



At Long Wittenham School we show our love through kindness, determination and curiosity; strengthening ourselves and our community.

'... with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' Luke 10:27

## Birch Class Spring 1 2026

English		Maths	Science
Reading and Writing	Phonics and Spelling		
<p>This term, our overarching literary theme is exploring the ocean and the impact of human choices on the natural world. Through high-quality texts, children will write for a range of purposes and audiences, developing their ability to structure sentences clearly, organise ideas coherently and write with a clear purpose. Across all writing, we will focus on accurate punctuation and spelling, and on rereading and improving work to make meaning clear to the reader.</p> <p>The Secret of Black Rock Outcome 1: Warning poster Outcome 2: Recount of Erin's story</p> <p>The Big Book of the Blue Outcome: Information page about a new sea creature</p> <p>Somebody Swallowed Stanley Outcome: Persuasive writing explaining why we should look after our oceans</p> <p><b><u>Handwriting</u></b> We will continue to develop clear, fluent handwriting. Children will focus on the correct formation of capital letters, consistent letter size and appropriate spacing between words. In Year 2, there will be an additional focus on accurate starting and finishing points to support the development of joined handwriting.</p>	<p>This term, children will continue to build their phonics knowledge by learning new sounds and spellings and revisiting previously taught ones to develop confidence and fluency in reading and spelling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning new grapheme-phoneme correspondences, including /w/ (wh), /j/ (g), /f/ (ph), /s/ (c, se, ce), /z/ (se, s, zz), /v/ (ve), /l/ (le, al).</li> <li>• Developing accuracy when reading and spelling words with split vowel digraphs (a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e, e-e)</li> <li>• Consolidating sounds and spellings taught in previous terms, including ay, ou, oy, ea, ir, ie, ue, ew and aw</li> <li>• Reading and spelling common exception words</li> </ul> <p>In Year two, we will continue to learn what happens to words when we add suffixes — for example, when to double a final letter, drop the e, or change a y to i before adding endings -ing, -ed, -er, -est and -y</p> <p>We will learn why some words end with 'ge' or 'dge' and how to choose between endings such as k or ck and ch or tch, and when to add -s or -es to make plurals.</p>	<p>In Maths, we will develop our understanding of number, calculation and problem-solving. Year 1 will focus on place value and addition and subtraction within 20, while Year 2 will explore money, multiplication and division. Children will apply their learning in practical contexts and develop fluency and confidence with numbers.</p> <p><b><u>Year 1</u></b> Recognise, read and write numbers to 20 Understand place value within 20 Compare and order numbers within 20 Add and subtract numbers within 20, including using number bonds and mental strategies Solve simple one-step problems using addition and subtraction</p> <p><b><u>Year 2</u></b> Recognise and use coins and notes to solve practical problems involving money Solve problems involving multiplication and division, including using arrays and repeated addition/subtraction Recall and use multiplication and division facts for 2, 5 and 10 times tables Apply knowledge of number and calculation to solve one- and two-step problems</p>	<p>In Science, we will learn about animals, including how they are grouped, their physical features and what they eat. We will explore similarities and differences between animals and develop our scientific skills through research, data collection and learning about a real-life scientist.</p> <p>We will: Name and describe the physical features of a range of animals</p> <p>Group animals based on their similarities and differences</p> <p>Identify the characteristics of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish</p> <p>Learn about the diets of carnivores, herbivores and omnivores</p> <p>Use non-fiction texts to find information about animals</p> <p>Collect and record data in block graphs and use these to answer questions</p> <p>Learn about the scientist Jane Goodall and some of her key discoveries</p>



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R.E	Geography	Computing	PSHE
<p>In R.E., we will be exploring Judaism and asking, 'Is Shabbat important to Jewish children?' We will learn about Shabbat, the Jewish day of rest, and why it is important to Jewish children and families. We will explore the Jewish Creation Story, learn how Shabbat is celebrated at home and in the synagogue, and understand why rest, thankfulness and spending time together are important. We will also reflect on what it means to have time to rest and what we are thankful for in our own lives.</p>	<p>In Geography, we will learn to name and locate the world's continents and oceans. We will use maps, globes and atlases to explore where the continents are in relation to one another and identify the oceans that connect and surround them, developing an early understanding of the world.</p>	<p>In Computing, we will learn about how technology is used outside of school and in everyday life. We will develop our thinking skills by grouping and sorting information, and use digital tools to create pictures and images. We will learn how to use technology safely and creatively to support our learning.</p>	<p>In PSHE, we will continue to explore the theme of celebrating difference to develop a deeper understanding of this important area. We will learn to recognise similarities and differences between ourselves and others and understand that everyone is unique. We will explore what bullying is, how it can make people feel, and what to do if someone is being bullied. We will learn how to include others, make new friends, use kind words and give compliments, helping them to build positive, respectful relationships and feel confident celebrating who we are.</p>
Art	Music	P.E	How you can support at home
<p>In Art, we will be exploring watercolour painting through experimentation and discovery. We will learn how watercolour behaves, how colours mix, and how unexpected effects can help inspire our artwork. We will make marks, develop shapes and lines, and reflect on what they can see in their paintings. We will also look at the work of artists such as Paul Klee and Emma Burleigh and share our own ideas and responses to their art.</p>	<p>In Music, we will be exploring the unit 'Magical Musical Aquarium.' We will listen to and create music inspired by the sounds and movements of the sea. Our focus will be on timbre – the different qualities of sounds – and we will use a range of percussion instruments to create underwater soundscapes. We will also learn to compose simple pieces, perform in unison, and experiment with how different sounds can be combined to express ideas and moods.</p>	<p>In P.E., we will develop dynamic balance and stance to improve control, coordination and confidence when moving. Children will practise walking forwards and backwards along a line to develop balance, and will learn to hold a balanced stance while catching balls of different sizes. These skills will be developed through focused activities, as well as cooperative and competitive games.</p> <p>In Dance, we will explore shapes, partnering, artistry and circles, working creatively with others to create and perform simple movement sequences.</p>	<p><b>Read daily:</b> Spend time reading together each day. This could be sharing a story, listening to your child read aloud, or exploring non-fiction texts about topics they are learning in school. Encourage them to talk about the story, make predictions, and discuss new vocabulary.</p> <p><b>Practise number facts:</b> Help your child become confident with number bonds. Practise number bonds to 5, 10, 20, and 100 using objects or quick mental games.</p> <p><b>Talk about wider curriculum topics:</b> Engage your child in discussions about what they are learning in subjects like Science, Geography, and R.E. Encourage them to ask questions, share what they have learned, and make connections to their own experiences.</p>