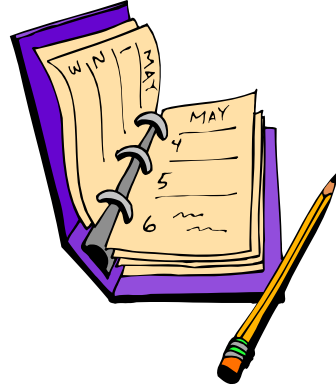


## Important Dates

5th February—Parents' Evening  
7th February—Valentine's Disco  
8th February—Bingo  
12th February—16th February—Half Term  
19th February—Back to School  
1st March—World Book Day  
14th March—Class Assembly 2:45pm  
26th March—6th April—Easter Holidays

Please check the weekly newsletter from Mrs Allen for extra dates and information.



## Year 1 Grasshoppers

### Welcome back everyone!

We hope you have all had a relaxing Christmas break and would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year! We would like to thank you all for your very generous Christmas gifts, cards and kind wishes, we felt very lucky! We hope you are all as excited as us to be starting a new term at Birkwood! The Grasshoppers will be joined by Mrs Bray for the first half term—we are looking forward to working together.

### Class Newsletter

Welcome to the **Spring Term** edition of the class newsletter.

This is to keep parents informed about class news and to give a brief summary of the curriculum areas we will be covering in the coming term.

### Contacting Us

It is important that if you have any worries or concerns about your child's progress or happiness in school that you let us know as soon as possible. The easiest way to contact us is to phone the school office and leave a message to be passed on or by seeing your child's class teacher before or after school.

## Homework

All children will be given spellings to learn which link to their phonics. Spellings will be sent home on a **Friday** and there will be a quiz on the following **Friday**.

For spellings children will be asked to look at the word, say the word, cover the word up and then practise writing the word 3 times.

We would really appreciate it if parents could take the time to read with their child and record this in their reading record, even if this is just for 10 minutes a night it really makes a difference. Children will move up a rung on the reading reward ladder whenever they have read 5 times.

We will also send out a weekly homework challenge which will link to our topic work. This will be sent home on a **Friday** and we would like it to be back in school on the following **Friday** please, thank you for your support.



## Wanted

In this section we will let you know if there are any donations we need to help the children with their learning in school, for example, old newspapers or cardboard boxes.

This term we are looking for:

- **Any junk modelling materials (boxes, toilet rolls, yoghurt pots etc.)**

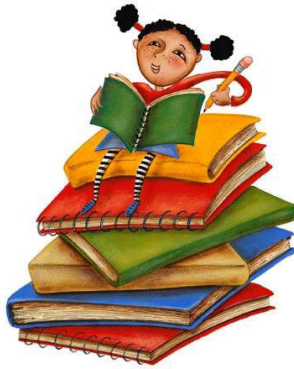
Thank you



## Literacy

Over the next half term we will be learning to write longer sentences using conjunctions, such as 'and', 'but' and 'because'. We will be learning and writing some poetry and we will be writing information texts about Megastructures and The Great Fire of London.

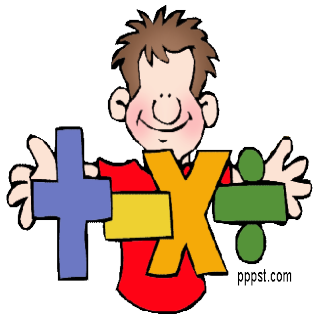
Children will continue to have a daily phonics lesson where they will learn about letters, their sounds and spellings. We will teach handwriting and how to join up in a separate session.



## Numeracy

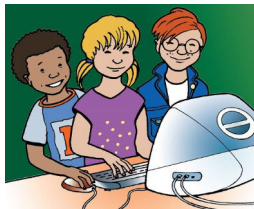
We will keep working on our counting and number recognition and we will also be learning about fractions, measuring and position and direction.

We will be doing some more work on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division! Those children who are ready will be working on their 2x and 5x tables.



## ICT

This term we will be creating our very own eBooks. We will explore the illustrations in some of our favourite stories before using the computers to create our own pictures. We will also learn how to save and edit our work.



## Science

This term the children will become polar explorers! We will learn all about the different animals that can be found in the Arctic and Antarctic and will say whether they are birds, fish or mammals. We will also learn about materials to try and design clothes to keep us warm.

## All About Me!

Our topics this term are **Megastructures** and **Fire! Fire!**

During our '**Megastructures**' topic we will be learning about famous buildings and bridges from around the world. We will research them and find out important facts, we will locate them on a map and create a time-line to show when they were built. As designers, we will create our own megastructures and we will experiment with the different materials we could use.

For our '**Fire! Fire!**' topic we will be learning about The Great Fire of London. We will learn when, where and why this happened and we will talk about what happened after the fire. We will also learn about Firemen and the job they do.



## RE

In RE we will be learning about Christianity and what makes a good friend. We will look at some Bible stories and explore how Jesus was a good friend. We will also explore the Easter Story and talk about how Jesus was welcomed.

## PE / Games

We will be developing our speed agility and quickness. We will look at different ways of moving and how to travel on different parts of our bodies to be most effective. We will develop our balance and learn to look forwards when using equipment. We will also be developing our spatial awareness as we complete the different activities.

Children will also take part in a dance session on a Wednesday with Mrs Porter.

Y1 Grasshoppers P.E.—**Tuesday and Wednesday**

