

Curriculum Letter for Year 4 - Autumn Term 1 2026

General Information

A very warm welcome to Year 4! The children all look very smart and have settled in well. They are becoming familiar with all the class routines and expectations around the school and behaviour has been excellent.

Curriculum

Maths: This half term we will be consolidating their understanding of place value of numbers up to four digits. We will then be solidifying their knowledge of addition and subtraction. All children are expected to know their times tables up to 12x by the end of Y4. We will be practising our recall skills weekly.

English: We are starting this term with a theme of imagination and creativity. Our first book that we will read is '**Tar Beach**' by Faith Ringgold. We will be creating setting descriptions using our five senses and looking to use advanced vocabulary to create noun phrases to describe a setting. This will be followed by '*The Story of Tutankhamun*', where we will explore the history of Tutankhamun and write reports about Ancient Egypt. Our final piece of writing will be a biography about Howard Carter.

Science: Our first science unit is '*Animals including humans: Digestion and food*'. The children will explore the digestive system and understand the function of key organs including how food is processed in the body. They will learn about the four different types of adult human teeth using key vocabulary and the importance of good dental care. Finally, we will define a producer, predator and prey and identify examples in food chains.

History: Our first unit, 'How have children's lives changed?' examines how children's lives have changed over time by investigating leisure, health and work. We will make inferences and deductions from primary and secondary sources, explaining why children needed to work, identifying the jobs of Tudor and Victorian children and understanding how Lord Shaftesbury changed the lives of children. Once the unit is complete, we will be visiting the Ragged School Museum for a Victorian lesson.

Art: This half term we will be focusing on Drawing: exploring tone, texture and proportion. Pupils will use contrasting tones to show light and dark and combine lines and marks to represent different textures. They will learn to represent the size of one object relative to another and consider where to place elements, thinking carefully about the space.

Music: We look forward to listening to and appraising the songs of ABBA! We will also be using glockenspiels and recorders to compose and improvise with the songs.

RE: We will be learning about the key people in the Old Testament and how their belief in God influenced their actions. Key individuals include Abraham, Moses and Ruth.

PSHE: We start off the term by setting some rules for our PSHE lessons to help us all learn in our PSHE lessons. Our unit this half term is called 'My Healthy Self: How can I make healthy choices?' Understanding how healthy choices support both physical and mental wellbeing by exploring exercise, nutrition and hydration. We will describe the difference between a fixed and growth mindset and recognize how helping others can make us feel good.

With God's love, we live, learn and grow together



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French: Developing our vocabulary will continue, focusing on pronunciation and basic conversational phrases in our French topic 'Presenting Myself.' We will focus on asking questions as well as providing accurate replies.

Class Reads: As well as our texts linked to English, we will be reading '*The Secret Diary of Thomas Snoop*' by Philip Ardagh.

PE Days

Outdoor PE is timetabled for Wednesdays with Coach Kymani. All children must wear their PE kits to school. We also have indoor PE on Thursdays. Indoor PE kits stay in school.

Reading and Spellings

Reading is an essential skill, and we would like to foster a love of reading both in and outside school. Please make time for your child to read with you and for your child to be read to, also. We will also be teaching spelling patterns and rules in class.

Homework

Homework will be set every Friday and is due in the following Wednesday. Mrs Dempsey or Mrs Cahalan will post on the *Microsoft Teams* page to indicate what the homework is for that week. It may be an assignment on Teams, or a task set on MyMaths or Purple Mash.

Key Dates and Events

PTA Bake Sale	Friday 18 th September
PTA Smarties Challenge starts	Monday 21 st September
Harvest Service led by 4B	Thursday 15 th October
PTA Discos	Friday 16 th October
INSET Days	Wednesday 21 st - Friday 23 rd October
Half Term	Monday 26 th October - Friday 30 th October
Trip to the Ragged School Museum	Monday 23 rd November