



Birchensale Middle School

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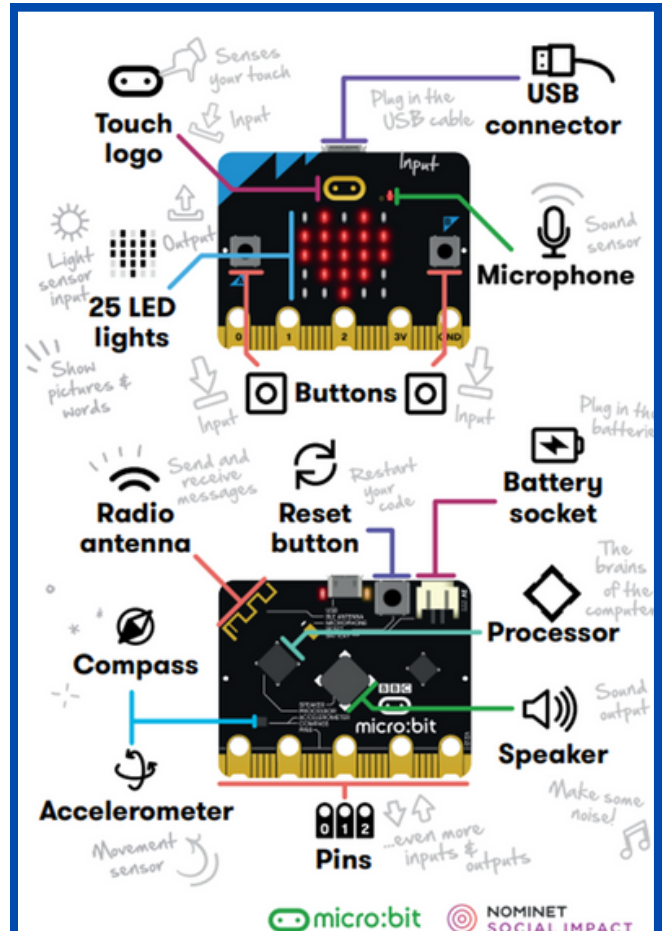
<https://www.birchensale.worcs.sch.uk/>

Newsletter October 3rd 2025

Birchensale Middle School have been kindly donated 30 brandnew Micro:bits from the O'Connor family.

Micro:bits are miniature, handheld, programmable computers which can be used to do all sorts of things, like power cameras, write words in lights, choose playlists or control music.

Keep your eyes peeled for a new and upcoming Coding Club where you will be able to experiment with this new piece of technology!



**THANK YOU
SO MUCH**



Year 5 have been busy practising where to place speech marks using pasta shapes!!! Learning does not have to be boring.

We have seen some amazing work by our year 8's on propaganda inspired by our key text Private Peaceful and World War 1. Well done year 8.



Year 7 Pen Friend programme

The MFL department has set up an exciting pen friend programme for Year 7 students.

We believe that this will be a wonderful opportunity for students to develop their linguistic skills and make connections with new friends.

By participating in this programme, your child will need to prepare handwritten letters to exchange with a similar age student in a school in Granada, Spain. Our students will write in Spanish to the Spanish students, and the Spanish students will then write them back in English. The students will be directed on their writing topic every time they address each other. Given that they will prepare handwritten letters, no social media will have to be shared as this will take away the exciting component to receive the letter.

The students can decorate their envelopes, create a collage envelope or be as creative as they want to be.

This could be a chance for our students to understand the Spanish culture through like-minded young people and develop Spanish in a realistic context.

If your child is in year 7 and would like to take part please email enquiries@birchensale.bmat.co.uk



PE and Sports Clubs

From Friday October 3rd we will be sending out our list of PE and sports clubs to all parents, this will enable you to check if your child's club is on and the times. We will also publish these on Facebook.

🎉 Year 7 Science Success – Bunsen Burner Licences Awarded! 🔥

We are thrilled to congratulate all our Year 7 pupils who have successfully earned their Bunsen Burner Licence! This marks an exciting milestone in their science journey, as they've demonstrated the knowledge, safety awareness, and practical skills needed to work confidently in the lab.

With their licences in hand, our budding scientists are now ready to explore the wonders of chemistry – and yes, sparks will fly!

We can't wait to see their curiosity ignite and their experiments come to life. Well done, Year 7 – your enthusiasm and dedication are truly inspiring!

Bunsen burner licence

If you've completed the exercises so far your teacher may be willing to award you a 'licence to heat things safely and responsibly'. OK, so it's not exactly a licence to kill, but even Mr. Bond had to start somewhere!

Bunsen Burner Licence

This certifies that has demonstrated the ability to:



- ★ identify and name the parts of a Bunsen burner
- ★ set up a Bunsen burner correctly and light it safely
- ★ adjust the flame appropriately and use the Bunsen burner safely

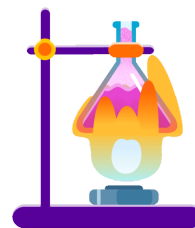
The holder of this licence may therefore use a Bunsen burner in the lab if directed to do so by a teacher.

