Birch Wood Area Special school

Class – The Burrow

Autumn 2022

Curriculum Newsletter







Dear Parents and Carers,

After what sounds to have been a fantastic summer holidays for all the Burrow students, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome your child back to school and share with you the topics and units of work being covered throughout the Autumn term in The Burrow. I am looking forward to an exciting and busy term and I hope that the students will continue to develop their love of learning.

The curriculum focuses on both academic and therapeutic sessions, which aims to engage and inspire students to reach their potential academically whilst also working towards individualised targets linked to their Educational Health Care Plans.

As well as the information detailed below, students will have access to the Immersive room. Some students will take part in specialist programmes such as body awareness, story massage, Tac pac, dance massage, music therapy, rebound therapy, Lego therapy, hydrotherapy, speech and language and Occupational therapy depending on their individual needs.

		Termly Topic Theme		
Autumn Term 1	Jurassic World	Students will be investigating our topic "Jurassic World". Students will engage with cross curriculum resources about the topic looking at different Dinosaurs, prehistoric remains and different periods of time when Dinosaurs roamed.		
Autumn Term 2	Story Tellers	Students will be investigating our topic Story Tellers. Students will engage with cross curricular resources about the topic focusing on different developing a love of reading and being immersed in a story.		
English				
Autumn Term 1	Non-chronological reports	Students will develop their non-chronological report writing skills by writing dinosaur fact files. Students will research different dinosaurs and consolidate their knowledge by writing it in a fact file.		
Autumn Term 2	Creative Wring	Students will develop their creative writing skills by using story dice and story cards to write different short stories to share with their peers.		
Maths				
Autumn Term 1	<u>Number</u> Number and Place value	Students will develop their understanding of number to be able to count and represent any given number from 1 – 1000 using different methods of representation.		
Autumn Term 2	<u>Number</u> Calculation	Students will continue to develop their mathematical understanding by counting in groups of numbers. Students will also develop their understanding of the key principles of addition and subtraction.		
Science				
Autumn Term 1	Working scientifically	Students will develop their understanding of working scientifically. Students will develop their ability to display data in tables and graphs and make accurate predictions.		

Autumn Term 2	Living things and their habitats	Students will explore a variety of ways to identify, sort, group and classify living things. Students will develop their knowledge of how animals are split into 'vertebrates' and 'invertebrates' and begin to consider the differences between living things within these classifications. They use and create classification keys to group, identify and name living things from the local habitat and beyond. This unit also introduces students to the idea that environments are subject to human-made and natural changes, and that these changes can have a significant impact on living things. Throughout the unit students will continue to work scientifically by gathering, recording and presenting information in different ways.			
	RSE				
Autumn Term 1	The way we think	Students will learn about the way in which we think, everyone's likes and dislikes and similarities and differences.			
Autumn Term 2	Lets agree to disagree	Students develop their understanding of the way we think and look at times people agree and disagree. Students will develop understanding of agreeing to disagree.			
Phonics and calligraphy					
Autumn Term 1 & 2	Set 1-3 sounds and a-z Letter formation	Students will develop their understanding of different sounds and how we blend these to create and spell different cvc words and complex words. Students will develop their handwriting to write these letters and sounds learnt in phonics.			
Cookery					
Autumn Term 1 & 2	Developing basic cooking skills	Students will develop their basic cooking skills to enable them to cook more independently. Students will develop their reading through following recipes and different cooking skills such as cutting and frying by preparing these dishes.			
PE					
Autumn Term 1	Teamwork	Students will begin the term using a variety of different learning activities, some sport specific to develop their teamwork and communication skills. Students will then continue to develop on these areas together with improving their competence in Sport Specific skills			
Autumn Term 2	Gymnastics and Invasion Games	Students will specifically focus on the sport of Gymnastics and also complete a unit on a chosen invasion games. Students will be aiming to develop their sense of challenge, physical competence, communication and creativity within these units.			
PSHCE / Sensory regulation					
Autumn Term 1	Zones of regulation / Proprioceptive system	Using a cognitive behaviour approach, students will develop their ability to recognise when they are in different states called			
Autumn Term 2	Zones of regulation / vestibular system	"zones". Students will also learn how to use strategies to stay in a zone or move from one to another. Students explore calming techniques, cognitive strategies, and sensory supports so they will have a toolbox of methods to use to move between zones.			

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		Students will develop an understanding of their own sensory system.			
	Community Visit				
Autumn Term 1	Accessing my local community Swimming at Waterfield Leisure centre	Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of how to keep themselves safe whilst in the local community. Students will have the opportunity to experience the local community of Melton whilst gaining practical experiences of how to self- regulate and be safe in the community.			
Autumn Term 2	Accessing my local community – Accessing Local Libraries, parks and woods.				
Communication Games with Gail					
Autumn Term 1 & 2	Friendship	Students will develop their understanding of the rules of friendship and social communication through playing different games.			
		Humanities			
Autumn Term 1	History Prehistoric remains	Students will look at the prehistoric world and how fossils and remains have shaped what we know of the time of the dinosaurs.			
Autumn Term 2	History Kings and Queens	Students will learn about William the Conqueror's reign from 1066 onwards, how King John made himself very unpopular as monarch and why King Henry VIII married so many times. Students will also look at who Queen Anne was, what Queen Victoria achieved during her reign and look at the role of the British monarchy today.			
		Art			
Autumn Term 1	Dinosaur Art	This half term we will be exploring how we can create a dinosaur model out of different material including clay and wire. Students will learn different craft techniques whilst making the model.			
Autumn Term 2	Illustrating a children's book.	Students will develop their art skills by creating different book characters using a range of art techniques.			
Drama					
Autumn Term 1	Learning basis drama skills	Students will develop their communication skills through exploring different drama techniques.			
Autumn Term 2	Christmas Production	different drama teeningues.			
Group Reading					
Autumn term 1 & 2	Developing a love of reading	Students will engage with different daily stories to develop a love of reading and develop curiosity and imagination.			
Hydrotherapy pool					
Autumn term 1 & 2	Swimming	Your child will take part in weekly swimming sessions. These sessions will focus on water confidence, water safety, sensory regulation, following self-care routines and peer interactions. Students will also have the opportunity to work toward their swimming badges.			

Things that you could do at home:

Resources to support your child's learning throughout the curriculum at home will be uploaded to Kinteract.

Literacy: read regularly with your child to support their understanding of speaking, listening and phonics.

Maths: Encourage your child to develop their number formation and counting in groups of numbers at home.

PSHEC: Encourage your child to identify 3 positives about their week.

Cookery: Include your child in cooking activities that they can take part in. Ask them to collect different ingredients during a food shop or from the cupboards at home. Breakfast meal recipes will be uploaded to Kinteract for your child to access at home.

PE: Play games together (football, catch, balancing activities). Take your child swimming if you can as well.

Preparation for Adulthood: Practise independence skills such as brushing teeth, tidying your room, making your own drink and tying your laces.

I am pleased to help you with any questions you may have about your child. Thank you and I look forward to another exciting term!

Poppy Marriott

Primary Autism Provision Lead and The Burrow's Class Teacher