



# Birch Class News

Welcome to Birch Class.

We hope you have all enjoyed the summer holidays and are ready for the exciting year ahead.

Our Class coffee morning will take place at 9.00am on Wednesday 13th September. This will give us the chance to provide you with more information about Year One and to answer any questions you might have. Do let us know if you are unable to attend and we will send any information shared on parent mail.

It has been lovely to get to know the children this week. They have all made a fantastic start and impressed us with how very grown up and independent they are.

This year we welcome Mrs Heidi Walker to the Year One team. She will be teaching Birch class on Thursdays and Hazel Class on Fridays. Mrs Walker has a wealth of experience teaching in both K.S 2 and K.S 1 at Havannah. She is our Outdoor Learning lead, so we look forward to using her knowledge and expertise in taking more of our Year One curriculum outdoors. Please refer to the curriculum information to see an overview of our learning this half term.

## Reading

The children will be bringing a reading book home at the beginning of next week, as well as a sharing book for you to read together. We will be changing the children's books weekly and we will be explaining more about how this will work at our coffee morning.

In your child's new reading record, you will find useful information including phonics and a list of the new common exception words which children need to learn how to read and spell by the end of Year 1, this is something that you can support your child with throughout the year.

## PE

Our PE Days in Year One will be **Wednesdays and Fridays** this half term. The children will have gymnastics with Newcastle PE school Sports Service on a Wednesday and NUF for fundamental movement on a Friday.

Please follow us on X (formally known as Twitter!) to keep up to date with our learning. We are @BirchclassHFS

## Welcome to Year 1



## Support Staff and Transition

We are very lucky to have both Mrs B and Mrs En- Ju Liu supporting in Birch Class this year. Both members of staff are familiar to the children as they have both worked as lunch time supervisors in school. Mrs B also worked in Birch Class last academic year, so she has an excellent understanding of the Year One curriculum and routines. The Year One team have also been busy developing our empty Year One classroom during the summer. The children will have opportunities to access the play based learning and continuous provision that we have set up in Maple Class, supporting their transition from Reception.

We are working hard to ensure that the children are happy and settled and as ever communication between home and school is key. We are really looking forward to working with you to ensure that this is another great year for your child at Havannah First School.

We are usually available before and after school, so please do not hesitate to pop in or contact us by telephone if you have any queries or concerns.

Many Thanks

Sally McMillan and Heidi Walker