

## Autumn Term 1 Newsletter 2020

### Birch Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Wygate! After what seems like forever, I was delighted to welcome the children back to school last week. They have all returned enthusiastic about the exciting things planned for this term and ready to learn, which has been great to see. I have been incredibly impressed with how hard they are working and their eagerness towards all tasks given to them. What a great year we are going to have!

This newsletter is to remind you of some of the important dates and events coming up this term so that you can feel fully prepared and informed.

Thank you, as always, for continuing to support your child and the school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Gough

### Important dates and information

#### Start and Finish Times

Year 6 pupils should arrive at school between 9.10-9.20 (unless the children have younger siblings in school) and they end finish 3.30- 3.40. It is important that these timings are adhered to so that we can minimise the numbers of children arriving on site at one time.

#### Curriculum Evening

There will be a meeting for Year 6 parents on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 3.30 in the school hall. This is a great opportunity for you to come and meet your child's new teacher, see what will be happening in Year 6 and to ask any questions.

If you wish to attend, you must inform the office so that we can monitor the numbers entering the school. We also ask that only one adult per household attends.

You will be asked to sanitise your hands on entering the school and we request that you wear face masks if you are able to.

Areas which will be covered at the meeting include:

- Classroom Expectations
- Knowledge Organisers/Topics
- Reading Books and how parents can support reading
- New school reward system
- SATs

**Birch Class**

- Homework
- On-line learning tools- Reading eggs/Times Tables Rockstars
- The 'Wygate Way'

If you are unable to attend do not worry! We will make sure that the packs given to parents at the Curriculum Evening will be sent home to all parents who cannot attend.

**Reading Books**

Reading books will be sent home in week 3. As we have not seen the children in so long it is vital that we spend some time to accurately assess their current reading levels. We would like to encourage you to continue to spend time reading with your children at home and record when you have listened to them in their reading records. We suggest that this be done three times a week. Prior to the reading books being sent home, the children can access books to read online at [readingeggs.com](https://www.readingeggs.com). Every child has a username and password for this. They will also have a 'reading for pleasure' book that they have chosen in their reading folders.

If you would like some ideas on how to support your child's reading at home, please use the following link:  
<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/reading-tips/>

**Attendance**

Should your child be ill, please phone the school office to inform them of your child's absence.

**Water Bottles**

Water bottles can be brought into school but will remain in the children's bags during the day. Children will be able to access their water bottles when required.

**Swimming**

Due to the ongoing situation with Covid- 19 swimming is will not take place at this current time. We will provide you with more information regarding this when we have it.

**P.E. kits**

This year PE will take place on a **Thursday**. Please can you make sure that your child has a PE kit in school each week. We recommend that PE kits are taken home regularly and washed.

Please will all parents and carers check that their children have labels in their kit with their name on or that their name is written on the labels in fabric pen. Alternatively, kits are now available on Amazon and other websites where you can have your child's name and class printed onto stickers. These are stuck onto the labels of the children's clothes and do not come off in the wash.

**Head lice**

We would like to remind children with long hair that it is important to keep it tied up to minimise the risk of catching head lice and to keep the children safe during P.E. and practical Science lessons.

**Homework**



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Homework will be set on a Friday and is due in every Wednesday. The homework is always explained to the children. If the children or you have any questions, I will be happy to run through the work with you. In Year 6, we do not use the 'Pick and Mix' system that your child will have used in previous years. Instead, they will be given a short reading comprehension, a SPAG activity and a maths activity. This is more in line with what they may receive at Secondary School and Year 6 is a great time to get them into good homework habits!

### Spelling Journal

Spellings are set every Friday and the weekly spelling quiz is also on a Friday. The children will write their spelling scores in their spelling journals and these will then be sent home for parents to look at. In Year 6 it is also important that the children are able to spell the words on the Statutory Spelling List for Years 5/6. All children will have a copy of the list of words and know that they should be practising them on a regular basis at home.