

# Birch Church of England (VA) Primary School

WB 15<sup>th</sup> September

Edition 3



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Dear All,

We've been able to make good use of the field at lunchtimes this week, with the improved weather, which is great for the children as they have so much space.

## THIS WEEK:

It was lovely to see so many parents for our 'Meet the Teacher' event – more 60 parents signed in, which represents more than half of the families – I fully understand that work commitments can prevent some people attending straight after school events, but please be in touch if there is anything we can do to help support you with reading with your child at home or phonic practice at home.

The 'Space' theme continues in class 1 and 2. Children have been reading the books 'Sidney, Stella and the Moon' and 'How to Replace the Moon' and some have been designing and describing their alien beings! The first Forest school sessions also started this week in Classes 1 and 2 with 'Alex Ash' (Forest School name). There are some pictures at the end of this newsletter.

Class 3,4 and 5 have started a new Talk for Writing project, which began with a treasure chest being located in the grounds on Monday morning! I have read some amazing descriptive writing today, so well done children- super work!

## NEXT WEEK:

Although we continue to be busy in school next week, there are no after school parents' meetings or off-timetable activities for parents to note. However, if you have reception child for September 2026, there is the first of our school tours arranged for Friday at 11:00. Please advertise this in your networks – people don't always know about Birch Primary School and school finances run on the numbers of children on roll...there are also spaces in other year groups. The closer we are to our capacity, the better it is for everyone. With that in mind, if there are any parents with experience in marketing, our Governors are keen to form a 'working party' to help us in this area.

Please keep checking dates for events in the next few weeks and look out for PAFA events that have now secured a date! I have added a few dates in **bold**. Also, look out for the attached 'Wake-up Wednesday' leaflet on the subject of 'Snapchat'. Please note that we are exploring Smartphone Free childhood this term, linked to children's mental health and I will be sharing some information on this on the evening of Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November and during parent consultation week.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Rebekah May  
Headteacher

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

WEEK BEGINNING	EVENTS	WEEK BEGINNING	EVENTS
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	Starting tuition groups this week  Monday after school football club begins for Y4,5 & 6 3.20-4.20pm. Must have shin pads.  Thursday Y6 Forest schools session Group A  Friday 11am School tour available to book with Headteacher for Reception 2026 places	3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov Parent consultation week	Monday: non-pupil day Monday: late night parent consultation DETAILS WILL BE SHARED NEARER THE TIME
29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Thursday School Census day. Please order a school meal to support school funding Thursday Y6 Forest School B Friday: Collecting Harvest gifts for Tiptree Foodbank Friday: <b>1:45 PAFA coffee afternoon for Class 1 and 2</b> 2:15 Parents Forum Class 1 and 2 parents Harvest Festival Assembly 2:45pm – parents of classes 1 and 2 invited	10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Monday: Odd Socks Day Thursday Forest School Group A Friday 9:30 School tour available to book with Headteacher for Reception 2026 places
6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Monday Y3/4 Keep on Reading with Mr Kemp:- deadline for return of books. Monday: Y6 will have a visit from Thrustable secondary school and teachers will stay to talk to any Y6 parents/ answer questions at 3:20	17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	No specific dates to share yet
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Monday Individual (& in school siblings) photographs  Tuesday School tour available to book with Headteacher for Reception 2026 places  Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> Y6 Bawdsey Manor residential trip	24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Friday: 9:00 am Class 3 and 4 Parent Assembly and Parent Forum
20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Tuesday Provisional Y6 visit to Chelmsford Cathedral (tbc) Tuesday: Class 1 and 2 Planetarium and 'Space Day' Thursday: Y6 Forest School group B Friday: Y6 parents invited to assembly at <b>9am</b> for Bawdsey photos Parent Forum for Cl 5 parents <b>Friday: PAFA 'Scary Hair' day</b>	Key dates to note	<b>31<sup>st</sup> October: secondary School Application deadline</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> November: Christmas Disco 9 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec Class 1 & 2 Christmas Nativity both showings 2.15pm <b>16<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Dinner and Christmas jumper day for 'Save the Children'</b>

FOREST SCHOOL WITH CLASS 1 and SOME OF THE OLDER CHILDREN BEGINNNING TO MEET BUDDY



ROAST DINNER AND CHICKEN BURGERS FROM OUR NEW MENU



