



# Birch Class News

## PE

There is a change to our PE days this term. We will be working with the PE Service to do Athletics based fundamental movement on a **Tuesday** and working on passing a ball and using space on a **Wednesday**. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school, unless we have made specific arrangements for your child to wear their PE kit to school on these days.

Welcome back to the Summer Term . We can hardly believe that we are at the start of our final term in Year One. The children have made so much progress and are confident and enthusiastic learners. It was lovely to share this with you at Parents' /Carers' Evening before the holidays and we would like to thank you for all of your positive comments and ongoing support.

As well as a new Geography based topic where we will be exploring Newcastle and the North East, we are looking forward to learning more about plants and trees in Science, as well as making our own seaside landscapes in Art.

In RE this half term we will be learning about the Muslim festival of Eid and the traditions of Ramadan. If you have any photographs or special items that your could share with us, or if you would like to come in and talk to the children about Eid and Ramadan, this would be greatly appreciated.

More details about our learning this half term can be found with the attached curriculum information. Please ask us if you have any further questions about this.

The photos below are a snapshot from last term. We were particularly proud of the children during their trip to Woodhorn Colliery. They represented our school very well indeed and loved learning about the life of a coal miner. Please follow us on X @BirchclassHFS to see more photos like these.



Much of our PSHE work in Year One so far has focused on our relationships with family and friends. We have explored our own feelings and those of the people around us, considering what we can do when there is a problem in our friendships. Supporting the children with their friendships is part of our job in school and as class teachers we are in daily dialogue with the children about kindness and treating our friends with care and respect at playtimes. We are passionate about ensuring children feel both happy and secure and we work hard to make them feel safe and cared for at school. We are also having a whole school focus on kindness with the introduction of "a summer of kindness" Children from each class will be part of a kindness team, encouraging others to treat each other with kindness and respect. We have play leaders who encourage and lead active games at play time which support our PE Values and last term the Sports service also worked with Year One children to help them to learn new playground games. This term we will be enjoying a skipping workshop to support the children further with their play and encourage happy active playtimes. Please do continue to communicate any concerns or worries you or your child may have about playtime issues.

We are pleased to welcome back student teacher Kelly Stephenson to Birch Class this term.

Mrs Stephenson will be completing her final teaching placement beginning this week and she will be with us until mid June.

We will be holding a Phonics meeting in the next few weeks to give you information about our preparation for The Year 1 Phonics Screen at the beginning of June: more information to follow. If you have any questions about this or need any further information about anything else please do not hesitate to get in touch via e mail or telephone

Many Thanks

Sally McMillan and Heidi Walker.

