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 5th October

Autumn Term: edition 6

PE DAYS AUTUMN TERM:	Class 1: Thursday, Friday Class 2: Thursday, Friday Class 3: Monday Tuesday Class 4: Tuesday, Wednesday Class 5: Monday, Friday	
9th October	Friday	Class 1 Forest School or Outdoor Learning Class 2 group B Forest School
WB 12th Oct **Y5 (Monday, Friday) and 6 (Tuesday, Wednesday)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	AFTER SCHOOL CLASS 3 PARENT MEETING – details emailed earlier this week
	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 NO DRUM LESSONS
	Thursday	Reception 2027 tours 9:30/ 11:00 **Bookings for Parent Consultation Close on ScoPay**
	Friday	**Y6 PARENT ASSEMBLY – there will be photos from Bawdsey shown** **Y5 parents are also welcome to see the range of activities and experiences that Y6 enjoy at Bawdsey.** 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 **Non-pupil day**	Late night parent consultation evening (all classes)
	Tuesday **Back to School**	Afternoon parent consultations for Class 2 and Class 5 ACL 'Separation Anxiety' course afternoon school hall – see email from Mrs Millbourne sent last week **NO GYM CLUB**
	Wednesday	Afternoon parent consultation for class 3 and class 1 AM Y4 Forest School
	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** **9:30 Reception 2027 tour** **Football club 3:20-4:20**
	Tuesday	**Gym Club**
	Wednesday	**AM Y5/6 Cross Country - selected team**
	Thursday	**Christmas choir Club starts: Y1-Y6 Mrs May**

	Friday	**Key Stage 2 (Y3,4,5 and 6) History off the Page event - please support this by making a donation via ScoPay** **Class 1 Outdoor Learning** **Class 2 Group A Forest School**
WB 16th Nov	Monday	**Fire service Workshops 'Cyberbullying' Y5 and Y6** **Football club ENDS AT 4:00 due to darker evenings**
	Tuesday	**Gym Club**
	Wednesday	**Y4 Forest School**
	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** **Christmas Choir Club**
	Friday	Class 1 Outdoor Learning/ Forest School Class 2 ALL Outdoor Learning
WB 23rd November	Monday	Y6 Forest School **Football Club ENDS AT 4:00 – LAST FOOTBALL CLUB OF TERM DUE TO DARK EVENINGS**
	Tuesday	**Y1 and 2 'All In' sports opportunity -selected team** **Gym Club**
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	**Christmas Choir Club**
	Friday	**Class 3 and 4 Parent Assembly 9:30 am to see photos/ work from History off the Page**
SATURDAY 28th NOVEMBER PAFA CHRISTMAS FAIR		
WB 30th November	Monday	**No football**
	Tuesday	**Class 1 and 2 Zoo Trip** **LAST GYM CLUB OF TERM**
	Wednesday	**Y4 Forest School** **PM Christmas Choir to New Copford Place**
	Thursday	**Y5 and 6 Tag Rugby Tournament – selected team** **Christmas Choir Club**
	Friday	
WB 7th December	Monday	**Y6 Forest School** **Nativity Dress Rehearsal**
	Tuesday	**Reception 2027 tour 9:30** **Nativity Performance approx. 2:00pm TBC** **Reception 2027 Tour**
	Wednesday	**Nativity Performance approx. 2:00pm TBC**
	Thursday	**LAST Christmas Choir Club**
	Friday	
WB 14th December	Monday	
	Tuesday	**School Christmas Dinner** **PAFA's 'Carols on the Green' at The Fox and Hounds**
	Wednesday	**Layer Marney Nativity approx. 5:30/ 6pm TBC**
	Thursday	
	Friday	**Carols at School led by Y6: Class 5 parents invited (2:30pm)**
Key dates to note for Autumn 2026		Dates for school tours for Reception 27: 11th January 9:30

Dear All,

Many thanks to everyone who came to our Parents' Forum on Wednesday evening to discuss joining The Canonium Learning Trust. There was a very good question-and-answer session, during which parents were able to hear from both our Governors and the leadership team at Canonium.

This Week in School

This week, children in Key Stage 1 have been creating artwork around the theme of polar bears. Class 1 used forks to apply paint and create interesting textures, while Class 2 explored the work of the artist Ted Harrison and applied his style to their polar bear artwork. There are photos of their work at the end of the newsletter.

In Classes 3 and 4, the children have been learning about food chains in Science and beginning to adapt their Talk for Writing stories.

This week, some representatives from our Year 6 group took part in an archery competition. They enjoyed working as a team and showed excellent progress between their first and last arrows, particularly as this was their first experience of archery. A really super effort from the Year 6 team!

Also in Class 5, the children have been planning a Viking raid as part of their History work and continuing to develop their 'Defeat the Monster' stories in their Talk for Writing unit.

Next Week

MONDAY: Individual photographs. There will also be an opportunity for siblings to have a group photograph taken. Classes 3 and 5 have PE in the afternoon, so please ensure that children come to school in uniform and bring their PE kits to change into.

TUESDAY: Reception and Year 6 will have their weight and measurements checks. You will have received confirmation of these directly from the School Nurse Service.

WEDNESDAY: Year 6 depart for their residential trip to Bawdsey Manor. We wish them a wonderful adventure and a successful trip! Please remember that they will need to bring a packed lunch for the journey.

THURSDAY: Meeting with Class 3 parents at 3:30 pm.

FRIDAY: Year 6 return from Bawdsey Manor.

Just a Couple More Things

- Please make sure that all children have coats in school. We play outside in the rain unless the weather is severe.
- Please check Scopay under Key Stage 2 for contributions towards the History off the Page event. The Key Stage 1 trip to the zoo is now also available on Scopay.
- All parents are asked to book their consultation via Scopay as soon as possible. The deadline for bookings is Thursday 22 October.

Finally, I would like to let you all know that Mrs Clark, who has worked in our school office almost continuously for nearly 17 years and has been responsible for Finance for the last 10 years, will be leaving us at the end of this half term.

Mrs Clark has done an amazing job of keeping both the leadership team and Governors fully up to date with our finances, and we are very sad to be losing her. She has been such an important part of our school team, particularly our office team, for so many years. Although we will miss her greatly, we very much hope she will continue to drop in and see us in the weeks, months and years ahead!

Have a great weekend, everyone!

Rebekah May


Polar bear
art inspired
by artist
Ted
Harrison.



