

Birch Supporting learning at home- 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 additional 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 'living things and their environments.' The students will learn about the different types of animal groups. They will also learn how to name and identify a variety of plants and animals in their habitats. They will also find out how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals, by researching habitats of the animals that live there.

Encourage your child to watch wildlife programmes. Focus on where the animals live, ask questions such as why do you think that habitat is suitable? Go into the garden and explore what habitats you might find there.

Literacy

This term the students will be focusing on poetry, where the students will be learning about a range of poetry, such as acrostic, shape and haiku. Birch will also continue to complete weekly comprehension tasks, where the focus will be on extracting key information by answering who, what and why questions.

Hear your children read, ask them questions about the book they are reading (I've added a list of questions you could ask in their reading diary) Encourage them to read a range of texts such as magazines or comics. Ask them to think about words that rhyme. Encourage to come up with words to describe things such as the seasons using their senses as a focus.

Humanities

Birch's humanities sessions will focus on the seasons, where the children will learn about the different types of weather and make associations between the weather and seasons. They will also learn how the seasons differ in other parts of the world, finding out about the impact it has in these places.

Encourage your children to watch programmes about the wider world, discuss how places around the world differ. Talk about how and why the weather changes. Talk about the seasons, how are they different? Focus on the clothes we might wear in the winter, summer etc.

PSHE

Birch will be focusing on health and well-being this term, where the students will focus how they can keep themselves both healthy and happy.

Talk about the benefits of eating healthy food and exercise. Talk about the benefits of sleep and rest, by explaining how this can help us with our concentration and when we need to work.

Maths

In our maths lessons we will continue to focus on the functional skills of using money, time and measuring. We will be learning how to develop the students' problem solving skills in relation to all these areas. We shall also continue to focus on the 4 number operations of + - x and ÷. We shall also continue to learn the multiplication tables.

Continue to talk to your child when you are at the shops, pointing out numbers, prices and use key vocabulary such as, what is the cheapest and most expensive? Look at bus or train timetables, asking simple questions, e.g. What time is the next bus/ train arriving? Try discussing how you manage a weekly budget, for example how they use their pocket money.

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 accessing the community.



Yoga - Monday

Can you please send your child in with comfortable clothes, e.g. track suit bottoms.

Swimming - Fridays after the half term

The students will be starting swimming on the Friday 3rd November, can you please ensure that children are provided with a swimming costume and towel.



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.**

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 **Liam, Hitu, Sandra, Beth, Liam Cahill or Jack.**