Birch Church of England (VA) Primary School

Guided by the Good Shepherd, we serve as compassionate leaders

WISDOM~TRUST~FRIENDSHIP

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WB 21st September

Autumn Term: edition 4

PE DAYS AUTUMN TERM:	Class 1: Thursday, Friday Class 2: Thursday, Friday Class 3: Monday Tuesday Class 4: Tuesday, Wednesday Class 5: Monday, Friday	
TOMORROW	Friday	Outdoor learning for all children in classes 1 and 2
WB 28th Sept	Monday	
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	Y3 Forest School **Y5 parents Bawdsey 2027 deposit due**
	Thursday	Census Day (this happens 3 x each year and it supports the school to order school meals on this day)
	Friday	Class 1 Forest School or Outdoor Learning Class 2 group A Forest School Class 1 and 2 Parents are invited to Assembly for collective worship at the end of the day for our Harvest Festival. We will collect food the Foodbank again this year and we will put out a box for donations.
WB 5th Oct	Monday	Reception 2027 tours 9:30/ 11:00 (please book via school office) Y6 Forest School **Bookings for Parent Consultations open on ScoPay**
	Tuesday	**NO Y6 TRIP TO CHELMSFORD – will do this later in the year** NO GYM CLUB
	Wednesday	KS1 and KS2 Parent Forum 5:30 pm Please come back to school and sign in at the hall door.
	Thursday	
	Friday	Class 1 Forest School or Outdoor Learning Class 2 group B Forest School
WB 12th Oct **Y5 and 6 maths tuition starts for selected group**	Monday	Individual Photos for all – classes 3 and 5 please BRING IN PE KITS TO CHANGE INTO AND WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM
	Tuesday	**School Nurses weights and Measures Y6 and Reception. Parents have been sent an email from the School Nurse team so please respond directly to them**
	Wednesday	Y6 residential trip to Bawdsey Manor
	Thursday	
	Friday	Y6's return from Bawdsey Manor (usual time) Outdoor learning
WB 19th Oct	Monday	NSPCC Speak Out/ Stay Safe assemblies
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	Y3 Forest School Science Lecture for KS2: Birch Quarry
	Thursday	Reception 2027 tours 9:30/ 11:00 **Bookings for Parent Consultation Close on ScoPay**
	Friday	Class 1 Forest School or Outdoor Learning Class 2 group A Forest School PAFA movie night – details to follow
HALF TERM		
WB 2nd Nov	Monday	Late night parent consultation evening (all classes)

	Tuesday	Afternoon parent consultations for Class 2 and Class 5 ACL 'Separation Anxiety' course afternoon school hall – details will follow
	Wednesday	Afternoon parent consultation for class 3 and class 1
	Thursday	Afternoon parent consultations for class 4
	Friday	Class 1 Forest School or Outdoor Learning Class 2 group B Forest School
WB 9th Nov	Monday	**Y6 Forest School**
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	
	Friday	**Key Stage 2 (Y3,4,5 and 6) History off the Page event** **Class 1 Outdoor Learning** **Class 2 Group A Forest School**
WB 16th Nov	Monday	
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	**Times Tables Rock Star 'Come as a Rock Star' day! Donate £2:00 and come to school dressed as you finest Rock Star self! Please donate via ScoPay**
	Friday	Class 1 Outdoor Learning/ Forest School Class 2 ALL Outdoor Learning
Key dates to note for Autumn 2026		Dates for school tours for Reception 27: Monday 5th October 9:30 and 11:00, Tuesday 20th October 9:30 Thursday 22nd October 9:30 and 11:00, Monday 9th November 9:30, Tuesday 8th December 9:30, 11th January 9:30 3rd November: Class 3 and 4 Parent Assembly 27th November 9:10 SATURDAY 28th NOVEMBER PAFA CHRSITMAS FAIR –volunteers to help run this will be welcomed. KS1 Nativity Performances: Tuesday 8th December and Wednesday 9th December- usually around 2:00 pm but precise times can only be determined as we near the event. Details about tickets will follow nearer the time

Dear All,

Thank you to PAFA for organising last week's cake sale, and to all of you for donating and supporting the event. There were some extraordinary cakes! The winner of the Roald Dahl-themed cake competition was Mollie in Class 2. Well done, Mollie – there is a picture of her cake at the end of this newsletter!

Thank you also to the Year 6 helpers – they were very generous with their cake-cutting!

Many thanks to everyone who came to our Maths Calculation Workshops this week. We are planning to run a workshop on Fraction, Decimal and Percentage Calculations in the spring term for Year 4, 5 and 6 parents.

This Week in School

Buddy enjoyed coming in this week on Tuesday. He had a little lunchtime play with the children in Key Stage 1, who also helped me walk him around the field. Key Stage 2 enjoyed throwing a ball for him.

