Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring Term 2026

A very warm welcome back to this new academic year at Cannon Lane Primary School. 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 *Hidden Tales from Eastern Europe* and *Empire's End: A Roman Story*. They will develop their writing skills by exploring stories from imaginary worlds, playscripts and narratives, as well as write arguments, discussions and explanation texts. Children will explore a range of engaging texts, including stories from different cultures, traditional tales, playscripts, and poetry. They will develop their writing skills by creating detailed character and setting descriptions, writing narratives and producing their own playscripts inspired by traditional stories. Children will also practise argument and discussion writing, as well as explanation texts, building their ability to structure ideas clearly. In addition, they will continue to develop their grammar, punctuation, and spelling, and take part in projects that celebrate diversity and broaden their understanding of different perspectives.
Maths	This term in maths, children will continue to develop their skills in multiplication and division, recalling facts from multiplication tables up to 12 × 12. They will use place value and known facts to multiply and divide mentally, including multiplying by 0 and 1, dividing by 1, and multiplying three numbers together. Children will also practise formal written methods for short multiplication and division to become fluent in calculating exact answers. In fractions, children will add and subtract fractions with the same denominator, explore families of equivalent fractions using diagrams, and count in hundredths, understanding how these arise from dividing objects or tenths. They will solve increasingly complex problems involving fractions, including non-unit fractions that result in whole numbers, and will recognise and convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions. In time, children will convert between different units, such as hours to minutes, minutes to seconds, years to months, and weeks to days, and will practise writing and converting time between 12- and 24-hour analogue and digital clocks. In decimals, they will explore the effect of dividing one- and two-digit numbers by 10 and 100, recognise the value of digits in ones, tenths, and hundredths, and write decimal equivalents of tenths, hundredths, and fractions such as 1/4, 1/2, and 3/4. They will also practise rounding decimals with one decimal place to the nearest whole number and comparing numbers with up to two decimal places. In geometry, children will measure and calculate the perimeter of rectilinear shapes, including squares, and convert between units such as metres and kilometres. They will also find the area of rectilinear shapes by counting squares. To strengthen fluency, children will continue practising their times tables through Times Tables Rock Stars and Rolling Numbers—a fun, collaborative activity that uses rhymes and rhythm to help recall multiples confidently.
Science	This term in science, children will be learning about sound and electricity. They will explore what sound waves are and how we hear different sounds. Children will carry out practical experiments to discover which materials are best for sound-proofing and will create cup telephones to prove how sound waves travel. When learning about electricity, children will develop an understanding of key safety rules for using electrical items. They will learn how to draw electrical circuit diagrams and use these to build working circuits in real life. Children will explore the purpose of switches, motors and bulbs, and investigate how adding more cells or additional bulbs affects a circuit.
Topic	In History, children will explore how Rome was governed—from monarchy to republic to empire—and compare Roman rule with other ancient civilisations and modern Britain. They will investigate daily life, social classes, jobs, and leisure, using sources such as Pompeii artefacts. The unit also covers the rise and fall of the Roman Empire, including the Punic Wars, Hannibal, Julius Caesar, the Pax Romana, the spread of Christianity, and Rome's lasting legacy, including Latin and its influence on modern languages. In Geography, children will deepen their understanding of Europe by studying Eastern Europe, including its countries, rivers, climate, and the recent conflict in Ukraine, exploring how geography shapes history and modern events. Later, they will focus on Northern Ireland, examining landscapes, urban and rural areas, developing map skills, and considering the role of tourism and organisations like UNESCO and the National Trust in protecting important sites. This term in the Arts, children will explore portraiture and still life, drawing inspiration from artists like Cézanne, Pecis, and Risé, while developing their skills in shape,

	colour, and composition. In Music, they will learn Brazilian rhythms in a Classroom Samba Band and learn to read notes on a stave. They will study melodies by Saint-Saëns, singing and playing simple tunes from *Beauty and the Beast*. Linked to History, they will also design and make Roman-inspired purses, combining creativity with practical skills. In PE, outdoor lessons will develop ball skills through netball and football, while indoor sessions will include gymnastics and mindfulness. In French, children will learn French numbers, dates, days, months, and seasons through songs, surveys, and maths activities, culminating in a traditional French birthday celebration. They will also explore weather and compass vocabulary, count in tens to 100, and give simple weather forecasts for different parts of France. Finally, children will take part in a French science lesson on the water cycle, identifying scientific vocabulary in French. In PSHE, they will cover the topics 'Dreams and Goals' and 'Changing Me', supported by circle time, Jigsaw scheme of work, which will be used to deliver age-appropriate sex education lessons. Children will learn about being unique, about having a baby and the beginnings of puberty, using correct scientific terminology (**for further information please see the school website for the updated Relationships and Sex Education Policy**). In Computing, children will use Logo to design, test, and refine commands to create shapes and patterns. Later in the term, they will investigate how and why data is collected over time, using sensors and data loggers to gather, analyse, and interpret information. In RE, children will explore questions such as "Does it matter what we wear and why?" and "In what ways is Jesus relevant today and in the future?" with a focus on Sikhism and Christianity. (**for further information please see the school website or click on the following: Harrow Agreed Syllabus**).

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 Wallace Collection and the Brent Sikh Centre. 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,

P. Berry-Woodward

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