

Welcome and thank you for
coming.

We are Silver Birch.

Class Teachers: Mrs Burke and Mrs Laws



Silver Birch Timetable

- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning is Mrs Burke.
- Thursday and Friday is Mrs Laws.
- We are both in school on a Wednesday afternoon so this is always a good time to book an appointment if you need to see us!
- LSAs will cover PPA time on a Wednesday afternoon.

Year R-Year 1 Transition

- Year 1 follows a different curriculum to Year R and is taught in a very different way.
- In Year R, children learn through continuous provision and child initiated learning. They do have adult directed times, but these are fewer than in Year 1 and the children are given some flexibility as to when they complete their adult directed task.
- In Year 1, learning is much more formal, often written and tasks are mainly teacher directed.
- We have set lessons with Phonics, English and Maths tasks in the mornings and then other subjects (Topic, Science, PE, Art , PSHE etc.) are generally taught after lunch. There will be opportunities for child directed learning, but these will be fewer than in Year R

Year R – Year 1 Transition

- It is not unusual for children to find this change in learning styles tricky.
- Your child might well be tired and could possibly become upset.
- Please talk to us so we can help support them through the transition.

Good News!

- The children will learn to cope with these adjustments and almost all will be thriving by the second half of the school year.
- They will amaze you with the progress they have made by the end of Year 1.



Reading



- Group/guided reading: each child will be heard in their group once a week. They will do follow on activities and reading activities related to what they have read, or focus on their phonics skills by playing games etc.
- Later on in the year, we will also do whole class reading activities designed to build vocabulary and develop inference skills.
- Individual reading takes place at certain times of the day but not every child gets heard everyday. We are always looking for parents to help us with this as it is a time consuming activity.
- Home reading, ideally everyday please, little and often at this stage as it is such a crucial skill.

What to do with your home reader?



- There will be drawers for home reading books and the reading record. Please can you bring them in daily. They will be located near to the door.
- Books can be changed when the children have finished them and boxes are in the entrance of the class.

Phonics Y1

- Year 1 is all about alternatives.
- What does that mean?

In Cherries they learn the digraph 'ow' as in c-ow, n-ow.

In Silver Birch they will learn an alternative digraph for the 'ow' sound 'ou' as in c_l_ou_d, l_ou_d

Encourage your child to use their knowledge of sounds to work out the words when reading and writing.

Digraph- 2 letters making one sound cow the children should say this as c-ow and not c-o-w

Trigraphs- 3 letters making one sound night the children should say this as n-igh-t and not n-i-g-h-t which does not sound like night.

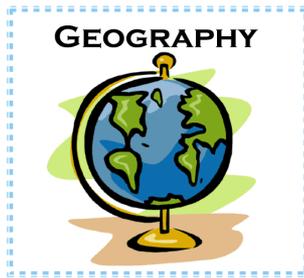
Split digraphs- 2 vowels with a consonant in between. Use to be known as the magic e! spine - i_e home - o_e cube - u_e

We also teach the children to add 'sound buttons' and separate words into the different phonemes. We call these 'sausages and beans'. Beans are single units of sound (eg c-a-t), sausages are digraphs or trigraphs (eg t-r-ai-n)

Maths



- Everyday!
- For Y1 it's all very practical and hands on, finding things out and having a go then moving onto using more mental strategies such as counting on in their heads and using fingers etc.
- A main focus for Y1 will be addition and subtraction bonds to 20 (including small number additions and subtractions). These should be embedded so that by the end of Y1 children are able to use and apply them to more complex problems.



Topic



- We integrate our topic work as much as possible throughout all of the subjects, including English and Maths. We have a main focus/theme and then link it to the rest of our learning.
- We always love to have visitors into class so if you have a particular passion and you think it fits with our current topic, we want to know!
- We will update you each $\frac{1}{2}$ term on our new theme.



Behaviour Expectations In Silver Birch

- Class Charter: set up by children at beginning of the year
- Sidney and Sybil Sloth
- Merits
- The Sunflower System
- Marble Jar – whole class rewards



Our Morning Routine



- The children can enter the class at 8:40 or chat in the playground from 8:30am.
- Home reading books are kept in the entrance to the class and the children can change their books before school starts. You can also find the going home clip board here. HW trays with reading trays.
- They will keep their belongings in the cloak rooms. Their names will be on a sheet in the entrance to each room and will have their new peg number. PE kits in cubes.
- In Silver Birch we are trying to get the children to be a little more independent. So if they are happy to be left without you coming in that is great but obviously play this by ear to start with as it is all new to them.



Communication



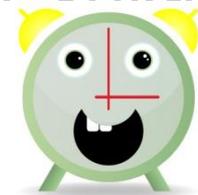
- Emailing updates
- Home arrangements
- Email/call Mrs Carter
- Available for quick chats after school or by appointment if you have a bigger issue that needs addressing.



The rest



- Lunches – On the laptop by the door for your child to select. We will go through this with them to start with until they know what to do. We always make sure they have a lunch sorted so please don't worry.
- Drink bottles filled up each morning and taken home on a Friday to clean.
- Home time: 3:20pm please collect from Cherry playground doors we will release your child when we spot you.



Open door

- We are here to offer support wherever we can, so please do come and talk to us, we are here to listen.
- Please tell us of anything that you think might affect your child's learning or behaviour.

