

Elsenham C of E Primary School



2025 AUTUMN NEWSLETTER FOR SILVER BIRCH - Mrs Draper and Mrs Gunn

Welcome to Year 2!

It has been a delight to welcome Silver Birch class back to school after the summer break. The children have made a superb start to the new school year and are eager to begin the next step in their learning journey. To keep building on this great start, we encourage you to continue supporting key skills at home, such as reading, spelling, and number work. Expectations for homework and weekly spellings can be found in your child's Reading Record, which will be coming home soon, along with a reading book. Details of this term's topic project will also be sent out shortly.

We look forward to meeting some of you at the 'meet the teacher' evening on Wednesday 10th September. If there is anything you wish to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office. All of the support you give is hugely appreciated—Thank you!

Mathematics

This term, our maths work will focus on consolidating knowledge of number with place value; tens and ones, and basic operations such as addition. We will be working on counting on and back from given numbers, counting in sequences and showing different representations of numbers using equipment. Towards the end of term, we will apply this knowledge to other areas of maths such as money and measures. Please continue to support your child with their number bonds and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

Science

Our science topic for this term will be **living things and their habitats**. We begin our topic next week with a hands-on minibeast hunt on the school field and forest area. The children will learn to construct food chains, about the features of different habitats and understand how animals are adapted to live in their habitat.

And there's more!

In history and geography this term, we will be studying our local area—Elsenham! The children will find out how Elsenham looked in the past and be given opportunities to research our location and how it has changed over time. If you have anything of interest regarding our local history then please do get in touch with us!

Multi-skills will be the focus for indoor P.E. and for our outdoor lessons it will be football. This term's P.E. days are **Tuesday** and **Friday** so please ensure that long hair is tied back and earrings are removed. Children need to have a full, named P.E. kit, including trainers, in a bag which will stay in school until half term.

Forest School will take place weekly on a **Tuesday** and children should arrive at school in their 'active wear' clothing, appropriate for getting muddy!

We will be focusing on craft and design in art and mechanisms in D&T. In computing, we will begin to study E-Safety. This is an important unit of work which can lead to further discussion. Please continue to talk to your child about staying safe online.

English

In our first writing unit we will be studying fairy tales and will be basing our learning around the story of 'Rapunzel'. Many fairy tales are well known to the children as they have explored these in Year 1 and Reception.

We will be looking at sentence composition including verbs, nouns and adjectives, and recapping full stops and capital letters.

To help nurture a love of reading, we will be encouraging the children to read for pleasure, as well as reading their school reading books. Our guided reading book this term will be Jill Tomlinson's 'The owl who was afraid of the dark'.

With this newsletter, please find the spellings that the children should be learning and using in their writing this year. These are common words which can be misspelt and they don't always follow a rule, so they can be tricky to remember! In preparation for their weekly spelling sessions, help your child find a memorable way to learn these and make it fun. There are lots of online activities to help with this which are listed on our school website.

Religious Education

We begin our term with the key question of "Why is light an important symbol for Hindus, Christians and Jews?" before digging deeper into "Why Christmas matters to Christians". We will have the opportunity to learn about stories from different religions, religious beliefs and worldviews, thinking about how they are connected to our own.

Information about the Y2 Nativity will be shared with you soon!