



# St. James and St. John C of E Primary School

## Termly Curriculum Information for Parents - Year 4

### What your child will be learning about this spring term and how you can help at home

#### English

##### Writing:

This term, Year 4 will be studying a range of high quality narrative texts, including the exciting fiction writing of Phillip Pullman and Ted Hughes. The children will be reading the following texts: *The Iron Man*, by Ted Hughes and *I was a Rat!* by Philip Pullman. These high quality texts will be used to model writing, inspire the children's own writing and extend skills in vocabulary, grammar and spelling. We will be continuing to encourage the children to write for a purpose, e.g. letters, diary entries, newspaper reports, stories and poetry. The children will also explore how poetry can be used to create images, using *The Mousehole Cat*, by Antonia Barber as a stimulus.

##### Grammar:

The children will learn to use the following grammatical features in their writing: statements, questions and exclamations with the appropriate punctuation; speech marks to punctuate direct speech; relative clauses, using the relative pronouns *who*, *which* and *that* (e.g. *The woman, who was wearing a black mask, sprinted down the alleyway*); and colons before a list (e.g. *I love many different fruits: bananas, pineapples, oranges and apples.*)

##### Reading:

In daily reading lessons, the children will be developing their reading fluency, comprehension skills and ability to read with expression.

##### How you can help:

Encourage your child to read a variety of literature, including a variety of newspapers and magazines, fiction and non-fiction books written by different authors. Help your child to learn their spellings each work. Listen to your child read on a regular basis, asking them questions to make sure they have understood what they have been reading. **Please sign your initials in your child's Reading Record each week to show they are reading at home.**



#### Maths

This term, Year 4 will be learning the following:

##### Number: Multiplication and Division

Recalling multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to  $12 \times 12$ ; Multiplying together three numbers, e.g.  $3 \times 5 \times 4 = 60$ ; Solving problems involving multiplying and dividing; Multiplying and dividing 2-digit and 3-digit numbers by a one-digit number, e.g.  $42 \times 5 =$  ;  $325 \times 3 =$  ;  $844 \div 4 =$  ;  $45 \div 3 =$

##### Measurement: Length and Perimeter

Measuring in kilometres and metres; calculating the perimeter of rectangles, rectilinear shapes and polygons.

##### Number: Fractions

Recognising and showing common equivalent fractions; Adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominators, e.g.  $1/5 + 3/5$ ;  $3/8 + 4/8$ ; Calculating fractions of quantities, e.g.  $1/8$  of 40;  $1/6$  of 36.

##### Number: Decimals

Recognising and writing decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths; Recognising and writing decimal equivalents of  $1/4$ ,  $1/2$  and  $3/4$  ; Dividing a 1- or 2-digit number by 10 and 100, e.g.  $9 \div 10 = 0.9$ ;  $35 \div 10 = 3.5$ ;  $80 \div 100 = 0.8$ ;  $3 \div 100 = 0.03$

**By the end of Year 4, the children are expected to know all the times tables up to  $12 \times 12$ : 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12.**

**How you can help:** Ask your child to explain their mathematical thinking to you (e.g. "What strategy did you use?" or "What is a translation?"). Also, the children should practise their times tables for ten minutes each day.

Encourage your child to log on to *Times Tables Rockstars*: [play.ttrockstars.com](http://play.ttrockstars.com) to practise for 10 minutes each day.

## Science

### States of Matter

The children will be learning to classify materials as solids liquids or gases; to investigate how temperature affects the rate at which ice melts; to investigate how the temperature affects the rate of evaporation; and to identify where and how condensation takes place; to explore the role of evaporation and condensation in the water cycle.

### Sound

This term, Year 4 will identify how sounds are made and find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it. The children will be learning to classify instruments, to observe vibrations and sounds and they will investigate ear gongs. The children will be investigating string telephones, and learning to explain how a string telephone works. They will also be investigating sound insulation.

Visit [bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary](http://bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary) and choose Y4—Science for a selection of science videos.

## Religious Education

### Hinduism

The children will learn about how Hindus worship and the importance of symbolism, beliefs and teaching in Hinduism.

### Holy Communion

The children will learn about what Jesus said about Holy Communion. They will also explore how the act of sharing communion demonstrates God's peace.

