



# 'BIRCHANGER BUZZ'

*'Learn to Love, Love to Learn'*

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September

Children started their new topics for the term this week. Ladybirds have started their learning around the theme of 'Ourselves;' Hedghogs topic is The Great Fire of London; Badgers and Squirrels classes are learning about life in the Stone Age and Owls Class are basing their work on Ancient Greece.

Parents who came along to our 'Meet the Team' meetings received a copy of curriculum maps and these have been sent home if you weren't at the meeting so please check book bags. We hope you found the meetings useful to meet the teachers and learning support assistants working in your child's class and find out about routine and expectations.

## **Class Assemblies**

Parents are welcome to join us in our Friday assembly each week at 2.50pm when we celebrate the achievements of the children. Class assemblies will take place on the following dates, starting at 2.45pm

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – Squirrels Class Year 4  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September – Hedgehogs Class Year 1 /2  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October – Owls Class Year 5 /6  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Ladybirds Class Reception  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Badgers Class Year 3

## **Forest School**

On Wednesday children in Reception and Year 1 enjoyed their first Forest School session of the year. Mrs Miles has now qualified as a Forest School leader so is running these sessions supported by other school staff.

## **Swimming**

Also on Wednesday, Year 2 children went swimming. At Birchanger School Year 2 children swim in the Autumn Term, Year 3 in the Spring Term and Year 1 in the Summer Term.

## **Roots To Food**

On Tuesday we welcomed Darren from Roots to Food. He spent the day in school running activities with all children on the theme of healthy eating. Key Stage 2 children took part in a 'Ready, Steady Cook' challenge. The children were shown the ingredients and shared their ideas to plan two recipes. They were very adventurous coming up with parmesan chicken with pasta and peas and ratatouille vegetables and spicy salmon with bombay potatoes and rice! Mrs Casey and Mrs Bayford were team leaders and 2 children from each year worked in groups to prepare the dishes as the 15 minute clock counted down. Everybody got a chance to watch the cooking and take a close look (and smell) then voted on the winner. When Darren sends them through we'll send the recipes home so children can have a go at cooking them.

Reception and Key Stage 1 children had an active 'Fitness and Food' session playing games to learn about food groups and healthy eating. They finished by making and drinking healthy fruit smoothies.

## **Bags To School**

We will be collecting unwanted clothing etc through the Bags to School scheme which raises funds for the school. Bags and information has been sent home this week. Filled bags should be brought to school on 23<sup>rd</sup> September by 9am. Please don't bring bags before this as we have nowhere to store them.

## **Clubs**

Football and Netball started this week and other clubs start next week. As the hall is in use, children will change in the following classrooms and you can collect them from there at the end of club or children will go to the office and be collected there.

Boys football – Badgers Class (small demountable)

Girls Football – Owls Classroom (Large demountable)

Netball – Squirrels Classroom (next to Reception Class)

We are always looking to offer children a range of different clubs and are very grateful to parents who currently run netball and science clubs. If any parent is interested in running an extra-curricular club I would be very pleased to hear from you. For example could you share your interest in gardening, chess, sewing, knitting, art and craft, photography .....

Have a lovely weekend

Helen Coop