



Dear parents and carers,

I would like to welcome you to the Eagle’s Summer Term Newsletter. During this term we have a range of activities for students to learn about, explore and participate in before the Summer holidays. We will be developing our communication and independence skills by continuing our Forest School trips and then making use of the opportunities to interact with the community.

As always we are continuing with the Independence Curriculum pathway which covers five areas of learning which are listed further below. All students will take part in sessions such as Hello Senses and Attention Autism to help further develop student’s independence and independence skills.

Our Themes this term will be:

<p>Spring Term 1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Volcano’s and Earthquakes</p> <p>Our theme will follow our Geography topic ‘What is Making the Earth Angry’. It will focus on the reason Earthquakes and Volcano’s occur. The theme will also influence our literacy topic where we will be creating a newspaper report about an erupting volcano. In art, we will be creating volcanos with bicarbonate of soda and vinegar, we will be painting volcanos and using a cut up image of the world to show tectonic plates.</p> <p>Our science topic is linked to our theme by looking at how chemical reactions are formed. We will explore what happens when you mix materials together and how we can separate them.</p>
<p>Spring Term 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Myths and Legends</p> <p>The Myths and Legends theme will focus on our Literacy and Art topics. We will be creating letters about a sighting of the Loch Ness Monster and exploring how these Myths occur. The students will be writing as if they are explorers that are sending home their findings. In Art we will be reading a different myth each week and creating artwork that links to the story. Some weeks we will sequence the story by creating storyboards and other weeks we hope to design our own mythical creatures.</p> <p>We will also be looking at some common Myths about why volcanoes erupt within the term to see if we can use last term’s learning and expel the myths.</p>

Our class are following a combination of Engagement and Independence Pathway. The overlap in pathways enables us to personalise the learning for the pupils in our class. The engagement pathway is an extremely pupil centred and individualised curriculum focusing on five key areas, incorporating essential therapies. The five key areas of the Engagement Curriculum are “My Communication”, “My Thinking”, My

Movement”, “Myself” and “My Enrichment”. The Independence Curriculum offers a similar level of personalisation but includes more discrete subject teaching in areas such as literacy, maths and science.

My Communication – Reading, Literacy and Phonics

The Eagles will continue to follow the Ruth Miskin phonics programme over the Summer Term. We will be following the order of sounds they recommend and completing a variety of work linking to that sound. There will be opportunities to explore items that begin with each phoneme as well as practice letter formation and blending.

Summer 1: In literacy we will be creating a newspaper report about a volcanic eruption. We will be looking at the different features of a newspaper article and the layout of the text. We will be using what we learn to read information about a Volcano in Spain and write our own reports. The focus will be to read through a text and learn how to select the most important parts.

Summer 2: Summer 2 will focus on how to write a letter to their parents about seeing the Loch Ness Monster. We hope to have some experience days where we hunt round the school to find a monster and really become explorers. We will be looking at what needs to go in a letter and the importance of its layout. The focus will be on how we can add adjectives to our writing to create descriptive work.

There are opportunities throughout Summer 1 and 2 to access sensory stories that link to the terms theme. These will focus on exploring each of the five senses with a variety of objects. Summer 1 will be about ‘Super Bear’ going to find a volcano. Summer 2 will directly link to the literacy topic and be about the Loch Ness monster.

My Thinking - Maths and Science

The Eagles will be looking at Time across Summer 1 and 2. We are starting with how to sequence events which will lead into how to tell the time from a clock. There will be opportunities to create a sandwich and sequence each step and chances to use large clocks to show different times. We hope to extend the knowledge of time that the Eagles currently have to be able to read a clock.

Summer 1: In science the Eagles will be looking at chemical reactions. They will be helping ‘Dr Albert’ work how what changes and how. The Eagles will look at reversible reactions like freezing water and melting it. We will also look at irreversible reactions by baking cupcakes and seeing if we can give ‘Dr Albert’ his eggs back. The focus for the term will be on how materials change and the different states of matter they can become.

Summer 2: In science the Eagles will be looking at green plants. We will be using the sets of planters we have in our garden to grow our own flowers and see key stages of plant growth. We will also look at the different areas of a plant and use terms like ‘stem’ or ‘bulb’ in a scientific context.

My Movement - PE

We will continue to have weekly PE sessions with James Collington to focus on MATP targets and a variety of movement. James is also introducing a range of sports like Bocce within these lessons. Along with this, we hope to implement more physical learning into the other key areas by creating on experience opportunities in Literacy and Drama.

There will be opportunities to use the Hydrotherapy pool in school and attend rebound therapy, in line with students EHCPs.



Myself - PSHE

The summer terms PSHE topic I 'Knowing How I am Changing'. In Summer 1 this will be looking at how emotions change towards a person or throughout the day. We will be looking at making emotion diaries to see what influences our personal emotions. There will also be an emotion based Sensory Story to explore to look at the different emotions and how we show them. In Summer 2 we will look at the physical changes in the body as we get older.

My Enrichment

This area encompasses lots of different motivating therapies, for example rebound therapy, music therapy, hydrotherapy (EHCP dependent) and activities. We will take part in enrichment activities including rehearsing for assemblies, cooking, dressing up and themed days. We hope to complete residential trip to Lea Green this term which will help to increase independence for all students.

Things you could do at home

My Communication: Give opportunities to read a variety of books and texts. Ask questions about what they have read or elements of the story.

Myself: Help them complete their emotion diaries at home and see if they can tell you why they are feeling that emotion.

My Thinking: Ask them what the time is (o'clock or half past) or what happens now and what happens next in a story.

If you are unsure about anything, please email me on palmerda@birchwoodschoo.co.uk I am always happy to help you with any questions you may have about your child.

I am very much looking forward to working with you this term and look forward to seeing the progress the Eagles can make.

Daisy Palmer
Class Teacher