

Birch Church of England (VA) Primary School

WB 13th April 2026

Edition 27



☎ 01206 330224

email: admin@birch.essex.sch.uk

www.birch.essex.sch.uk

Dear All,

It has been lovely to see everyone back after our Easter break – I hope you all had some great family time.

THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL:

It always feels very busy in our first week back as we all re-learn our routines. The new topics in KS1 and KS2 are entitled '*Beside the Seaside*' and '*Medieval Mayhem*'. Details about the curriculum for the term will be on the school website, in the class pages, by Monday.

KS2 children will be beginning to learn the songs for their show in July, 'Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies', over the next week or two. Trips linked to the topic are also being planned at the moment, so please watch out for further information.

The course today on 'Understanding Anxiety in Children' was very well received, and Mrs Millbourne will continue to signpost other courses – many of these can be accessed online.

FEEDBACK FROM SURVEY:

Many thanks to all who responded to our survey. It is so important to us that the children are happy at school, and this came through very clearly. There were some areas identified for us to look at and, again, having this feedback is very valuable.

There were a couple of points I wanted to clarify in response. Some concerns were raised about puddings on the dinner menu – there is always fruit or yoghurt available, and there is also a salad bar with a good selection for children to add to their choices.

Some parents were also curious about our RE curriculum. As a church school, this has a particular prominence, as it is part of our foundation. We do, however, teach a range of religions and philosophy, although Christianity must make up at least half of the content. This is separate from the PSHE curriculum, where children learn about other aspects of family and society.

Please do come and talk to me if you have any questions about the curriculum.

NEXT WEEK:

Next week is looking fairly clear. Year 6 revision sessions will continue, and there is a netball tournament on Tuesday. On Friday, we have Bishop Roger visiting; he will be leading our morning assembly and collective worship.

Please take a look at the dates sheet for further key events – note that a couple of dates have changed and a few have been added since the last letter.

We are a little light on photos this week – just some of Year 6 engaging in role play using their French learning: asking for directions, ordering food or clothing in a shop, asking for prices, counting out money, and calculating change.

Have a great weekend, everyone!

Rebekah May

WEEK BEGINNING	DAY	EVENTS
20 th April	Monday	
	Tuesday	Y6 revision sessions 8:00 Netball tournament
	Wednesday	Y6 revision sessions 8:00
	Thursday	
	Friday	Y6 revision sessions 8:00
27 th April	Monday	Football match against Mersea School NO FOOTBALL CLUB AT SCHOOL
	Tuesday	Y6 revision sessions 8:00 Y5 FOREST SCHOOL TASTER Great Science Share for Schools (GSSfs) Club – group of Y5 and 6
	Wednesday	Y6 revision sessions 8:00
	Thursday	
	Friday	Y6 revision sessions 8:00
4 th May	Monday	BANK HOLIDAY
	Tuesday	Y6 revision sessions 8:00 Y5 FOREST SCHOOL TASTER NO GREAT SCIENCE SHARE CLUB
	Wednesday	Y6 revision sessions 8:00
	Thursday	
	Friday	Y6 revision sessions 8:00
11 th May Y6 SATS WEEK	Monday	Y6 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar tests
	Tuesday	Y6 Reading paper Great Science Share for Schools (GSSfs) Club – group of Y5 and 6
	Wednesday	Y6 Arithmetic paper 1 and Reasoning paper 2
	Thursday	Y6 Reasoning paper 3 Y6 FOREST SCHOOL PM
	Friday	
18 th May	Monday	PROVISIONAL WELLBEING AFTERNOON
	Tuesday	Dress as a sound day for KS1 Great Science Share for Schools (GSSfs) Club – group of Y5 and 6
	Wednesday	Class photos for all classes and individual photos also for Y6 leavers – THIS DATE HAS CHANGED FROM FRIDAY 22nd MAY
	Thursday	CENSUS DAY: please order a school meal on this day as this impacts our funding. Thank you! Y6 ROUNDERS TOURNAMENT AFTER SCHOOL THURSTABLE
	Friday	Class 1 and 2 assembly and parent forum - this date has changed to display photos of the dress as a sound day
Key dates to note for Spring/ Summer Term		<p>Summer 1: 13th April – 22nd May Summer 2: 1st June- 17th July Monday 20th July: non-pupil day 12th June Classes 3 and 4 Assembly and Parent Forum 9:10 16th JUNE Great Science Share for Schools and KS2 Consortium Athletics competition SPORTS DAY AND PAFA COLOUR RUN FRIDAY 19th June WB 22nd JUNE Y6 SECONDARY SCHOOL VISIT DAYS (25th JUNE for many schools) PROVISIONAL KS2 SHOW: afternoon Monday 6th July, Evening Tuesday 7th July</p>

PHOTOS: SHOPPING CONVERSATIONS IN FRENCH



