

# Birch Wood Area Special school

## Class: 4MZ

### Curriculum Information

Where a love of learning grows



Birch Wood  
School

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is wonderful to welcome you all back to school in 2022. Happy New Year! Our class will be named now as 4MZ. We are focusing on the learning and development of our students and their independent living skills as well as preparing them for the next stages of their transition to Post 16. As always we will be working hard to make sure that the young person's social and emotional health needs are at the forefront of our teaching and learning and we will endeavour to work with all parents and guardians to ensure this.

Below, you will see the topics and units of work that are being covered this term by 4MZ. We hope this will support you in being able to talk to your young person at home about what they are doing at school along with the Kinteract app which is also very useful to track your young person's progress. We are anticipating an exciting and busy term and we hope that the students will enjoy it.

During this half term we will be carrying on the majority of Annual Review meetings (remotely) where we will have the opportunity to talk to you about your young person's progress and the next steps in their journey at Birch Wood School. Looking ahead, we are excited that we can partake in community visits once Covid restrictions are eased as the young people develop their independence skills!

#### English

For English narrative will be studying Shakespeare's texts e.g. 'A midsummer Night's Dream'. Again, we will be focusing on retrieving information, reading the text together, identifying key features and finding the meaning of the words used in the text. For non-fiction, we will be acting out by role-play a book or piece of a Shakespeare's text of our choice, identifying key features, things we like and things we do not, culminating in a short review. During these sessions, we will be working on our individual Mastery skills throughout, identifying skills we need to practice and develop.

#### Maths

##### Spring 1

##### Number

- Addition up to 4 digits
- Subtraction up to 4 digits
- use +, - and = signs
- Order and compare numbers up to 1000.
- Read and write numbers up to 1000
- Mathematical word problems

##### Shape (Geometry)

- 2D shape recognition based on properties and sizes.
- Draw 2D shapes
- Describe 2D shape properties.
- Categorising shapes by properties
- Match 2D shapes to everyday shapes
- Describe and make shape

##### Spring 2

##### Measure

- Compare, use appropriate vocabulary, convert between different units, add/subtract and measure mass using apparatus (kg/g)
- Compare, use appropriate vocabulary, convert between different units, add/subtract and measure volume/capacity using apparatus (Litres/ml)

##### Statistics

- Solve problems using information from tally charts.
- Solve problems using information from line graphs.
- Use ICT to make graphs.

#### Science

This term we will be looking at Humans as organisms. Students will experience, explore, and investigate record and communicate what they discover. The students will be introduced to: the way that we stay fit and healthy; the respiratory system and how it helps to maintain activity; ways in which exercise, smoking and drugs can affect our health Scientific enquiry covers: predicting and testing predictions, making observations and measurements and presenting these and grouping according to results.

#### Art PSHE Cookery Sensory

**Aim awards** – students will be working on AIM awards towards a Certificate or a Diploma in Personal and Social Development Skills - Entry Level 1. Please see below the outline of units for Spring 2022 that students

**PE:** On Monday afternoon, students will continue to have individual sessions with personalised targets during PE. Students will work on physical skills such as co-ordination, agility or balance during a range of social

will be completing.

**Sensory programme** – this will include all 1:1 programs along with weekly swimming sessions where appropriate, MATP, Body Awareness, SALT and Rebound and Music Therapy for selected students. We will also offer modules from AIM awards such as making Choices and Living in the Community. This will go towards working on an Extended AIM Entry award in Personal and Social Development Skills. Sensory Cooking will also work in the class and cookery room alongside the Mastery group working through Sensory units.

**Art** - This term we will be studying paintings and discovering how to create our own piece of art in a similar style.

**Cooking for Life-** Students will continue with shopping on a Tuesday in a local shop then cooking an entire meal with minimal adult support on Wednesday morning. Lists will be produced and your child will be sent home a shopping list the week before. More information about cooking will be emailed once the cooking schedule is set in place. The students will decide what they want to cook and this will be planned on a half-termly basis. This term we will concentrate on making a range of salads and simple meals from a selection of vegetables. Next half term we will concentrate on making meals suitable for Spring term (salads, sandwiches).

games and activities.

**PSHE:** working on age appropriate themes around Relationships, Health and Sex Education.

On a Tuesday afternoon, we will be re-introducing the **local community visits** as a class, accessing local interest community groups and attending a local coffee shop for a drink in the afternoon. Within these sessions, we will be practising skills role-played in class. These skills include using money, making choices, being independent, communication skills and learning about appropriate behaviour when in public. A letter will be made available for you about how we plan to do local visits once they have been agreed.

AIM	Unit title	Brief synopsis/overview of plan
Living in the Diverse Society (Spring term)	Foundations for Learning and Life.	1. Appreciate the differences in people 2. Understand the need for tolerance in society 3. Recognise the contributions of diverse groups to society
Making choices (Spring term)	Foundations for Learning and Life.	1. Know when choices can be made 2. Know how to make an informed choice
Living in the Community (Summer Term)	Foundations for Learning and Life.	1. Review progress towards living in the community 2. Recognise what living in the community means to them

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.

**PSHE:** Talk about any changes in routine that may be happening in their lives (different class, different school, change of weekend routine etc...). Discuss and support making choices, keeping safe, helping others.

**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. Support them with the preparation of a simple dish

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

We are always pleased to help you with any questions you may have about your child so please feel free to contact ourselves.

Many thanks and we all look forward to an exciting term.

Maria, Becky and the 4MZ Team