



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's exciting to be back for another year at Birch Wood – we are now in year 8! We're looking forward to a great year of varied activities, fun and learning. We're hoping to carry on displaying fantastic behaviour and a great team spirit and continue to help and support one and another. This class have gone from strength to strength over the last few years, being understanding and kind to each other and we know that they will continue to work hard and prove how amazing they are.

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 Place Value and 4 Operations	<i>Students working between Prep3 upwards</i> Enterprise: Rickshaw Challenge Algebra <i>Students working between Launch 1-Prep3</i> Enterprise: Rickshaw Challenge Money
English	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Once – Morris Gleitzman (Post 1914 Novel) context, themes and characters; analysing quotations; using PEEL.	Writing for different purposes – Leaflets Theme Parks
PSHE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British Values (Democracy) • What is politics • What is the government • How are laws made • Personal beliefs and attitudes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assumptions and stereotypes about gender • Understanding bullying • Standing up for self and others • Gender diversity • LGBTQ + Homophobia • Celebrating difference and remaining friends
Reading	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Students will access a range of reading materials appropriate to their individual level, to help them develop their reading, comprehension and inference skills. These sessions will include phonics where appropriate, book level reading books, reading for pleasure and non-fiction reading related to current affairs.	
Science	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Breathing & Digestion Evolution & Inheritance	Work & Heating and Cooling Wave Effect & Wave Properties

Humanities	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p align="center"><u>History</u></p> <p align="center">Magna Carta and the emergence of Parliament</p> <p>Explore this historical event that have an impact to the world and how this event had an impact on the rise of parliament.</p>	<p align="center"><u>History</u></p> <p align="center">World Wars 1</p> <p>Explore the significance of WW1 and how it had an impact to the world. To also gain an understanding of how and why this war began.</p>
R.E.	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p><u>What do Christians learn from the Creation story?</u></p> <p>Explore the religious of Christianity. To understand the beliefs and values of the religion and the importance to Christian people. Students to focus on the Creation Story and the importance of this story to Christians.</p>	<p><u>Why is the Torah so important to Jewish people?</u></p> <p>Explore the religious of Judaism. To understand the beliefs and values of the religion and the importance to Jewish people. Students will explore the holy book.</p>
ICT	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p align="center">Kodu Programming</p> <p>Explore and develop skills in using tools in Kodu. Students will gain an insight in how programming works. Students will be planning and creating a product as part of their assessment.</p>	
Art/Design/Food Rotation	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p align="center"><u>Art</u></p> <p align="center"><u>Under the sea</u></p> <p>Year 8 begin with a project based around the theme 'Under the Sea', during which they will explore a range of materials and build on previous skills acquired in art.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Design</u></p> <p align="center"><u>Organic Squash</u></p> <p>You will be investigating a range of soft drink designs (letterings, colours and 3D shapes). You will design and make a prototype model for a new healthy fruit drink titled 'Organic', using card construction techniques.</p>
PE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p align="center"><u>Functional Movement</u></p> <p align="center"><u>OAA/Team Building</u></p> <p>Initial movement assessment made by teacher. Establishing rules and routines. Teaching Fundamental movement and communication skills.</p> <p align="center"><u>Indoor Athletics Prep</u></p> <p>Teaching Fundamental movement skills (e.g. movement through space, jump, throw, balance and co-ordination) Further establishing rules and routines Development of co-operational play.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Team Games/ Invasion Games</u></p> <p>Ball skills Throwing, catching, kicking etc Negotiating space and embedding rules. Developing communication for team games</p>
Music	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p align="center">Introduction to Music Production using Technology</p>	

Birch Wood Area Special school
Class 8BO
 Autumn 2023
 Curriculum Newsletter



Food For Life	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Nature 01 Type of soil How vegetables grow	Climate 01 Understanding Climate Effect of climate on food and seasons
Drama	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Commedia Dell'Arte Students will explore the history of Commedia Dell'Arte and understand its origins and how it has influenced comedy today.	Shakespeare- Macbeth This unit students will be introduced to the history of the Jacobean Period and explore the play <i>Macbeth</i> by William Shakespeare.

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

Thank you for your continued support,

Bhavna Odera

8BO class teacher