## Computing

This term, Year 4 will be learning about **computing systems and networks- The Internet**. The children will be learning to describe how networks physically connect to other networks; to recognise how networked devices make up the internet; to outline how websites can be shared via the World Wide Web; to describe how content can be added and accessed on the World Wide Web; to recognise how the content of the World Wide Web is created by people; and to evaluate the consequences of unreliable content.

**How you can help:** Have a conversation with your child about being safe online. For some informative and age appropriate videos to start conversations, visit the following website: [thinkuknow.co.uk](http://thinkuknow.co.uk)



## History

### The Romans in Britain

In learning about the time and place of Roman Britain, Year 4 will understand why the Romans wanted to invade Britain and the challenges the Romans faced. They will be learning to understand the impact the Romans had on Britain and the way Britons lived during Roman times. They will also learn to understand why roads were so important to Roman Britain.

## Geography

This term, Year 4 will be learning to understand the features of a **town** and **exploring how towns began**. They will also be learning to understand where our food comes from and how our food gets to the supermarket. The children will also learn how towns can change and how they can be improved.

## PE

### Gymnastics

Year 4 will be learning to become increasingly competent and confident to perform gymnastics skills more consistently; to perform in time with a partner and group; and to use compositional ideas in sequences, such as changes in height, speed and direction.

### Dance

Year 4 will be learning to include freeze frames in their dance routines; to practise and perform a variety of different dance formations; and to develop a dance as a group with a set starting position.

## Music

This term, Year 4 will have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, receiving lessons on the guitar or mini bass. The guitar and mini bass programme builds up a class ensemble and incorporates reading music notation, improvisation and performance. All sessions are designed to support the development of music skills, knowledge and understanding. The sessions include warm-ups, rhythm and instrumental exercises with repertoire related to the progression of technique and musical development.

## Spanish

The children will be studying the following topics in this term's Spanish lessons, led by our specialist Spanish teacher: my family; animals; our bodies; clothes; the school; around school; school subjects; around the house; and Easter celebrations.

## Art and design

### Sculpture (Ramayana Masks)

This term, Year 4 will be learning to explore facial expressions in masks and to explore and draw the characters in The Ramayana. They will also be learning to design, construct and decorate their masks.

### Printing (Printing with Different Materials)

This term, using different materials, the children will be learning the following printing techniques: printing on cloths using an object; making string prints; making tube string prints; making plastic clay prints; and making prints using polyprint.

## Design Technology

Year 4 will be designing, making and evaluating a **Chinese kite** in their unit of work about structures.

## Food Technology

Year 4 will be learning about the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet. The children will also be preparing **Yogurt Fruit Smoothies**.

## PSHCE

In **Keeping Safe Studies**, Year 4 will be learning about self-care and first aid, being safe online and managing their emotions. The children will also learn the following: to understand what we spend money on; to understand ways to save and the benefits of saving; to learn about the intensity of feelings; to identify, discuss and manage feelings and a range of emotions in ourselves and others, and develop positive coping strategies; and to explain how to keep safe around water.

Year 4 will also be learning to understand the importance of personal hygiene; to understand how stereotypes can label people; to understand rights and responsibilities in a friendship; to understand how images are manipulated online; and to identify and resist pressurising and manipulative behaviour.

**How you can help:** Talk to your child about how to keep safe in different situations.

## How can I help at home?

Make it clear that you value homework – set aside a specific time and area for your child to work on their homework. Help them to be organised with their time so that their homework is handed in on time.

Encourage your child to **read a variety of texts**, not just books from school.

**Listen** to your child read and ask them **questions** about the text to help increase their **understanding**. Encourage your child to make predictions about what might happen next (For example, 'What do you think will happen next?' 'Why do you think that?').

**Please sign your initials in your child's Reading Record each week.**

Encourage your child to do **every day mathematics**, such as telling the time, using bus / train timetables or working out the total / change in a shop.

Spend time reviewing their **times tables** with them each day.

**Help your child to be organised:**

- ◇ Have you got your **school bag**? Needs to be in school **every day**.
- ◇ Are **ALL** your reading books inside it?
- ◇ Have you completed your **homework**? Homework should be submitted on Google Classroom by **Wednesday**.

