Birch (Year 4)
Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn B 2026



We hope you had a lovely half term break. We have another exciting half term ahead. Mrs May has enjoyed getting to know everyone and has had a super first week.

<u>English:</u>

This half term, Year 4 will be exploring a range of non-fiction and poetry. Children will learn how explanation texts are organised by studying How a Medicine-Making Machine Works and writing their own explanations. They will then examine a newspaper recount, New Medicine Discovered, to develop their journalistic writing skills, including reporting events clearly and using features of newspaper articles. The half term will conclude with a poetry unit, where children will read, analyse and create their own poems using a range of poetic techniques.

<u>Maths:</u>

- This half term, we will be developing our understanding of multiplication, division, addition, subtraction and angles.
- In multiplication and division, children will learn how multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 affects the value of digits and will use their place value knowledge to solve problems efficiently.
- In geometry, we will be exploring angles, learning to identify and describe acute, right and obtuse angles, compare and order angles, and use a protractor to measure them accurately. We will also revisit our understanding of parallel and perpendicular lines.
- In addition and subtraction, children will continue to build confidence with 4-digit numbers, using formal written methods involving more than one exchange. They will also learn efficient subtraction strategies, estimate answers to check whether calculations are reasonable, and use a range of methods to check the accuracy of their work.

Our focus throughout the half term will be on developing accuracy, confidence and mathematical

	reasoning while applying these skills to a variety of problems. Times Tables Children will continue to regularly use Funkey Maths in school to practise multiplication and division facts in a fun and engaging way. We encourage children to continue to use TT Rock Stars at home to build fluency and confidence. Please remember that your child's TT Rock Stars login details can be found in the back of their reading record. Just a few minutes of practice each day can make a big difference.

<u>History</u>

This term, Birch Class will be continuing our learning about Bronze Age and Iron Age Britain and exploring how life changed over time. Children will investigate how the discovery of bronze and iron transformed everyday life, including farming, trade and settlements. They will learn about the Celts, discover how people lived during these periods and compare the similarities and differences between the Bronze Age and Iron Age.

<u>Geography</u>

In Geography, we will be continuing to explore our local area and what makes Taunton special. Children will use maps, atlases and aerial photographs to locate Taunton and learn about its physical and human features. We will investigate local landmarks, consider how geography influences daily life and carry out fieldwork to find out more about our community and the way land is used in the local area.

<u>Music</u>

Each Friday afternoon, Birch Class will continue to have ukulele lessons with our music teacher, Mr Clark. Please can children continue to bring in their ukuleles on Fridays.

<u>PE:</u>

PE will be on Mondays. Please can the children come into school in their PE kits on this day.

<u>Homework</u>

Homework will continue to be set every Friday and should be completed by the following Friday. Children are expected to learn their weekly spellings and practise their times tables. They have access to both TT Rock Stars and Spelling Shed to support their learning at home. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to Mr Smith.