

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 4!

We are delighted to welcome you and your child to Birch Class. We are looking forward to getting to know each child and helping them develop their confidence, independence and love of learning throughout the year.

Year 4 is an exciting stage in your child's journey, filled with new experiences, challenges and opportunities. We look forward to celebrating every child's achievements and encouraging them to flourish both academically and personally.

This letter contains a range of information about the year ahead. While there is quite a lot to read, I hope it provides a helpful overview of what to expect and how we can work together to ensure your child has a happy, successful and rewarding year.

Should you have any questions, concerns, or wish to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact us through the school office or speak with us at the end of the school day.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We are excited to partner with you throughout the year and look forward to making this a positive, memorable and enjoyable experience for your child.

**Best wishes,
Mrs Hague/Mrs Buckton**

Birch Class Teachers.

Who will be teaching my child:

Throughout the week, your child will also be taught by other members of our dedicated staff team for specific subjects e.g. Mr Rose will be teaching PE, and Mrs Gibson will be teaching French on a Tuesday afternoon. Mrs Buckton will be teaching your children on a Thursday morning and all day Friday. The teaching assistant in our class is Mrs McCauley. Together, we aim to provide a rich and varied learning experience, guided by our school values of being caring, courageous, Christ-like, and part of a celebratory community.

What your child will be learning about in Year 4 : An overview

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
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English	Themes: Taking Courage and Darkness and Light Fiction: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Non-Fiction: Shackleton's Journey Poetry: Poems from a Green and Blue Planet	Themes: Window to the World Non-Fiction: Non-chronological report based on the Explorers Fiction: Granny Come Here on the Empire Windrush by Patrice Lawrence Poetry: The Undefeated by Kwame Alexander	Theme- Unearthing Civilizations Fiction- Podkin One-Ear Non-Fiction: The Humans: Ancient Civilizations by Jonny Marx Poetry: Until I met Dudley by Roger McGough and Chris Riddell
Maths	Number and Place Value Addition and Subtraction Measurement - Area	Multiplication and Division Measurement – Length and Perimeter Fractions – including decimals and percentages	Fractions – including decimals and percentages Measurement – Money and Time Statistics Properties of Shape Position and Direction
Religious Education	What do some Hindus believe God is like? Why do Christians call Jesus 'The Light of the World'?	What do Christians believe about Jesus? How and why do people mark significant events of life?	What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today? Why do people visit Durham Cathedral today?
Science	Animals including Humans States of Matter	Electricity Sound	Living Things and Their Habitats
Art and Design	3D – Animal Collage Sculpture and Collage	Italian Masters Sketching, drawing, and painting.	Mayan Art Draw and print
Computing	IT - Connecting Computers IT – Pages – Creating a Document IT - Creating Media – Audio Production	CS – Coding – Scratch CS - Physical Computing – Micro bits	IT – Creating Media – Photo Editing IT - iMovie – Video Production
Design & Technology	Cooking and Nutrition – Adapting a recipe	Electrical Systems – Making torches	Structures - Pavilions
Geography	Why are rainforests important to us?	Where does our food come from?	What are rivers and how are they used?
History	Why did the Romans invade and settle in Britain?	What changed in Britain after the Anglo-Saxon Invasion?	How did the achievements of Ancient Maya impact their society and beyond?
Music	The Little Light of Mine – Gospel Music The Pink Panther – Music from Film	Whole Class Ukulele	Global Pentatonic - Traditions and Culture This listening unit is based around the pentatonic scale.

	Composing with Colour		The Horse in Motion Favourite Song – Folk and Rock Style
Physical Education	On the Attack End zone Gymnastics Level 2/3	Indian Delights Mini Tennis	Faster, Higher, Further Athletics Scores Arc Rounders
PSHE	Health and Wellbeing – The process of growing from young to old, people who look after us, how to maintain a healthy lifestyle	Relationships – communicating our feelings, similarities and differences between people, recognising and challenging stereotypes	Living in the wider world – our local environment, the value of democracy
French	Phonetics 2 Presenting Myself - How to present oneself both orally and in written form. My Family - Building on knowledge of the possessive form in French to build a personalised written and spoken presentation about family.	What is the Weather Like? - How to describe the weather and present a weather forecast in French. In the Classroom - Building the skills to present both orally and in written form about what is and is not in their school bag.	At the Tea Room - Children will perform a short role-play in a French tearoom, using transactional language as well as much of the previously taught grammar. The Romans - Learning to read and understand more complicated text in French through the medium of a familiar period of history.

What your child will need and homework

Your child will be given a reading book and reading record. Please continue to listen to your child read regularly at home and send them to school every day with both books.

Your child will bring home 8 spellings on a Thursday which we'd like them to learn for a test on the following Thursday. 6 of these words will be based on our weekly spelling rule, and the other 2 words will be high frequency words from Years 2, 3 and 4.

They will also receive a piece of Maths homework every Tuesday which should be handed in by the following Tuesday.

PE and Forest Schools

P.E. takes place every Tuesday and is led by Mr Rose. On this day, children should come to school dressed in their P.E. kit, ready for active learning.

Each class will take part in 3 Forest School sessions over the year. On these days, children will be learning outdoors and engaging in hands-on activities, which may involve mud and messy play. Please ensure your child comes dressed in appropriate clothing, including waterproofs and sturdy footwear. We recommend older clothes that you don't mind getting dirty.

Key Dates

Below, you'll find key dates that we hope will be helpful as you plan ahead. All other dates and updates can be found on Weduc and reminders are shared in the weekly whole school update. Please do keep an eye on these platforms, as new dates will be added and while we aim to keep plans consistent, changes may occasionally be necessary due to unforeseen circumstances.

- **Tuesday 29th September** – Flu immunisation
- **Wednesday 30th September** – Individual photographs
- **Friday 9th October** – Year 4 Worship
- **Friday 23th October** – half-term
- **Monday 2nd November** – return to school
- **Week beginning 10th November** – Parents Evening
- **Monday 9th, 16th and 23rd November** – Forest School sessions
- **Thursday 17th December** – last day of term

Statutory Assessments

All children in Year 4 nationally are required to complete a 'multiplication table check' in the two-week period from the 1st June. We will be providing further information about this closer to the time.

Thank you in advance for all your support. I am really looking forward to working with your wonderful children. Please don't hesitate to get in touch, via the office, if you have any questions or concerns as the year progresses.

Best wishes,

Mrs Bennett/Mrs Hague/Mrs Buckton.