Silver Birch Class Newsletter

Spring 23

Welcome back to school, we hope you had a brilliant Christmas break. This term the Silver Birch team will be Miss Lee, Mrs Owen-Stiff and Mrs Davies.

Our topic this term is Furious Fire.

We are available for quick messages in the morning and afternoon. If you need to speak to us in more depth, please contact the office who will pass on a message, and we will be in contact as soon as we can. Keep an eye on our class page on the school website for regular photos and updates.

Please see some of the texts we will be using to enhance children's learning this term:









Weekly home work expectations:

- Daily reading
- Weekly homework (Red folder)
- Target book. This is to be kept within your child's book bag as we will be checking their progress in school. Targets in the book will be specific to your child's learning, please leave comments in the book surrounding the progress you feel they are making at home.
- Sound book

Subject	How to help your child
 English - Teaching units include the familiar stories The Three Little Pigs and Zog. We will be reading and writing seasonal poetry. The children will be further developing skills in order to form simple sentences using the taught graphemes, starting on the line, using capital letters and full stops. Phonics- Phonic lessons are taught daily using the Supersonic Phonic Friends scheme. This term we will be revising Phase 5. 	Daily reading with your child – this makes so much difference to their fluency and confidence. The local library is also a brilliant place to go. The children's reading logs also contain a login to 'Letterjoin' to allow them to practise their handwriting at home. Sounds will be found in their sound books- practising these with your child will enhance both spelling and reading. Each week phonics activities will be found within your child's sound book. This will link to the teaching that week.
Maths - This term our main focus will be number and place value, adding and subtracting using numbers to 20. This will include: reading, writing, comparing, ordering and carrying out simple addition and subtraction. It is essential that the children know how to write numbers both in words and using digits to 20. Early in the term, time will be spent exploring all the different resources which can represent numbers and help us in maths. These will include: tens frames, part – part- whole models, dienes (tens-sticks and ones-cubes) bead strings,	 Please regularly check and work on the targets within your child's target book. This is a great way for children to grow in confidence when working mathematically. The 'free' White Rose 1 Minute Maths App will help your child to build greater number confidence and fluency. We hope you will find the maths knowledge organisers which we have sent home useful and a good starting place when exploring maths with your child at home.

number lines and bar models. Later in the term we will move on to look at length and height and then weight and volume.	Board games, cards games and a wide range of number games are all helpful to promote maths skills and problem solving.
 Science – This term our learning will focus on materials being able to distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made. We will be identifying a variety of everyday materials and describing their simple physical properties. We will then explore through comparison the suitability of a variety of everyday materials. We will investigate how materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. Plants and seasonal change will be woven in across the year. The children will observe changes across the months, describe weather associated with the months and how the day length varies. This term we have a workshop taking place within school. This is aimed at learning how to carry out experiments safely and fairly. 	Please use the knowledge organisers to discuss key vocabulary connected to this term's science learning. Discuss different materials in and around the household-including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water and rock. When out and about please talk to your child about the wild plants, flowers and trees which are visible. Ask them to describe what the weather is like today. Use a thermometer to take daily temperature readings or maybe make a water gauge to measure rainfall. Do they know which month and season we are currently in?
Music – This term we will explore sounds (timbre). Looking into different types of sound production and the musical elements.	Listen to different genres of music, how do they sound different? How does the music make you feel? Can you make music from items around the home or create instruments to make music?
 History – This term we will be learning about The Great Fire of London and the role of Samuel Pepys. To enhance learning, we will participate in a drama workshop. 	Geography – We will be focusing on the UK, looking specifically at the city of London. We will explore locational knowledge closer to home comparing human and physical features.
 PE – This term, we will be exploring dance and gymnastics. Please send your child to school in their PE kit every Friday. Earrings and watches need to be removed. 	Art – This term we will focus on textiles to create artwork linking to our topic 'furious fire'. We will begin by weaving and progress to use a range of fabrics and knotting techniques.
DT – This term we will be planning, building and evaluating 'Great Fire of London Houses'. This will link to learning in topic.	Computing: Programming - Learners will explore using individual commands, both with other learners and as part of a computer program. They will identify what each floor robot command does and use that knowledge to start predicting the outcome of programs.
PSHE – This term we will be focusing on 'What helps us to stay healthy?' We will learn about how to take care of our own health and what makes a person healthy. In the second half of the term we will explore 'What can we do with money?'	RE – During the first half of the term the children will consider the question "How do some Muslims show Allah is compassionate and merciful?" After half term we will move on to explore "What are the best symbols of Jesus' death and resurrection at Easter?"