

Birch Class: Summer Term 1 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a restful Easter holiday. It was lovely to end last term with everyone back at school and are looking forward to starting the Summer with a full class.

Our new topic is called '**Beast Creator**'

"A bug, a creepy-crawly, a beast. He'll tickle your skin then go in for the sting. Arachnids, insects, molluscs and myriapods, hiding in nooks and beneath darkened rocks. Come search for these minibeasts, and let's sort them out. How many legs? How many wings? Who does it eat and who eats it? Can you classify it? Can you draw it or make it? Build a bug hotel or a wonderful wormery, then watch them wriggle and burrow, mixing earth as they go. Discover where in the world you'll find the deadliest beasts. Perhaps the *Vespa mandarinia japonica* is the one that you fear? Why not become a beast creator? Selectively breed a killer predator that saves the world from the super strong aphid. You'll be a hero!"



We will be sending out a sheet of homework for all children to complete. Please email in homework or upload to Seesaw by Monday 24th May.

Learning areas this half term:

Lead topic subject: Science	Develop children's knowledge of living things and their habitats. Children learn about identification keys, food chains and some of the deadliest beasts on the planet.
Other foundation subjects	In Computing lessons, we will be researching and presenting information about minibeasts and creating cartoon minibeasts using paint programs. We will be creating minibeast hotels and 3D sculptures in Design and Technology . Geography lessons will focus on locating the world's deadliest 'critters'. In Art , we will look at Darwin's drawings and producing our own as well as creating mixed media collages to represent metamorphosis based on Kurt Schwitter's work.
English	In English, we will be looking at non-chronological reports, instructions and advertisements as well as limericks, cartoon strips and fantasy writing. We will continue to have weekly spellings to practise which link to the National Curriculum expectations for Year 5/6.
Maths	Our focus this half term Monday to Wednesday is fractions. On Thursdays and Fridays, we will revise short division before moving onto position and direction. Times tables and fluency in arithmetic skills will be ongoing through TTRockstars and Fluent in Five tasks.
RE	Our RE unit this half term will be, 'What does it mean if God is holy and loving?'
P.E	PE lessons will be back to a Tuesday for our 'Real PE' sessions and Friday when we will be playing volleyball.

English at home: Reading and spelling

Reading continues to be a really important part of your child's home learning and we would encourage you to read with them daily. This can be them reading to you or you sharing a book with them. All children have a log in for Read Theory which focuses on comprehension of short texts. They also have free log-ins to Epic. If you need the log-ins resending, please let us know. Also, the Oxford Owl website has a range of free ebooks which suit all age and abilities, so please do have a look, if you haven't already. At present, children are still unable to bring books home from school but local libraries are once again open. Weekly spellings are set on a Monday and tested on a Friday. Please do look out for these on Seesaw and encourage the children to practise them at home too. All children have access to Spelling Frame with their own log in where games can be played and tests taken for each week's spellings.

Maths at home

Along with the daily maths lessons, the children still need to become proficient at mental maths skills: we hope they continue to use TTRockstars to practise their times tables and to play games to develop efficient methods to calculate mentally. All the children also have a log in for Prodigy which can be accessed from laptops, iPads and smart phones.

Other

Parents and carers' consultations will take Thursday 13th May. Further details will be in the Friday Flyer

We hope that the children all have a great summer back at school. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us on:

jseton@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk and kparkin@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk

Kind regards

Mrs Jo Seton and Mrs Katie Parkin (the Year 5 team)