

Owls Class



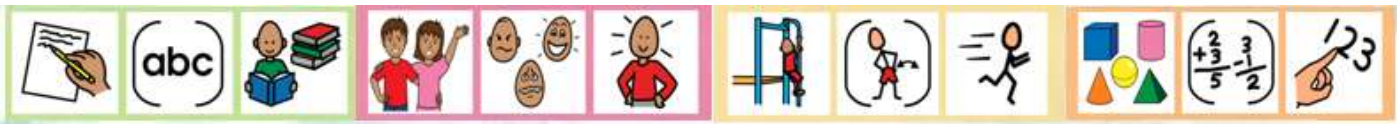
Welcome back! We hope you've had a great half term break and are feeling well rested. Autumn 2 is going to be super busy and fun at The Birches and there will be lots of ways we'll be inviting you to get involved within our school community.

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 Owls class team is below.

				
Will	**Leah**	**Caitlin**	**Nicola**	**Saima**

OUR LEARNING THIS TERM



AUTUMN 2 TOPIC – Space explorers	
Literacy	*Story focus –* We are reading 'Exploring Space' by Jordan Garratt. This is a great way for us to get into the environment of space, with a vibrating rocket launch, some heavy space rocks and even a nebula projected onto the ceiling! *Phonics and reading –* We wil be having daily phonics sessions, focussing on a 'sound of the week' as well as incorporating various other activities to support all our learners in their stages of phonic awareness> *Fine motor skills and writing –* We will be having a writing or fine motor task each morning, as well as other sessions with opportunities for fine motor practice included
Maths	*Number- Addition and subtraction* – using a variety of resources to develop our understanding of addition and subtraction *Geometry* – Colour shape and pattern. This half term will be focussing on colours, mixing colours and exploring their use in our art lessons.
Understanding the world around me	*Science (Materials)* – Materials and there uses. What's it like in space? *RE*- Themes- light and hope. Religious exploration of Sikhism and Judaism. *Computing* – Digital art. Exploring tools
Expressive art and design	*Music* – We have now started our 'genre of the week' programme where we will be listening to a different genre of music whilst having our

	Hydrotherapy sessions. We also access sensory choir and a range of other opportunities for enjoyment of music are built into our timetables. *Food technology* – We will be developing our skills in preparation for Birches Bake off. *Art* –Painting – Using different painting techniques
Physical Education	Gymnastics – Rolling, making shapes on low apparatus
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. Pupils will be exposed to core vocabulary through the core word programme, with the aim of improving their functional language use and application and transference across difference activities. This is included in our circle time each afternoon.



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 have a sensory play session related to our measurement and geometry topics, as well as a go on the swings to practice turn taking and developing our understanding of the traffic light visuals.

On **Tuesdays** we will be have our rebound therapy, and be visiting soft play and the multi-sensory room, as well as having fine motor sessions and our sensory choir.

On **Wednesdays** we will have a Footspa communication session and use the ICT suite to practice our digital art.

On **Thursdays** we will visit our bike track and our big soft room

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

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 and 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:** 'Exploring Space' Jordan Garratt
2. **Maths Focus: This half term we will be focusing on the language:** Names of colours, more, less, add, subtract
3. **Communication**: We will be sending home a core word board to support communication between home and school. Try using it during everyday activities and play — for example, pointing to "more" when your child wants more bubbles or a favourite toy.

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