Signed:



Date:

***The student must be fully responsible for their actions while using a Bunsen burner and any failure to act safely will result in the immediate revocation of the licence.



Thank you very much to everyone who contributed cakes for our Macmillan coffee morning. We raised £55 and also had lots of donations made via the QR code.



SEN

If you've contacted our SEND team or filled out a referral form and haven't heard back, please get in touch so we can follow it up.

Thank you

★ Five-Star Success for Our Catering Team! ★

A huge congratulations to our amazing catering staff who were inspected this week and once again achieved a 5-star rating for food hygiene and safety!

The inspector was full of praise, commenting:

"The premises are well managed, staff demonstrated a strong understanding of food safety practices, and it is clear that considerable effort is made to uphold hygiene and safety standards. Well done – keep up the great work!"

We're also delighted to see a growing number of pupils choosing to enjoy tuck and lunch from the kitchen, thanks to our tasty new menus. If you haven't tried them yet, come and see what all the fuss is about!



Reminders

Important Reminder: Risk Assessments for Injured Pupils

To help us keep all pupils safe, any student returning to school with an injury must have a risk assessment in place. This ensures we can support them appropriately and minimise any potential risks.

If your child is injured outside of school, please contact us before they return to arrange an appointment with our First Aid Lead.

✉ Email: enquiries@birchensale.bmat.co.uk

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community safe.

Keep Your Contact Details Up to Date

It's really important that we have your most current contact information – including your address, mobile number, and email – so we can reach you quickly if needed.

If you've recently changed any of these details, please let us know as soon as possible.

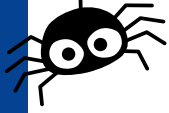
Important: Student Health Information Update

To ensure we provide the best possible care for your child, it is essential that we have up-to-date information regarding any medical conditions or allergies.

Please inform us of any changes or updates to your child's health, including diagnosed medical conditions, allergies, or any other relevant information.

This will help us maintain accurate records and respond appropriately in case of an emergency.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.



HALLOWEEN



Spooktacular Menu



Friday 24th October

Join us at Birchensale's Kreepy Kitchen for our spooktacular menu



Main Courses

- Freaky Fish Fingers
- Vegan Mummy Dog
- (wrapped in pastry bandages!)
- Served with Buffy's Beaked Beans or Popping Peas



Desserts

- Creepy Chocolate Cake
- Scary Jumping Jelly
-

Come and enjoy a frightfully fun feast!



Keeping Your Child Safe: Key Safeguarding

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, here are key contacts that can help:

- **School** - Your first point of contact. Speak to the designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) if you have any concerns, Mr Kearns and Mrs Pugh.
- **CEOP** (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) - For concerns about online safety, grooming, or exploitation. Report at www.ceop.police.uk
- **NSPCC** - Provides confidential support and advice on all safeguarding issues. Call 0808 800 5000 or visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>
- **Kooth** - Free, anonymous online mental health support for young people. Visit www.kooth.com
- **Police** - If a child is in immediate danger, call 999. For non-emergencies, call 101.

me, you, us
safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Meet your safeguarding team



Sarah Pugh
Designated Safeguarding
Lead



Teresa Dawson
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Pete Clifton
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Emma James
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Dates for your diary

**Year 6 trip to Bell Heath - Monday 13th
October to Wednesday 15th October**

**Second year 6 trip to Bell Heath - Monday
20th October to Wednesday 22nd October**

Flu vaccines - all years - Tuesday 21st October

**School photographer all day - Thursday 23rd
October**

Last day of half term - Friday 24th October

**Pupils return to school - Monday 3rd
November**

**Years 7 and 8 cinema trip - Friday 14th
November**

**Year 6 cinema trip - Wednesday 19th
November**

**School Christmas Fair (times to be
confirmed) - Friday 21st November**

Year 5 cinema trip - Tuesday 25th November

**Parents evening for years 5, 6 and 8 3.30pm
to 7pm - Monday 1st December**

**Winter concert 5.30pm to 6.30pm -
Wednesday 10th December**

Last day of term - Thursday 18th December

NHS

**Not sure what to do
when your child is unwell?**

Download the free HANDi Paediatric app
and get expert advice, support and guidance
for common childhood illnesses.



Search
"HANDi Paediatric"

Download on the
App Store

GET IT ON
Google Play

EARLY HELP IN WORCESTERSHIRE
Help and support for Children, Young
People and their families or carers.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
VISIT THE FAMILY HUB:**
WORCESTERSHIRE.GOV.UK/FAMILYHUB



WORCESTERSHIRE
CHILDREN FIRST

**BEST START
WORCESTERSHIRE**



Visit the Best Start website for information,
advice and services to support you and
your family in pregnancy and the early years.

worcestershire.gov.uk/beststart

**worcestershire
county council**



**Information, Advice
and Support Service**
**Herefordshire &
Worcestershire**

