

Birch Curriculum Overview -Autumn Term

Dear Parent,

This document will provide you with information about some of the topics we will be working on this term, and ways in which you can support your child's learning at home. There is also guidance detailing what additional items your child will need during the week for all other curricular activities

What we will do in school...

What you could do together at home...

Science

This term in science we will be learning about materials. The students will learn about different types of materials, the properties these materials consist of, the difference between man-made and natural materials, and the uses of different materials.

Look at household objects and discuss what materials they are made from. Explain why these objects are made out of specific materials, and what might happen if these objects were made of unsuitable materials.

English

Our writing activities will link to a range of Roald Dahl books. The students will focus on sentence construction, and extended writing tasks such as creating simple character descriptions. Birch will also undertake weekly comprehension tasks to develop their understanding of the texts they are reading, where the focus will be on extracting key information.

Encourage your children to write short sentences about their interests. If they don't enjoy recording using pen and paper, use a computer and encourage them to type their thoughts. Hear them read, ask them questions about the text they are reading. Stimulate their interest in reading by encouraging them to read a range of texts such as magazines or comics on subjects that interest them.

Humanities

Birch class humanities sessions will focus on homes and houses from different parts of the world. This will enable the students to develop their geographical knowledge and learn about different global communities.

Encourage them to explore different parts of the world by using google maps or google earth. Ask them research facts about the country, such as its climate. Discuss what it might feel like to live in one of these countries.

PSHE

This term the students will be focusing on how we keep ourselves safe. They will learn to define what safe and unsafe situations are, what actions they can take to prevent these situations from happening, and what to do if they find themselves in an unsafe situation.

Discuss situations that maybe unsafe within the house. Explain what they should and should not do in these situations. When outside the house, talk about road safety, e.g. how to cross the road safely, using pedestrian crossings etc.

Maths

Our maths lessons we will be focusing on the functional skills of using money, time and measuring. In number we concentrating on areas such as place value and the number operations if addition and subtraction.

Talk to your child when you are at the shops, pointing out numbers, prices. Challenge them to look for the cheapest and most expensive items. Ask them to estimate what the total cost for the shopping might come too. And if using cash, what change you would receive

Please note:

Life Skills – Monday

The students will visit a local supermarket on Monday mornings to buy snack food and cooking items. This enables them to develop their organisational, money management skills and most importantly their self- confidence when going into the community.

PE – Monday

Can you please send in a P.E kit, i.e. shorts or tracksuit bottoms, T-shirt, trainers and deodorant. This term's focus will continue on the key skills of teamwork and following instructions in a range of sporting activities.



Home-School Book

We record in the home-school book to inform you of any important information regarding your child, such as any special achievements or any anxieties they may have had during the day. A sheet informing you what your child has been learning during the week will also be sent every Friday (This will be inserted into the book) we will also put important letters in the book. **Please try to read the book every day.** We will of course call you if your child has been involved in any major incidents.

Please feel free to write what your child has been up to at home, any achievements, any concerns or questions you may have. If your child has missed breakfast, or had a bad night's sleep - please let us know so that we can attend to them accordingly.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information. If you have any other queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.



Liam, Sandra, Sam and Emma

The Birch Team