

Welcome to Reception

Welcome to Birch Copse for your child's first year at school! We hope you have all stayed well over the summer and are looking forward to an exciting term and watching your child settle into the routine that comes with a new school year. Please can we ask all parents to allow your child to come into the cloakroom unaccompanied as this develops their confidence and independence quickly and also helps to ease congestion. In Frog Class, we encourage parents to say goodbye at the bottom of the ramp to ensure children arrive safely. The school book bag is a part of the children's uniform, so please make sure this is in school everyday.



Miss Leverett
Newt Class Teacher
(Mon/Tues/Weds/Fri)



Mrs Etheridge
Newt Class Teacher
(Weds/Thurs)



Miss Thomas
Frog Class Teacher



Mrs Daniel
Newt Class TA
(Mon/Tues/Weds)



Mrs Meechan
Newt Class TA
(Thurs/Fri)



Mrs Jennings
Frog Class TA
(Mon/Tues/Weds)



Mrs Woolston
Frog Class TA
(Weds PM/Thurs/Fri)



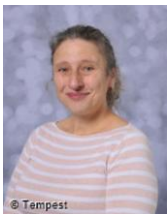
Mrs Mitchell Early
Years Practitioner



Mrs Stead
PPA Teacher Newt
Class (Tues)



Mrs Claxton
PPA Teacher Frog Class
(Weds morning)



Mrs Schofield
Newt Class LSA



Mrs Brill
Newt Class LSA



Mrs Mickle
Newt Class LSA

Your children have entered an important year in their school life - their first year in primary school. We would value your support in continuing your child's learning at home and in encouraging your child to understand the importance of this year. As the year progresses, some children may have the opportunity to be a class rep on the school council.



School council

The Early Years Curriculum at Birch Copse is delivered through a topic approach. In the Autumn Term, our topic are:

- Settling In
- Families
- Harvest
- Food We Eat
- Celebrations

The children's learning opportunities within the above topics are incorporated into are 7 areas of learning:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

If you wish to find out more information about the topics , more detail can be found on our [website](#).

Dates for your diary this term

Monday 28th September and Thursday 1st October
Parent/teacher discussions

Wednesday 14th October at 7:30pm on Zoom-
Phonics and learning journeys meeting

Friday 16th October AM/PM times and info to follow
Stay and play sessions

Wednesday 9th December at 9.30am-
Reception Christmas Production

How can you help at home?

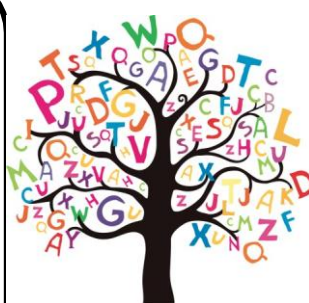
There are many ways in which the children would benefit from help from parents and carers at home.



When we feel your child is ready, a reading book will be sent home.

Reading a wide range of books with your child at home will develop their vocabulary.

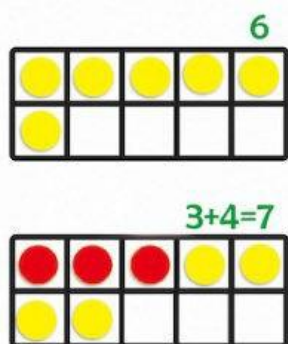
Listening to your child read their school reading book daily will enable them to practise the phonics they are learning at school.



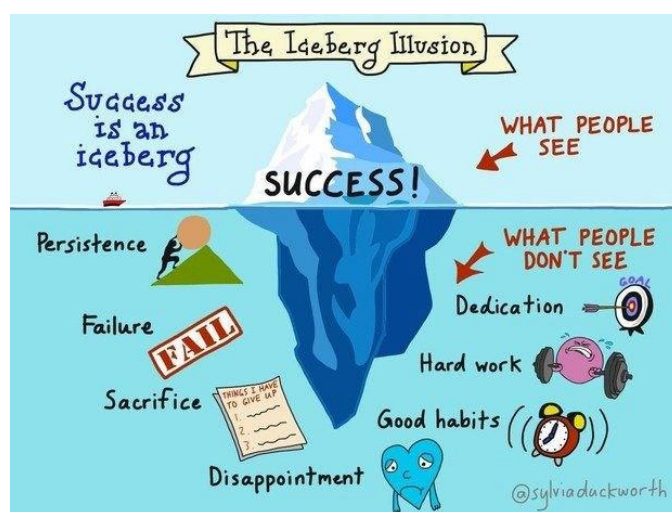
Phonics is an important part of your child's learning in their first year at school.

Once the children have settled in, they will be given a list of sounds (phonemes) as part of their weekly homework.

You could support your children to learn, and retain, these sounds throughout the year.



Helping your children to learn mathematical concepts, for example counting and number bonds, will help the children in their maths learning.



We talk in school about having a 'Growth Mindset'. Encouraging and supporting your children with the Growth Mindset principles in mind will really help. Encouraging your children to learn through their mistakes and to be resilient will help them to succeed in Reception and in life itself.

Homework in Reception

Supporting your child develop their application of phonics into their reading will benefit their progress hugely.

Here is a **suggested** timetable of how you could do this:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading 5 to 10 minutes with an adult at home	Reading 5 to 10 minutes with an adult at home	Reading 5 to 10 minutes with an adult at home	Reading 5 to 10 minutes with an adult at home	Reading 5 to 10 minutes with an adult at home

As mentioned at the top of this page, there will be a phonics homework sheet sent home on a weekly basis when we feel the children are ready for this.



Once homework has been established, it will be due in on a **Wednesday** at the latest.

Reading Records will be checked **every day**.

Homework will be checked on a **Thursday**.

New homework sent out on a **Friday**.

PE in Reception

We are asking that the children come to school dressed in their PE kits, on the days they will be partaking in lessons. PE days will be Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. We will send out further information about when PE will be starting, therefore the children do not need to come to school in PE kit at the moment.



House colour t-shirt



Black shorts



Long hair tied

As we head into the colder weather, children may wear a plain black, green or grey tracksuit over and t-shirt to keep them warm at break and lunch.

May we also remind you that your child will need to have their plastic retainer earrings covered with plasters, if they have earrings or studs that aren't plastic retainers they will not be permitted to do PE.

For more information about our [uniform policy](#), please see the website.

Reading is a vital element of children's learning. We will be exposing the children to many different texts. Here is a small list of some of the anchor texts we will be exploring:



Once the children have adjusted to their new routines, we will gradually introduce them to our 'Learning Powers' characters:

- Persevering Penny
- Independent Indie
- Improving Immy
- Concentrating Connie
- Making Links Mario
- Challenge Chad

When the children have shown they have used one of these learning powers, they are rewarded with a gem in their learning journey.

There is so much to look forward to as we begin our first term in Reception, including Harvest, our Christmas production, Carol service in St Catherine's Church and Stay & Play sessions.

We will also be hosting an information evening on 'Phonics' for parents to attend. This will help you to understand our approach to teaching the children how to read. Details to follow.

Should you wish to discuss any aspects of this term's work or any other matters, please feel free to contact the office or message your child's teacher on Class Dojo to arrange a mutually convenient time to discuss it. We look forward to meeting you and discussing the progress of your child at our termly Parent/Teacher discussions at the end of September.

Miss Leverett

Mrs Etheridge

Miss Thomas



At Birch Copse we share information and events on our learning platform "Class Dojo", within the first few weeks parents will be asked to sign up to this to ensure they are kept up to date with information and changes to the school day.