In Class 1 this week, the children have been learning about polar bears and developing their cutting and sticking skills.

Year 1 and Year 2 children have been exploring the properties of materials in Science through the story of *The Three Little Pigs*. Class 2 have also been reading *The Rainbow Bear* by Michael Morpurgo.

Classes 3 and 4 have started creating their story maps for *Beowulf* and, in their Art lessons, have made salt dough Anglo-Saxon runes.

Class 5 have also made Anglo-Saxon runes, as well as some 'Forest School name' medallions. We choose our 'Forest School name' based on something in a British woodland that may be alliterative with our own name, for example, I am known as Mrs Muddypuddle in Forest Schools. There are some pictures of them sawing small discs of silver birch to make these.

Next Week

Monday: Football Club – Years 4, 5 and 6, and Football Club – Years 1, 2 and 3 (this club is now full), until 4:20pm.

Tuesday: Gym Club until 4:20pm.

Wednesday: Parents' Forum at 5:30pm.

Thursday: Census Day – please order a school meal, as this will help to generate funding for the school, particularly important for KS1 children to take this option for our future funding. This is Lasagne and garlic bread or baguettes.

Friday: Harvest Festival – Class 1 and 2 parents are invited to our assembly at 2:45pm to celebrate our Harvest Festival. We will start signing you into school at the school office from 2:30pm.

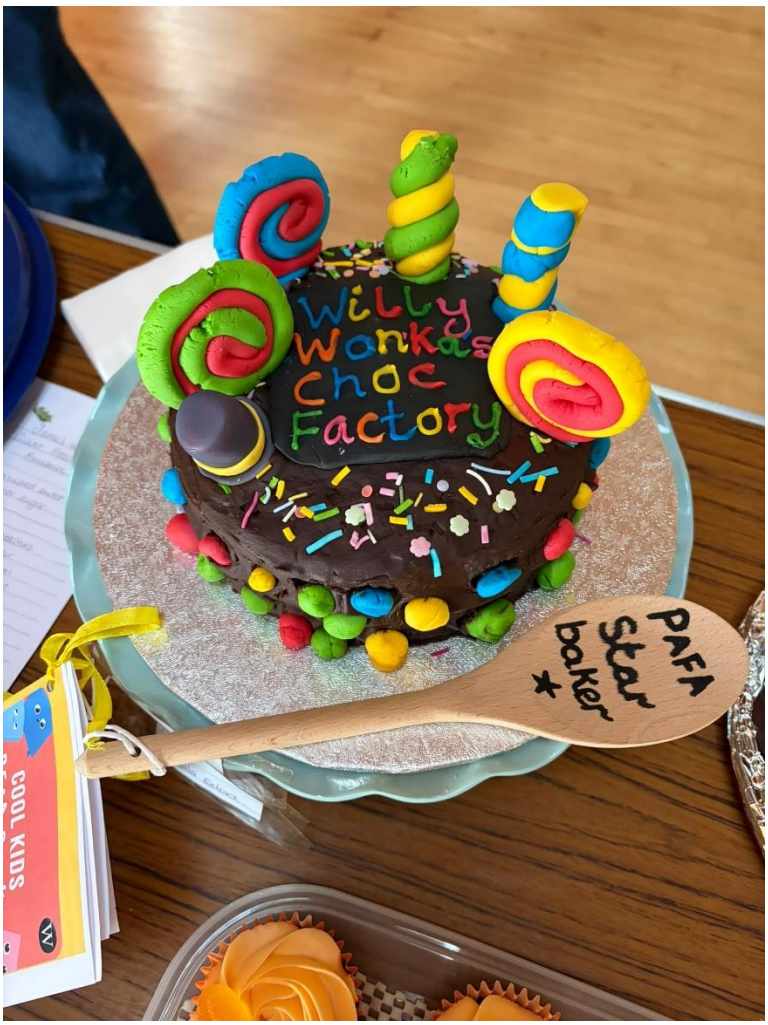
We will have representatives from the Foodbank in Tiptree with us to tell us a little about how your kind donations will be used. There is a 'shopping list' attached to this newsletter, so please start bringing in anything you can as soon as possible.

Other Bits:

- Please note that the provisional Chelmsford Cathedral trip for Y6 6th October is NOT going ahead. We will do a visit to Chelmsford later in the year
- Week 2 menu change: Thursdays of week 2 (next week) is now minced pork lasagne rather than minced beef.
- There is a box for Harvest Festival donations by the School gate – many thanks!

Have a great weekend when you get there!
Best wishes,

Rebekah May


Willy Wonkas Choc Factory
PAFA Star baker
COOL KIDS



