

Spruce, Sycamore and Walnut

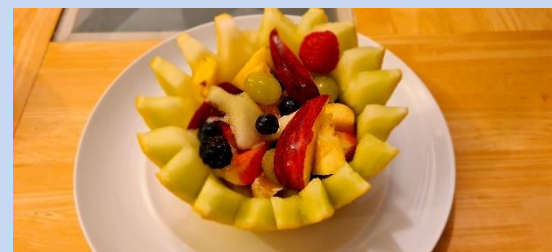
Friday 14th January 2022

News and Reminders

Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful break and managed to spend time with your friends and family. The children have settled in really well and have been extremely focused on their learning. We are all looking forward to another exciting and productive half term.

Visit to The National Space Centre: The children are looking forward to our proposed visit to The National Space Centre on Monday 21st March. They are already extremely engaged about our space topic and have even asked if they can go on a trip to space. The payments for this trip need to be paid on ParentMail by Friday 21st January. Currently we have not received enough contributions so we will make the decision whether the trip can go ahead on Monday 24th January.

Clubs: We are so happy that clubs have started again and all of the children have enjoyed their first sessions this week. This term we are offering the following clubs: Honeycomb, boys football, girls football, maths medley, tag rugby and cooking club. The children are sent to their club at the end of the day and should be collected at 4:15pm from the main entrance. We would also like to say thank you to the parents who have kindly offered to run a boys football club this term. Here is a picture of one of the melon fruit baskets made at the first cooking club session (it looks and smells delicious!).



PE and Library Days: PE days and library days have remained the same for all classes.

	Indoor PE (Gymnastics)	Outdoor PE (Hockey)	Library
Spruce	Wednesday	Thursday	Thursday
Sycamore	Thursday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Walnut	Monday	Wednesday	Tuesday

Uniform:

On PE days your child needs to come into school in their PE kit. We have noticed that some children have been wearing some other coloured jumpers and leggings/joggers.

All children are required to wear for PE:

- Black shorts / Black Leggings / Plain Black Tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers all year round and black plimsolls for indoor PE
- Blue 'Bierton' t-shirt - purchased via ParentMail
- Navy Blue 'Bierton' PE Hoodie - purchased via ParentMail (if they do not have a Bierton PE hoodie, they can wear their normal school jumper)
- Earrings need to be removed (or covered with tape)
- Long hair needs to be tied back.

We would also like to remind you that on non-PE days children should be in their correct school uniform (this includes their school tie and black school shoes). Make-up, including nail varnish, should also be removed for school.

Morning Interventions: We would like remind those children who attended morning interventions that have they have begun again after the Christmas break. The children should be in school at 8:30 so they can promptly begin their intervention.

Homework

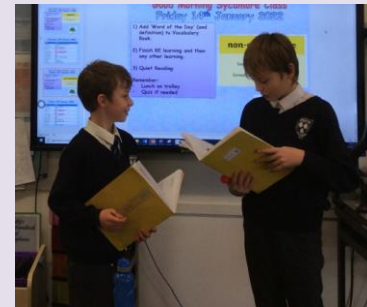
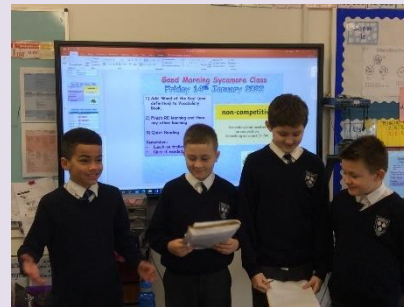
The children will be set homework each week on **Monday** (4pm). This should be completed by the following Monday at the latest. Homework will include:

