



Birch Class News

Welcome back to Birch Class!

I hope that you all had an enjoyable and restful half term holiday. Last term, we were both impressed and delighted with how well everyone has settled in to Year One. We have a fantastic bunch of children, who are happy and making good progress. We appreciate all of the support you are providing at home and are looking forward to another half term packed with learning opportunities.

This next term, the run up to Christmas is always a busy time. We have already begun to learn the songs for our Year One Christmas Show and we look forward to performing for you on Wednesday 14th December.

We have a new Topic in Year One this half term "How were our Grandparents toys different to ours?" This is a History based topic where we will be finding out about how toys and schools were different in the past. If there are any Grandparents who would like to come in and talk to the children about the toys they played with and their time at school we would be delighted to welcome them in. Any old photographs or toys for us to look at would also be greatly appreciated. More details about this topic can be found with the attached curriculum information.

Homework/Handwriting:

Thank you for all of your support with homework last half term.

Writing and handwriting is a huge priority for us in Year One. We are finding that many children are struggling with correct letter formation. We have noticed lots of reversals including the letters 's' 'p' 'z' and 'j' - 'b' and 'd' are often commonly confused and we regularly refer to the image above to help us to remember the correct formation. You can support us with this by ensuring that when writing at home, children form their letters correctly; hold their pencil using the correct grip and write letters the correct relative size to one another. Please do also correct any reversals, including numbers.

PE

Our PE Days in Birch Class will be **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**. As you have already heard from Ms McKenna the children will be coming into school in their PE kits on these days. This allows us to fit more of the Year One curriculum in on PE days. As you know this is temporary and we will be reverting back to the children changing in school in the Spring. In the meantime, please encourage independence at home when the children dress each day.

The photos below are a snapshot of learning from last half term. Please follow us on Twitter to find out more about our learning in Birch Class. We are @BirchclassHFS



We continue to work hard to ensure that the children are happy and settled and as ever communication between home and school is key. We look forward to meeting with you at the progress meetings on 7th/8th November, but in the meantime please do not hesitate to pop in and see me or to contact me by telephone if you have any queries or concerns.

I am also usually available before and after school.

Many Thanks
Sally McMillan