

## Autumn Term 2 Newsletter 2020

### Birch Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to another term at Wygate! I hope you all had a restful break and are ready for another exciting term of learning in the run up to Christmas. It has been lovely to see the children come back with such enthusiasm for learning and I am extremely impressed with their work ethic. I would like say a big thank you for all who attended parents' evening (although they were slightly different), your ongoing support is greatly valued.

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

#### Christmas Parties

Christmas parties will be a little different this year. They will take place in the last week of term and the children will remain in the class with their bubbles for a 'class' party. More information will be given nearer the time.

#### Reading Books

All children should now have a reading book. 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. As well as the reading books that are sent home, the children can access books to read online at [readingeggs.com](http://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. The children are welcome to bring in a bottle of water for

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**Birch Class**

playtimes and lunchtimes. Please make sure that this is labelled with the child's name and class and that it is filled with plain water (not squash or fizzy drinks).

**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**

This term, homework will be set slightly differently. You may have already noticed your child has brought home a list of activities linked to the Victorians. This is homework for the entire term so your child can decide how many they do each week. As you will see on the sheet, the more tasks they complete the more Carrot Rewards they will receive. This will be a great way for them to embed their learning on the Victorians before we move onto World War 2 after Christmas.

**Online Apps**

As well as their paper homework, the children have access to an array of online tools to support their learning at home. The use of these are encouraged as they can enhance their learning in a fun and exciting way. The children should have all their log in details written in their Reading Record. If they cannot find them, please contact me so I can give them their log in details again.

Here is a reminder of the websites they can use:

Times Table Rockstars – <https://trockstars.com/>

Reading Eggs – <https://readingeggs.co.uk/>

Maths Prodigy – <https://www.prodigygame.com/main-en/>

EdShed (Spelling) - <https://www.edshed.com/en-gb>

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**Birch Class****Spelling Journal**

Spellings will set every Friday and can be found on Weduc/Spelling Shed. 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 can 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.

**Arrival and Pick Up Times**

With the ongoing situation of Covid-19, we ask that you remind yourself and continue to adhere to the times given for your child to be dropped off and picked up from school. These times are in place to try and meet the social distancing measures as best as possible, for the safety of yourself and your child/children.

Here is a reminder of the times:

**START TIMES:**

EYFS & YEAR 1: 8:30am-8:40am

YEAR 2 & YEAR 3: 8:50am-9:00am

**YEARS 4/5/6: 9:10am-9:20am**

**FINISH TIMES:**

EYFS & YEAR 1: 2:50pm-3:00pm

YEAR 2 & YEAR 3: 3:10pm-3:20pm

**YEARS 4/5/6: 3:30pm-3:40pm**

- All parents **MUST** remain wherever possible at least 1m apart
- Only **ONE** parent should bring their child to school
- Parents **MUST NOT** share bringing children to school.
- Please be aware there will be limited space in the car park now.
- Parents **MUST NOT** congregate in groups on the school property

**Siblings**

In order to maximise the learning within school, older siblings can be dropped off at the younger sibling time slot and the younger sibling can remain in school until the older sibling time slot.

This will avoid the need for parents to wait to collect both children, but will also support both siblings in receiving the maximum learning time within school. As before, the school will identify those families with siblings and notify these families, via WEDUC, on their drop off and pick up times. Any deviation from these times, as is normal practice in school, the Office will need to be notified in advance.

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