn at school.

Hair must be neat, tidy and practical for school. All hair that is longer than shoulder length must be tied back.

Snack and Water bottles: Snack is not provided for KS2. If you wish to send your child in with a break time snack this must be fruit or vegetables only. A reminder that packed lunches and snacks can not contain nuts due to allergies within our school so please ensure you thoroughly check every item that is sent in. Please can you ensure that your child has a named water bottle brought into school each day, many of our children are forgetting to do this at the moment.

Reading: Daily reading at home is vital to helping children develop as independent and enthusiastic readers. Reading books will be checked and changed on a regular basis and used within class so children must bring their reading book and log in each day. Please remember to enter into their reading log when they are heard read at home. Children complete a daily class reading lesson where children read aloud everyday using a shared text.

Times tables: Times tables are always vitally important to your child's success but even more so in Year 4 as by the end of the year they should be able to recall and apply all multiplication tables to 12x12 as well as being able to apply this skill and knowledge to related division facts e.g., $2 \times 5 = 10$ so $10 \div 2 = 5$. We practice these daily in school and would appreciate lots of support in continuing to learn tables at home too. Please continue to use Times Table Rockstars regularly throughout the week as this is excellent practise for rapid recall of their times tables facts.

Spellings: A statutory spelling words sheet has been sent home at the beginning of the year, these are the words the children will be focusing their learning on over the year. If you have misplaced this please let us know and we will send a new one home. Please support them in practicing to read and write them, mixing up the order and choosing a few at a time to focus on.

Thank you for ongoing support,

Mrs Clarke and Mrs Hurst.