

Birch Curriculum Overview Summer 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 focusing on two topics, Space and Plants. In regards to Space, the students will learn about the order of the planets in the Solar System, and how day and night occur as a result of the rotation of the Earth. Their learning on Plants will involve them finding out about life cycles of a plant, the different parts of a plant and how a plant reproduces.

Read books and websites about space. Maybe visit the National Space Museum in Leicester; this is a fantastic venue, with lots of practical opportunities to learn about space.

Grow a plant at home, discuss the process. Visit Kew Gardens in London. This also provides lots of practical and fun opportunities to learn about plants and different environments.

Literacy

We will continue to develop the students'

writing skills by learning how to construct sentences, using a range of punctuation and conjunctions to add detail. 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. This term the focus will be on the structure of a range of

Continue to encourage them to write 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 book they are reading. Look at a range of non-fiction texts i.e. cookery books discuss how their structure is different from fictional books, e.g. use of glossary, contents page, use of photographs, labels and captions etc

Humanities

Birch's humanities sessions will focus on 'Rainforests'. We shall be looking at the features of a Rainforest, in what parts of the world we find these environments, and the creatures that use this setting as a habitat.

Discuss what they know and have learned about this subject. Encourage them to watch programmes or read books that focus on Rainforests. Maybe a visit to 'The Living Rainforest' in Newbury to experience the conditions found in a Rainforest would stimulate interest.

PSHE

This terms focus will be on 'Healthy Living' where the students will be learning about how they can maintain a healthy lifestyle through eating a balanced diet and regular exercise.

Prepare a healthy meal with your child, and talk about the benefits of healthy food. Emphasise the problems fatty and sugary foods can cause. Encourage your child to visit a sports club or go for a short daily walk to support their physical fitness.

Maths

Our maths lessons we will continue to focus on the functional skills of using money, time and measuring. Birch will be looking at how to collect information and interpret the data found in bar charts and timetables. We will also be developing the students' knowledge of fractions, by looking at how to find $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ s of objects and numbers.

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? Talk about the value of money, e.g. how many pence in a £1. Look at bus or train timetables, asking simple questions, e.g. What time is the next bus/ train arriving? Ask your child to divide food items such as pizzas into $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ etc.

Please note:

Life Skills - Monday

The students will continue to 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.



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, Sandra, Sam or Emma.**