

Birch Wood Area Special
 school
Class TDH
 Autumn 2024
 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school. We hope you have had a wonderful summer break. The students have settled in well into their new tutor group and showed enthusiasm for learning coming back from their summer break. Thank you all for your support so far.

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	Enterprise: Rickshaw Challenge Money Money Handling skills
English	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Transition writing task – Harry Potter OR The Boy at the Back of the Class Kensuke’s Kingdom – adventure fiction Instructions – survival skills	Haikus – Japanese culture Reading – skills unit 1
PSHE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Getting on with others	Public and Private
Reading	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
KS3 Fluency Pathway Words of the week Guided reading Own choice, levelled book Non-fiction articles Phonics Pathway Pupils receive daily phonics sessions appropriate to their needs and module level using Ruth Miskin’s Read Write Inc Fresh Start.	
Science	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Earth and Space Living things and their habitat – Life Cycles Scientific enquiry	Forces Properties and changes of materials Scientific enquiry

Humanities	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p><u>Geography</u> 'Wonderful Weather'</p> <p>Explore and develop an understanding of the different types of weather in our immediate environment. Students will have the opportunity to build on this and knowledge of the four seasons.</p>	<p><u>Geography-</u> Coasts</p> <p>Discover the ways in which the world around them is changing. From coastal erosion to political changes.</p>
RE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p><u>Being Special: Where do we belong?</u></p> <p>To explore and understand who we are and the importance of treating others with respect and kindness. Students will also explore religious stories to help make connections to personal experiences.</p>	<p><u>Why does Christmas matter to Christians?</u></p> <p>To explore the importance of Christmas to Christians and themselves including friends and family. To explore the real meaning of Christmas.</p>
ICT	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p><u>File and Folder Management</u></p> <p>Develop understanding and organisation skills.</p> <p><u>Computing</u></p> <p><u>Hardware and Software Components</u></p> <p>To understand the hardware and software components that make up computer systems.</p>	<p><u>Use of IT in the real world</u></p> <p><u>IT Basics</u></p> <p>Develop skills in using the basic tools in Microsoft Office such as cut, copy and paste, opening and saving files and Internet searching.</p>
Art /Food /DT Rotation	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p><u>Art</u></p> <p>Elements of art part 1</p> <p>Mark making and colour</p> <p>Learning about colour mixing and colour harmony. Exploring line and texture and applying these techniques to a range of pastiche's. Students will learn to distinguish how different artists use colour to convey atmosphere or mood and analyse different types of line used in various works.</p>	<p><u>Design</u></p> <p>Home Sweet Home</p> <p>TDH will be Investigating and produce a 2D/3D design and prototype of a home with all the rooms. Learning to identify and draw geometric 2D shapes, designing rooms and creating a prototype of a house, an Open House and a 3D City scape.</p>
PE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p><u>Team Games</u></p> <p>Negotiating space, embedding rules and developing communication for team games.</p>	<p><u>Gymnastics</u></p> <p>Teaching fundamental movement through space – focus on strength, balance and co-ordination. Develop awareness of personal space and boundaries of touch.</p>

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Music	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
World Music-India Experiencing instruments from other cultures. Using music technology to explore harmony and scales from Indian and improvise melodies	
Drama/Moving Together/British Sign Language Rotation	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>British Sign Language</u> Introducing Myself and Family Including Finger Spelling	<u>Moving Together</u> Exploring different dance styles

If you are unsure about anything, please email me on hardwided@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,

David Hardwidge

TDH class teacher
 Curriculum Lead for PSHE