



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Birch Wood school and the Transition class TDH. I hope you had a restful summer. The students have made a fantastic start, and I am really looking forward to sharing their learning and achievements with you over the Autumn term. 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. Cycle 1 The Wreck of the Zanzibar. (Cycle 2 Cloud Tea Monkeys). Non-fiction – instructions. Poetry – Haikus. Reading skills 1.	
PSHE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Getting on with others.	Public and Private Gambling.
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. Life cycles. Scientific enquiry.	Forces. Properties and changes of materials. Scientific enquiry.

Humanities	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>Geography.</u> 'Wonderful Weather' 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.	<u>Geography-</u> Coasts. Discover the ways in which the world around them is changing. From coastal erosion to political changes.
RE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>Being Special: Where do we belong?</u> 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.	<u>Why does Christmas matter to Christians?</u> To explore the importance of Christmas to Christians and themselves including friends and family. To explore the real meaning of Christmas.
ICT	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
File and Folder Management. Use of IT in the real world. Navigational Skills.	Digital Literacy. Internet Safety.
Art /Food /DT Rotation	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>Art.</u> Elements of art part 1. Mark making and colour.	<u>Food.</u> developing safe Knife and Washing skills. Explore Seasonal celebration cooking. Taste education through using senses to explore foods.
PE	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>OAA/Team Building.</u> Initial movement assessment made by teacher. Establishing rules and routines. Teaching Fundamental movement and communication skills. <u>Team Games.</u> <u>(Capture the Flag).</u> Negotiating space, embedding rules and developing communication for team games.	<u>Invasion Games.</u> Ball skills (Throwing, catching, rolling etc). Negotiating space and embedding rules. Developing communication for team games. <u>Functional Movement (Gymnastics).</u> Teaching fundamental movement through space – focus on strength, balance and co-ordination. Develop awareness of personal space and boundaries of touch.
Music	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Singing – My voice (exploring sounds).	Graphic score – pitch.

Birch Wood Area Special
School
Class TDH
Autumn 2025
Curriculum Newsletter



Creative Arts and Language Rotation

Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<u>Drama.</u> An introduction into drama techniques. 1.Group work and team building. 2.Introduction to still image. 3.Developing mime and movement skills. 4.Developing vocal skills 5. Structuring improvisation skills. 6. Using a stimulus to create a story. 7.To develop and rehearse scenes.	<u>Moving Together.</u> Exploring Dance Styles. Exploring dance styles including Street Dance, Musical Theatre and Bollywood.

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