



Birch (Year 4) Curriculum Newsletter Autumn A 2026



We would like to warmly welcome everyone back to school for the Autumn term. We hope you enjoyed a relaxing summer and are looking forward to another busy and successful term ahead.

English:

This half term, we will be using *George's Marvellous Concoction*, inspired by *George's Marvellous Medicine*, as the focus for our writing. Through storytelling, drama and discussion, the children will explore how authors bring characters to life through detailed descriptions, actions, reactions and dialogue. They will learn how to use powerful vocabulary, fronted adverbials and correctly punctuated speech to make their writing more engaging. Alongside this, the children will develop their reading comprehension skills by exploring the text in greater depth and discussing the author's choices

Maths:

This half term, children will develop their understanding of place value by working with numbers up to 10,000. They will learn to represent, compare and order numbers, identify number patterns, count in multiples and round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. Throughout the unit, children will also apply their knowledge to solve a range of reasoning and problem-solving challenges.

Times Tables

A key focus in Year 4 is developing quick and accurate recall of times tables facts. Children will regularly use Funkey Maths in school to practise multiplication and division facts in a fun and engaging way. We also encourage children 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.

History

This term, Birch Class will be 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.

Geography

In Geography, we will be exploring 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.

PSHE

The PSHE focus for the half term is 'Being Me in My World'. We use "Jigsaw" to teach PSHE.

Art

Children will develop their drawing skills by studying landscapes, with a focus on structure and space. They will explore local landscapes and learn techniques to create depth and perspective in their artwork.

French

In French, the children will be focusing on greetings.

Music

Each Friday afternoon, Birch class will be having ukelele lessons with our music teacher called Gareth. The children will be bringing home a ukelele to practice with from Friday 18th September.

Religion & World Views

This half term, children will explore different worldviews, learning how people's beliefs, values and experiences shape the way they understand the world. They will develop respect and curiosity about the views of others.

PE:

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

This half term, children will develop their **footwork, balance and coordination** through a range of skill-based activities.

Homework is 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.