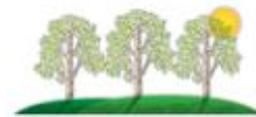


Birch Wood Area Special school

Class: The Treehouse

Curriculum Information

'Where a love of learning grows'



**Birch Wood
School**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is amazing to be able to have everyone back in school at the same time!!! In the Treehouse we are focusing on supporting the students to prepare for the next stages of their learning and the transitions eventually to Ashton House. We have developed a timetable that I hope gives the students lots of chances to learn in different ways and through a wide range of subject specialists. This term we hope to be able to begin moving between sites with Design Technology being so successful last year we are hoping to use this space at BWV again. It's exciting as we can look at potentially carrying out trips for the first time in a while. As always we work hard to make sure that the students mental, social and emotional health is at the forefront of our teaching and learning and will endeavour to work hard with all parents and guardians to create a community feel.

English/ Literacy

For the first half term we will be focusing on the Topic of Around the World in which we then be focusing on the book "Around the World in 80 Days." Through this topic we will engage in all the strands of English ensuring students are supported to read, write, communicate and speak. This will be taught twice a week as a specific subject but be used as a cross curricular subject as we focus on communication sessions and reading sessions.

For the half term leading to Christmas we will focus on the several texts as the topic changes to Monsters and Mythical Creatures. We will follow the same pattern of learning as previously taught engaging in a breadth of English strands to ensure students are learning and developing their skill in this subject.

Mathematics

The Treehouse will be welcoming Lisa Goddard in the classroom to teach mathematics. This term they will be focusing on calculation. The students will also be introduced to our "Sumdog" website package that has previously been trialled at Birch Wood Vale. The package enables us to assess students' progress and areas to develop. This will be available for parents to use at home with their children.

Science

This academic year we are welcoming Michelle Walker into the Treehouse classroom. The focus of science this term will be energy. We have two sessions a week one focusing on theory and one on experiments to ensure a wide depth of knowledge and experiences can be supported in the lessons.

The Arts

Music, Drama, Art

Focusing on the topic of "Around the World" students will be given opportunities for the first term to take part in regular art, music and drama sessions. Music will be delivered by Robbie who will use the topic based learning to focus on music from around the world bringing elements of different genres and national anthems to the

Birch Wood Area Special school

Class: The Treehouse

Curriculum Information

'Where a love of learning grows'



**Birch Wood
School**

		<p>forefront of the students learning. After the half term Matt will be teaching drama with a focus on the run up to Christmas and the performance.</p> <p>The Treehouse have an exciting Art project this year, 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>'Under the Sea' has been developed to give the students opportunities to refine ideas and look at relevant artists in depth. They will have firsthand source inspiration to study and inspire their project, such as shells, sand and beach rocks. They will work from secondary source images to produce a range of drawings in pencil and pen. The Treehouse will explore various art techniques such as printmaking, collage and painting – leading up to creating a coral texture tile out of clay.</p>
Computing		<p>Deena will be joining us to teach Computing this year. The focus on research, word processing and apps will allow students to become more aware of the use of ICT and the ways in which it can support our learning in the wider community.</p>
PSHCE		<p>Matt will be delivering PSHCE this year through a scheme of work focusing on various subjects such as relationships, health and well being and living in the wider world.</p>
Student Learning Project		<p>The student learning project is always an exciting time for the students as it's their chance to focus on something they would like to learn and the staff support in whatever way they possibly can to ensure there's a step by step process to their learning. We have two sessions as we support the students to take control of their own learning experiences.</p>
Swimming		<p>Each week we will be taking part in a swimming session in the school's hydrotherapy pool. This session will give the students opportunities to work on their confidence in the pool at a varied level and to provide students with the support for mobility/ body awareness.</p>

Birch Wood Area Special school

Class: The Treehouse

Curriculum Information

'Where a love of learning grows'



**Birch Wood
School**

Design and Technology		Again focusing on the topic of Around the World Phil Worth will be supporting the group as a subject specialist. Again we are excited to welcome back Phil as the students previously have created some incredible work such as working clocks and sweet dispensers. The sessions run once a week and work on project based learning bespoke to the student's needs.
Physical Education		This year Joe Lorriman who previously worked within the provision as a teacher is overseeing physical education. He will be carrying out sessions every Wednesday with the Treehouse and will work towards specific targets to support the learning and development of each student. The skills they will learn focus on different sporting events and different sports skills.
Cooking		We will be focusing on a wide variety of meals this year in which the students learn from scratch how to prepare. There will be use of kitchen utensils and implements and each student will be supported to create the dish as independently as possible and then if they feel confident enough try the dish giving them chances to try different textures and tastes.

Things that you could do at home:

Literacy: read regularly with your child to support their understanding of speaking, listening and phonics.

Maths: use money with your child when they are out in the community. Give more opportunities to further their understanding and confidence in buying objects, and spending within a budget.

PSHCE: Talk about any changes in routine that may be happening in their lives (different class, different school, change of weekend routine etc...)

Computing: Play simple directional games together ("move forwards two steps, move left three steps...")

Cookery: Include your child in cooking activities that they can take part in; ask them to collect different ingredients during a food shop or from the cupboards at home.

PE: Play games together (football, catch, balancing activities). Take your child swimming if you can as well.

We are pleased to help you with any questions you may have about your child. Thank you and we all look forward to an exciting term.

The Treehouse team

Robbie, Jeanette, Matt, Julie, Frances, Katie and Kelly