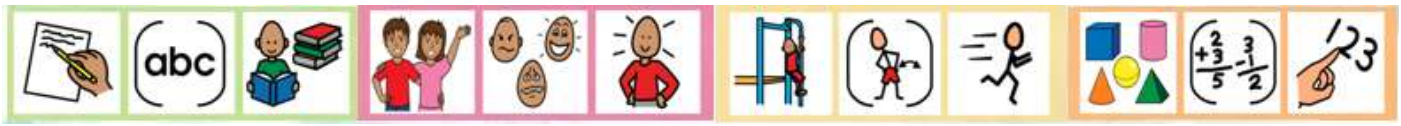
Busy Bees

Welcome back! We hope you've had a great half term break and are feeling well rested. Autumn 2 is going to be super busy and fun at The Birches and there will be lots of ways we'll be inviting you to get involved within our school community.

OUR LEARNING THIS TERM



Autumn 2 TOPIC – Light and dark	
Literacy	*Story focus* – Day Monkey night Monkey *Phonics and reading –* We encourage pupils to explore environmental sounds, listen to Rhymes and access books in our provision and respond to symbols in our environment. *Fine motor skills and writing-* We explore fine motor skills by picking up objects with or without support and we explore mark making with our hands or tools in a variety of sessions.
Maths	*Number- Addition and subtraction.* *Geometry* – Colour shape and pattern.
Understanding the world around me	*Science (Energy and Light)* –Light and dark sorting activities *RE*- Themes- light and hope. Religious exploration of Sikhism and Judaism. *Computing* – Touch screen and making choices.
Expressive art and design	*Music* – We will attend sensory choir on a Wednesday. We deliver our music box session weekly. *Food technology – We will be developing our skills in preparation for Birches Bake off.* *Art* –Painting – Mixing colours to make them lighter and darker
Physical Education	Basic movement skills – Exploring different ways of moving. Target games, will use switch technology and fun sensory ways to propel objects towards a target. Hydrotherapy and rebound therapy weekly.
PSHE	Managing feelings
Communication	We adopt a total communication approach. We support pupils in their preferred communication methods, immerse them in text and symbols in their learning environment and work with SaLT on personalised approaches and programs for individuals. We use switches as part of our communication. We look at different core words weekly this term, we will look at 'poorly, big and little, fast and slow, hot and cold, touch, hear, smell.'



Other things to know about your child's weekly learning experiences



On **Mondays and Fridays,** we will go to the hydrotherapy pool in school where we will continue to work upon movement programmes. Please remember to send in your child's swim equipment on Monday to allow for a smooth start. If your child does not access hydrotherapy on Monday, we will keep the swim kit on school so it can be used on Friday and then return it to you.

On **Fridays** we will have our school assembly to share special themes and celebrate stars of the week.



Ways to help at home



Here are a few ways to support your children in their learning at home in fun and engaging ways.

Idea 1 – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uy200s7hwGs here is the link to our story Night monkey, day monkey' we will be looking at as part of our topic ' light and dark if you want to share it at home with your child. If you have a toy monkey at home you could use this as a prop to engage your child in the story.

Idea 2 – We are learning about light and dark, try using light toys in the dark, encourage your child to track lights in the dark and reach out to them.

Idea 3 – We are always working on communication in class and have introduced more choices and are aiming to give our children a choice and voice at every opportunity, try to offer your child a choice at home where ever possible, using objects is a great way to start.



PLEASE NOTE: We will optimise all opportunities' to include personalised learning moments in line with your child's EHCP targets, at every opportunity