Birch Wood Area Special school
Class 7DP
Autumn 2023
Curriculum Newsletter







Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have had a fantastic summer break and had opportunities to both relax and enjoy some quality family time. It's exciting to be back for another year at Birch Wood. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome your child back to school and share topics and units of work being covered throughout the Autumn term. We start this academic year with a great class team, with myself as the class lead. The following LSAs join the class team; Julita with us full time, joined by Sam working Monday to Wednesday, Lauren working Tuesday and Wednesday, and Kyra and Victoria working Thursday and Friday. We are looking forward to a great year filled with varied activities, fun and learning.

Our class are following the Aspire Pathway. This means they are learning subject specific content which is personalised to their strengths and needs. The table below gives an outline of topics, content, knowledge and skills that we will be looking at over the next term.

| Maths   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Number  | Enterprise: Rickshaw Challenge                              |  |
| Place Value and 4 Operation   | Money   |  |
|   | Money Handling skills                                       |  |
| English   |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Transition writing task – Harry Potter  | Weather poetry – linked to autumn/winter themes             |  |
|   | (e.g. fireworks)  |  |
| Norse mythology - Beowulf   |   |  |
| PSHE  |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Making new friends  | British Values (Tolerance)                                  |  |
| <ul> <li>Keeping safe out in the local area with</li> </ul>                             | Human rights  |  |
| increasing independence, personal safety,   | <ul> <li>People who have moved to Leicestershire</li> </ul> |  |
| travel awareness  | from other places, (including the experience                |  |
| <ul> <li>Recognising and responding to peer pressure</li> </ul>                         | of refugees) about human rights and the UN                  |  |
| <ul> <li>Consequences of anti-social behaviour</li> </ul>                               | Convention on the Rights of the Child                       |  |
| (including gangs and gang related behaviour)  | (including Protected Characteristics)                       |  |
| <ul><li>Who can we ask for help from?</li></ul>   | <ul> <li>How we can make positive changes</li> </ul>        |  |
|   | Student council   |  |
| Reading   |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Students will access a range of reading materials appropr                               | ·   |  |
| reading, comprehension and inference skills. These sessi                                |   |  |
| reading books, reading for pleasure and non-fiction reading related to current affairs. |   |  |
| Science   |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Cells & Movement  | Energy costs & energy Transfer                              |  |
| Variation & human reproduction  | Light & sound   |  |

| Humanities  |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| <u>History</u>  | <u>History</u>  |  |
| The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain              | The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain              |  |
| Explore the spread of the Roman Empire out of Italy     | Explore the spread of the Roman Empire out of Italy     |  |
| and across large parts of Europe, parts of North Africa | and across large parts of Europe, parts of North Africa |  |
| and West Asia. Discover how Britain changed after the   | and West Asia. Discover how Britain changed after the   |  |
| invasion and conquest by the Roman                      | invasion and conquest by the Roman                      |  |
| Army.   | Army.   |  |
| R.E.  |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| What makes some places sacred to believers?             | Why does Christmas matter to Christians?                |  |
| Explore different places of worship around the world    | To explore the importance of Christmas to Christians    |  |
| that are visited by worshippers. Students will have a   | and themselves including friends and family. To         |  |
| focus on Christianity and Islam.                        | explore the real meaning of Christmas.                  |  |
| ICT   |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Using IT in the real world                              | Using IT in the real world                              |  |
| Developing skills in PowerPoint                         | Developing skills in PowerPoint                         |  |
| Explore and develop skills in using advanced tools in   | Explore and develop skills in using advanced tools in   |  |
| Microsoft PowerPoint. Students will be planning and     | Microsoft PowerPoint. Students will be planning and     |  |
| creating an interactive multimedia product as part of   | creating an interactive multimedia product as part of   |  |
| their assessment.                                       | their assessment.                                       |  |
|   |   |  |
| Art/Design/F  |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Design: 3D Glasses                                      | Food  |  |
| You will be investigating a wide range of themes from   | Basic Hygiene and safety in the kitchen                 |  |
| animals, music and festivals. You will design, test and | Taste - Ed  |  |
| make a 3D themed glasses for a fancy-dress company.     | Sandwiches  |  |
| PE  |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| 0.0.4   |   |  |
| OAA/Team Building                                       | Functional Movement                                     |  |
| Initial movement assessment made by teacher.            | (Gymnastics)  |  |
| Establishing rules and routines.                        |   |  |
| Teaching Fundamental movement and communication         | Gymnastics– this could be floor or vaulting.            |  |
| skills.   | Teaching fundamental movement through space –           |  |
|   | focus on strength, balance and co-ordination.           |  |
| <u>Team Games</u>                                       | Develop awareness of personal space and boundaries      |  |
| Negotiating space, embedding rules and developing       | of touch.   |  |
| communication for team games.                           |   |  |
|   | Fitness or Indoor Athletics practise                    |  |
| Music   |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1   | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Music Production  |   |  |
| Introduction to Music Production using Technology       |   |  |

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| Food For Life  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Autumn Term 1  | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Nature 01  | Climate 01  |  |
| Type of soil   | Understanding Climate   |  |
| How vegetables grow  | Effect of climate on food and seasons   |  |
| Moving Together (Dance)  |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1  | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Working together to produce a dance performance as art of their Arts Explorer Award.         |   |  |
| Drama  |   |  |
| Autumn Term 1  | Autumn Term 2   |  |
| Development of Drama skills  | Sparkleshark by Phillip Ridley  |  |
| Revisiting and exploring new drama techniques to build upon student's toolkits and knowledge | Practical study of a whole play text: from page to stage. Interpreting roles and scenes as actors and directors. Rehearsal techniques to improve scene delivery. Exploring status, bullying, friendships, peer dynamics |  |

If you are unsure about anything, please email me on <a href="mailto:pateld@birchwoodschool.co.uk">pateld@birchwoodschool.co.uk</a> . I am always happy to help you with any questions you may have about your child.

Thank you for your continued support,

Deena Patel

7DP class teacher Curriculum Lead for ICT, RE and Humanities