



BIRCH HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Summer Term



Reception

The topics the children will be studying this term are called “**Water**” “**Minibeasts**” and “**The Seaside**”. We will be using a variety of books, games, puzzles, small world play and IT material as a basis for our work.

The main areas of study are as follows:



Literacy

There will be regular literacy sessions and Phonic groups where we look at phonics and whole words on flashcards, on the whiteboard and through games. The children need to know all 26 letter sounds and many blends and digraphs such as sh, ch, oo, ee, ai, er, igh and oa. They will continue to read to us several times a week but it is also important that they look at other books at home and start reading words from these that they recognise or can word build. **Please make sure your child has their reading bag in school every day.** Alongside the reading and phonic work we will be encouraging all the children to produce their own writing. They should be able to sound out and spell simple words and begin to put these words into sentences. Where appropriate, children will be encouraged to write several sentences with more complex words and use full stops and capital letters. Whilst we have been concentrating on the sounds letters the children also need to know the names of letters and the order they appear in the alphabet as well as capital letters.

Numeracy



Regular numeracy sessions will be held each week and the main emphasis will be to count, read, write and use the numbers to 20 correctly. The children will need to understand the value of these numbers using vocabulary such as more than and less than and be able to put these numbers in order. This will then lead to simple addition and subtraction work and work on doubles and halves. Simple mental calculations and number problems will be asked at each session. We will also be looking at numbers above 20 on a 100 square and looking for patterns such as odds and evens and counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. Practical work will include money, weighing, measuring, capacity and shape tasks which will build on the work already covered so far.



Topics

During the term the children will learn about the properties of water, what we use it for and why it is important. Planting seeds will show the children how important water is to make things grow. We will also consider different ways of crossing water and what life would be like if we had little or no water.

The children will be learning geographical terms based on water in the environment. We will look at different areas of water such as ponds and lakes and will hope to visit South Hill Park to look at the lake there as well as the pond in Badgers Retreat. At this time we will also look at the minibeasts that live in the woods, in the trees and ponds.

After half-term we will look more closely at the seaside and what can be found in the sea and on the beach. When studying the seaside we will talk about the characteristics of seaside areas and talk about our own experiences of seaside visits. The children will use a variety of art materials and will experience various techniques such as painting, printing, drawing, collage and 3D work. They will be encouraged to use tools correctly and carefully. Most work will be based on our topics with shape and pattern work linked to numeracy sessions. There will be weekly singing/music/movement sessions with the children having access to a variety of instruments.

The children will need a PE kit this term. Please send it in a small, named drawstring bag that can be kept in school – it will not need to be washed each week! The blue or white shorts and T shirt must be named. Trainers or plimsolls will be needed in the bag for outdoor PE sessions on the playground or field.

We will be encouraging the children to understand what being fair means and how they can help if someone feels sad or left out. Later in the term we will begin to help the children understand the changes that will take place as they move from Reception into Year 1. The children will also learn that their actions have an impact on everybody else either in a good or a bad way so they need to consider the choices they are making.

During this term you can help us by playing board games and card games and asking any form of number questions to encourage number skills.

Reading at home is also very important. Please continue to share the reading books and help learn new words by encouraging your child to sound out unknown words or look for clues in the picture. Looking at other books including non-fiction books linked to our topics will also help your child make progress.

We aim to make this another successful term for your child as we complete their early years profile so they are ready to move on into Year 1 in September. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Between us all we hope to make it a good term.

Mrs Keane

Mrs Aulsberry

Mrs Radford