

Butterfly class



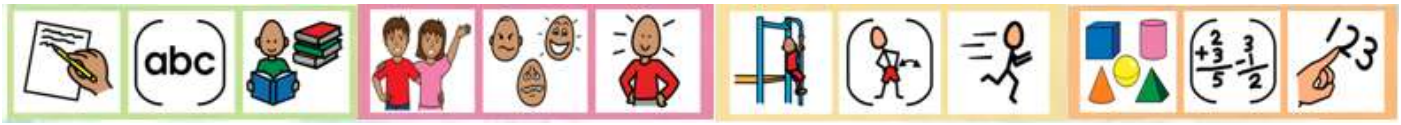
Welcome back! We hope you've had a great half term break and are feeling well rested. Autumn 2 is going to be super busy and fun at The Birches and there will be lots of ways we'll be inviting you to get involved within our school community.

We hope you were able to 'Meet the Team' before the holidays. If not, we hope you received the meet the team PPT, sharing lots of information about our class.

A reminder of the Butterfly class team is below.

				
Dan	**Kelly**	**Jen**	**Clayton**	**Iram**

OUR LEARNING THIS TERM



AUTUMN 2 TOPIC – Space explorers	
Literacy	*Story focus* – 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. We will be reading this story this term, using lots of sensory props to help the children follow along. By repeating the story each week the children will become more familiar with it and predict. *Phonics – We will continue to do lots of early phonics skills including the 'Rhyme Time' sessions from the 'Little Wandle' scheme of work.* *Fine motor skills and writing-* The class will get daily opportunities to make marks in lots of different contexts around the class. We will use messy play (paint, sand, gloop) as well as chalks, pens and paint brushes. We will keep focusing on their fine motor skills during their play.
Maths	*Number-* We will continue with our number rhyme sessions using physical props as well as using the interactive rhymes on the whiteboard. We reinforce counting throughout the day across all the activities and different areas we play in across the school. We will be doing a lot of space themed counting. *Geometry* – Colour shape and pattern. We will continue to do focused shape sessions as a class as well as individual work sorting and matching shapes. We will use sensory items to reinforce the learning.
Understanding the world around me	*Science (Materials)* – We will be learning about Space. As well as the sensory story we will have a sensory space session each week, acting out a journey to the moon and back! *RE*- Themes- light and hope. Religious exploration of Sikhism and Judaism. *Computing* – Digital art. Exploring tools on the iPad and whiteboard. Cause and Effect games.

Expressive art and design	*Music* – We will follow genre of the week, exploring different types of music each week. Beth, the music therapist will continue with her sessions on Fridays. *Food technology* – We will be developing our skills in preparation for Birches Bake off. *Art* –Painting – Using different painting techniques.
Physical Education	Gross Motor Skills – Balancing, climbing, jumping. Throwing and catching.
PSHE	Managing feelings – Singing about our feelings. We will encourage children to recognise how they feel throughout the day and in focused sessions.
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. Pupils will be exposed to core vocabulary through the core word programme. Each week we will focus on a core word and reinforce it through games, singing and in general play throughout the week.



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



We will continue to get to know our new young people, developing relationships between staff and pupils. As we navigate our new environments, we will practice transitioning safely to lots of new resource spaces across school. We'll use this as an opportunity to use communication strategies to support these motivational transitions.

On **Mondays** we will access the **Soft Room** to develop gross motor skills.

On **Tuesdays** we will use the **Swing area** to develop play skills.

On **Wednesdays** we will access the **OT Room.**

On **Thursdays** we will use the **Trim Trail** to develop our walking, balancing and jumping.

On **Fridays** we will have our **Music Therapy** with Beth and will be zooming around the **Bike Track.**

On **Mondays and Fridays,** we will continue to 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. 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.

Please ensure you send your child with a named water bottle and snacks for the day. A polite reminder that we are a nut free school. We would really appreciate if you could send a set of spare clothes into school.

Thank you for already sending your child in with a good coat. As it gets wetter, please could you send in wellies if your child has them.

Ways to help at home

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

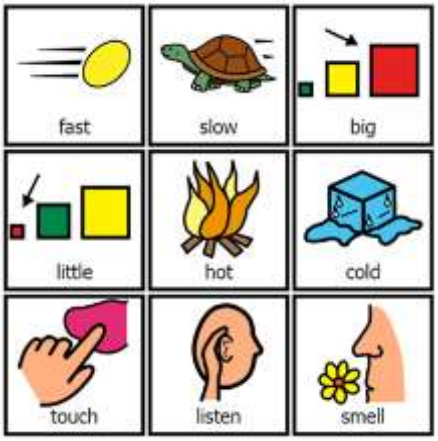
1. **Literacy Focus Story:** We will be reading '**Whatever Next'** by Jill Murphy which is a story about a teddy bear who pretends to go to the moon. It's a great way to explore lots of sensory objects to do with our topic of 'Space Explorers'.

   We will also be reading **'10 Little Aliens'** which is a really fun counting book. There are several read along versions online that you can share at home. Here is a good one: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ewdu1dQLtv4

2. **Maths Focus:** We will be singing '5 Little Men' which the children love joining in with. Here is a good example of the song https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_1-TrP9jwA

   You could sing this song with your child and use alien toys or any toys you have at home to count along with the rhyme.

3. **Communication**: We will be teaching one of these core words each week. You can help at home by using these words with your child in everyday situations in the house or when you are out and about. For example, when it's a cold morning, you can repeat using the word 'cold' to describe how it feels.



I will let you know every Monday what the core word of the week is so that you can continue the learning at home.