



Venus class Information

Updated September 2023

Who are the teachers and teaching assistants?	<p><i>Teachers: Mel (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday); Sinead (Wednesday and Friday morning)</i></p> <p><i>Teaching Assistants: Alaina, Charlie, Hannah, Holly, Sinead</i></p>
Who are the pupils/students?	<p><i>Alex, Issac, Kaiden, Maite, Shah, Sooren and Teddy</i></p>
What are they learning?	<p><i>This term's topic is 'People'. We will be learning about people around us, parts of the body and our senses. We will spend time exploring touch, sight, sound, smell and taste. In PE this term, we are going to focus on football in the first half-term and basketball in the second half-term, developing our basic ball skills. In English, we will continue learning phonics and letter shapes using 'Read Write Inc'. The focuses for Maths this term are number, measurement of length and shapes; in our class, we will learn one-to-one correspondence and use Numicon to develop our knowledge of number. We will also sort and match shapes looking at what is the same and what is different. Many of our lessons are cross curricular too, for example our Attention Autism sessions aim to increase focus whilst learning about science, literacy and maths.</i></p> <p><i>We are planning RE activities for the week beginning 9 October based on the Christian festival, Harvest. In the week beginning 27 November, we are planning RE activities based on the Sikh Guru Nanak. The week beginning 6 November is our next MFL/Culture Week focused on Poland.</i></p> <p><i>You can find out more about our curriculum on our website at https://linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk/springwood/learning/vita-curriculum/curriculum-plans/</i></p>
What could I do at home to help with their learning?	<p><i>You could:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Reinforce your child's understanding of people who are important in his/her life.</i> <i>• Introduce him/her to appropriate new people.</i> <i>• Identify some ways that people are different, for example their physical features, age, religious beliefs, languages or the places they live.</i> <i>• Watch television programmes, read books with them or use the Internet to find out about different jobs people do.</i> <i>• Learn the name or sign for important parts of the body.</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practise skills to look after your body such as washing, bathing and cleaning teeth. • Practise counting everything. Show different ways to represent 1, 2 and 3. • Spot and name 2D/3D shapes.
Are there any good resources or websites we could use at home?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC nursery rhymes and songs. Text is shown alongside the visuals. Practise the actions too https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-a-to-z-index/z4ddqwx • Games on ICT games https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/index.html
What books or stories should we read at home?	Please let us know if you would like to use books from the Read Write Inc programme to practise reading at home; otherwise you could look at any books with strong characters or illustrations of people.
When is PE?	We have PE on a Friday morning.
When do you go out on trips?	We hope to visit a local park every Thursday morning. On these days the children will have their first snack outside on the trip.
Does this class go swimming?	There are no swimming lessons for Springwood pupils/students in the autumn term.
Are there other days when my son/daughter needs to bring in anything else?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please name all shoes and jumpers. • Please provide named extra clothes. • Please name water bottles and snacks. • In hot weather please provide sun-cream.
What snacks can I send for my son/daughter?	We have snack time each morning and we provide fruit. If your son/daughter would prefer a different snack, please send it for him/her. Please remember that we encourage healthy snacks and we are a nut-free school so do not send nuts or any products that may contain nuts.
Are there any dates I should put on my calendar?	<p>Every Monday from 11 Sept., 9.30-11.30, Linwood Campus Family Room: Wellness group</p> <p>28 Sept., 9.30-11.30, Linwood Campus Family Room: My Child Parent/Carer Support Group (meets monthly, further dates to follow)</p> <p>5 Oct., 9.30-11.30, Springwood Campus Family Room: Parent/Carer coffee morning (parents and carers from all campuses are welcome)</p> <p>2 Nov., 9.30-11.30, Springwood Campus Family Room: Parent/Carer coffee morning (parents and carers from all campuses are welcome)</p> <p>7 Dec., 9.30-11.30, Springwood Campus Family Room: Parent/Carer coffee morning (parents and carers from all campuses are welcome)</p> <p>Week beginning 9 Oct: RE Week – Harvest (Christianity)</p>

	<p><i>23-27 Oct: Half term (school closed)</i></p> <p><i>Week beginning 6 Nov: MFL/Culture Week (theme to be confirmed)</i></p> <p><i>Week beginning 27 Nov: RE Week – Guru Nanak (Sikhism)</i></p> <p><i>18 Dec.-4 Jan: Christmas holiday (school closed)</i></p>
<p>How can I contact the teacher?</p>	<p><i>E-mail: melaniesimmons@linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk</i></p> <p><i>If you need to contact us urgently, please call the school office on 01202 592410 and speak to Gemma or Lauren. Classroom-based staff may not be able to speak to you immediately but will call you back as soon as possible if necessary.</i></p>