Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Summer Term 2026

Welcome back to the final term of the academic year! In order to support your child's learning at home, please find below an outline of the Year 4 Curriculum this term:

English	This term in English, children will explore a range of texts including Secrets of a Sun King, learning about adventurous storytelling and Junko Tabei, a story from another culture relating to real-life achievement and perseverance. They will explore a variety of newspaper articles to develop their understanding of different writing styles and purposes. Children will develop their writing skills by creating their own culturally inspired narratives, historical stories, formal letters and explanation texts, as well as exploring story structure and viewpoint, developing a deeper understanding of language and imagery. Throughout the term, there will be a strong focus on improving grammar and punctuation, helping children to write clearly, confidently and effectively across a range of genres.
Maths	This term, Year 4 children will deepen their mathematical understanding through a rich programme of learning in shape, measures, number patterns and problem-solving. In geometry, children will explore angles in detail, learning to compare, order and identify right, acute and obtuse angles within shapes. They will classify and describe 2-D shapes such as triangles and quadrilaterals using precise mathematical vocabulary, investigate lines of symmetry, and explore 3-D shapes by identifying and comparing their faces, edges and vertices. Children will also work with position and direction, learning to plot coordinates on a grid and describe movements using translations. Alongside this, children will strengthen their understanding of measures, choosing appropriate units, estimating and measuring length, mass and capacity and confidently converting between units such as millimetres, centimetres, metres, grams, kilograms, millilitres and litres. They will apply these skills through a range of real-life and money-based problem-solving tasks, learning to plan strategies, work systematically and check solutions. In number, children will explore patterns and sequences, including using Roman numerals up to 100, completing and creating number sequences (including decimals and negative numbers), and identifying rules involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Throughout the term, children will build mathematical reasoning skills by investigating patterns, justifying their thinking and representing ideas using diagrams, practical equipment and clear explanations, helping them to become confident, independent mathematicians.
Science	Year 4 children will learn about states of matter and how materials change this term. They will compare and group different materials by identifying whether they are solids, liquids or gases, learning about the key properties of each state, such as shape and volume. Children will observe how some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, including melting, freezing, boiling, evaporation and condensation, and learn the temperatures at which these changes happen, such as water freezing at 0 °C and boiling at 100 °C. They will also explore evaporation and condensation in more detail and understand how temperature affects the speed of evaporation. This learning will be applied to studying the water cycle, helping children understand how water moves around the Earth through evaporation, condensation and precipitation.
Topic	This summer term, Year 4 children will study the Stuarts, exploring how royal power changed in 17th-century Britain through key monarchs, figures such as Oliver Cromwell, and significant events including the English Civil War and Great Fire of London, while examining the growing power of Parliament and developing skills in using evidence, considering viewpoints, and analysing cause and consequence. In geography, they will study London, the South East of England and Japan, locating key regions and cities such as London, Tokyo and Kyoto, exploring important physical and human features, and learning how geography—such as rivers, climate and tectonic activity—shapes landscapes, settlements and daily life, while continuing to develop map-reading skills and geographical vocabulary. In computing, Year 4 children will develop computing skills in photo editing and programming. They will edit and evaluate digital images, and explore repetition in programming using Scratch and Logo. Children will use loops to improve animations and games, and apply their skills to design and create their own game. In music, children will explore world music, including Indian and Chinese traditions, creating rhythms, composing melodies and performing songs. In French, children will focus on food, cafés and ordering, learning key vocabulary and revising numbers to 100 in the context of money. They will build confidence in conversational French and language skills, and will create their own songs inspired by Eurovision, using

	their newly acquired vocabulary. In art, children will explore colour in art by studying female artists, developing a strong understanding of the colour wheel, warm and cool colours, complementary colours and skin tones, and learning how to use colour choices purposefully to create meaning and make elements of their artwork stand out. In DT, they will design and build earthquake-resistant structures, applying their knowledge of strong shapes and materials. In PE, children will build confidence and skills across dance, tennis, athletics and cricket, focusing on teamwork, technique and performance. They will be coached by a specialist tennis coach and take part in a programme delivered by Watford Football Club. In RE, children will explore the role of places of worship through the study of Islam and consider how Humanism compares to religious beliefs (**for further information please see the school website or click on the following: Harrow Agreed Syllabus**). In PSHE, children will study 'Relationships' and 'Healthy Me' from the Jigsaw scheme, exploring emotions such as jealousy, love and loss, while learning to manage friendships and group dynamics, build assertiveness and resilience against peer pressure, understand the risks of smoking and alcohol and celebrate inner strength while appreciating others and reflecting on relationships, including memories of loved ones (**for further information please see the school website for the updated Relationships and Sex Education Policy**).

Home Learning:

All home learning work is set on Google classroom on a **Friday afternoon**. Other important information may be shared with your children on Google classroom by their class teacher.

- **Spellings**: A spellings list will be uploaded every week and the children will have a spelling test every Friday. A spelling matrix will also be uploaded should children wish to complete an activity to help them learn their spellings.
- **Maths:** A selection of different mathematical tasks will be set on 'My Maths' throughout the course of the term. The children will also complete Times Tables Rock Stars to practise their times tables.
- **Topic including Science**: Project-style homework will be set every 2-3 weeks; this will encourage the children to build upon their research skills, as well as showcase their creativity. It will be an open-ended, creative task to consolidate children's learning in class. This can be uploaded as a video, presentation or a picture.
- **Reading Books and Reading Records**: It is recommended that the children read each day. We encourage you to read with your child for at least 15 minutes per day and note any books you have read so that teachers can monitor the number of books read, for the whole school 'Reading Challenge.' We are grateful for your support with this.

Please support your child's learning by ensuring homework tasks are completed within the set, allotted timeframes. If your child struggles to complete his/ her homework please liaise with the class teacher so your child can receive additional support.

Other Information:

PE: All children should have a PE kit in school at all times as PE lessons can vary. These will be taken home on a Friday to be washed, so please ensure that they are returned on a Monday. PE will take place twice a week. The P.E kit list is on the website and should be followed. Please ensure their PE kit is labelled.

Water: Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school. There is drinking water in every classroom for them to refill their bottles throughout the day.

Library: Your child will have the opportunity to visit the library during the course of the week and therefore will need to bring in their library books each week.

Trips: This term, Year 4 will visit the British Museum. Further details will be shared soon.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Best wishes,



Mr P. Berry-Woodward
Assistant Head Teacher | Middle Phase