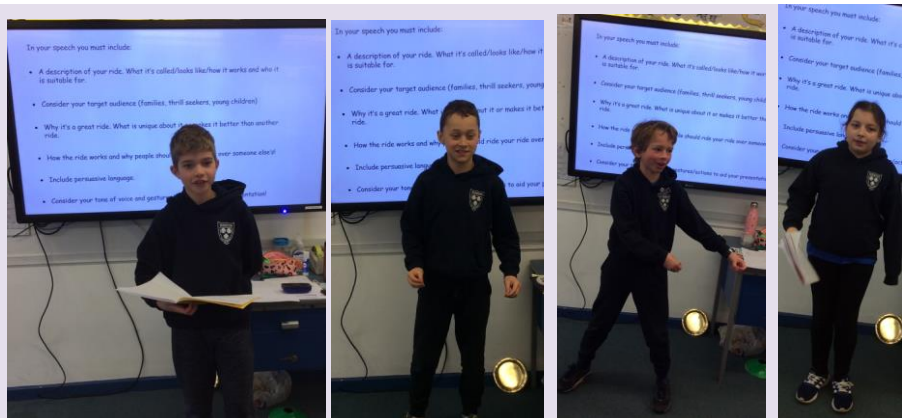
- A weekly arithmetic task set on Seesaw.
- A weekly SPaG task set on Seesaw (this will usually be based on the previous week's learning).
- A weekly spelling activity on Spelling Shed. The spelling activity will link to the spelling ladder that your child is on. They need to complete at least 4 games to practise their words. If you would like a copy of all of the words in their current ladder, please ask your child's class teacher for a paper copy.
- Daily reading and quizzing at least once week on Accelerated Reader. The children can quiz at home using this website:
<http://ukhosted93.renlearn.co.uk/6703196>

- Regular practise on Numbotts and Timetables Rockstars will help to develop your child's fluency of number facts which will increase their confidence in other areas of maths.
- **Homework club** is available for any child who would like to complete some of their homework in school or feel that they need some support with it. Children will need to attend homework club the Friday before their homework is due in.
- Please can you ensure that your child is completing their homework if you are having any problems with completing the homework please let us know on year56team@biertoncombined.bucks.sch.uk

Our Learning

Literacy: In our main Literacy sessions, we have started to read and explore 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell-Boyce. Linked to the book, the children have been using descriptive vocabulary to describe an amusement park ride. They subsequently worked in groups to create an advert to promote their ride. This involved them developing their use of persuasive language.





In SPaG sessions, we have been looking at active and passive voice. Next week, we will recap on using expanded noun phrases to build and extend sentences.

Science and Topic: The children are thoroughly enjoying our Space topic. In Science, they have learnt about the solar system, defined scientific terms (e.g. asteroid, universe, star) and have looked at theories which have proven that the planets are spherical bodies. While in topic, they have learnt about Galileo and the development of the telescope. It has been wonderful to hear them talk so enthusiastically about the topic and witness them asking insightful questions.

RE: Our new RE topic focuses on Sikhism. The children have started to learn about Sikh beliefs and worship. During our discussions, we reminisced about the time Mr Singh came to school and spoke to us about the Sikh religion.



Spirituality: This half-term we will be looking at what life is like for children in parts of Kenya as we make links with a new charity called Karibuni (more details on this to follow). The children will see how life can differ from their own and how homes, schools and families often contrast with their own experience. We will be writing letters next week to children in Kenya and a selection will be taken out by representatives from the Karibuni charity.

Superstar Learners

Christian Values Certificates: The following children have received Christian Values certificates this week. Well done to: Gabbie O (Love), Riley O'H (cooperation) and Ella T (responsibility).

Reading: Well done to Prisha (Walnut) who has become the next word millionaire in Year 5 and 6.

Here is the leader board for class word count and number of quizzes passed over the past month:

Word Count (December)	Percentage of Quizzes Passed (December)
1 st : Walnut	1 st : Walnut (92%)
2 nd : Sycamore	2 nd : Sycamore (90.9%)
3 rd : Spruce	3 rd : Spruce (88.5%)

Numbots and Times Table Rock

Stars: Well done to the following children who have earned the highest amount of coins during November.

	Spruce	Sycamore	Walnut
Numbots	Tommy Jessica Olivia	Finch Dylan R Joseph	Amelia B Grace Elliott
TTRS	Tommy Zachary Maxwell	Emma Pahal Zach	Amelia B Prisha Grace

Diary Dates

W/C: Monday 7th February: Children's Mental Health Week

W/C: Monday 14th February: Diversity Week.

Friday 18th February: End of half term (3:20pm)

Monday 28th February: School reopens

Monday 21st March: Visit to The National Space Centre