



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 summer 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 Carol Ann Duffy. The children will be reading the following texts: *Odysseus* by Hugh Lupton; *The Lost Happy Endings* by Carol Ann Duffy; and *A Year Full of Poems* by Michael Harrison. 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. stories, newspaper reports, poems, explanations, retellings and diary entries. Linked with the children's geography work, the children will be writing newspaper reports and explanation texts about rivers and mountains.

Grammar:

The children will learn to use the following grammatical features in their writing: **noun phrases** expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases (e.g. *the teacher* expanded to: *the strict maths teacher with curly hair*); and **fronted adverbials** (e.g. *Later that day, I heard the bad news.*) They will also learn to use paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme and inverted commas and other **punctuation** to indicate direct speech.

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 range of newspapers and magazines, fiction and non-fiction books written by different authors. Help your child to learn their spellings each week. Listen to your child read on a regular basis, asking them questions to make sure they have understood what they have been reading. Encourage your child to read their books from school at home every day.

Visit the **BBC Bitesize** website with your child: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zf4f8p3>



Maths: This term, Year 4 will be learning the following:

Number: Decimals

Recognising and writing decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths; recognising and writing decimal equivalents to $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$; dividing a one- or two-digit number by 10 and 100, and identifying the value of the digits in the answer as ones, tenths and hundredths; and rounding decimals with one decimal place to the nearest whole number.

Measurement: Money

Solving simple money problems involving fractions and decimals to two decimal places; and estimating, comparing and calculating different measures, including money in pounds and pence.

Measurement: Time

Reading, writing and converting time between analogue and digital 12- and 24-hour clocks; and solving problems involving converting from hours to minutes; minutes to seconds; years to months; weeks to days.

Geometry: Properties of Shape & Position and Direction

Comparing and classifying geometric shapes, including quadrilaterals and triangles, based on their properties and sizes; and identifying acute and obtuse angles, and comparing and ordering angles up to two right angles by size. Describing position using coordinates; plotting coordinates; drawing 2-D shapes on grids; and, translating shapes and describing translations on grids.

Statistics:

Interpreting and drawing charts and line graphs and understanding how these represent data; asking questions about the data represented; using data to find the sum and the difference; exploring appropriate scale.

How you can help: Ask your child to explain their mathematical thinking to you (e.g. "What strategy did you use?").

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

Encourage your child to log on to *Times Tables Rockstars*: <https://trockstars.com> to practise for 10 minutes each day.

Log in to <https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-4/subjects/maths> for some Y4 maths consolidation.

Science

Electricity

This term, Year 4 will be learning to classify electrical objects. Working scientifically, the children will be learning how to make and record electric circuits. They will be learning how to predict and test complete and incomplete circuits and to describe what a switch does and how it works. Year 4 will also be learning to identify conductors and insulators.

Living things

This term, Year 4 will be learning to recognise the changes in our local environment. They will be learning to give examples of positive and negative ways in which humans change the environment, researching and presenting information about the impact of litter on animals. The children will also be learning to describe environmental dangers to endangered species. Year 4 will be identifying seashore animals using a key and learning to recognise characteristics of some of the main invertebrate groups.

Visit <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zhrn9ty> for a selection of science videos.

Music

This term, Year 4 will continue to have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, receiving lessons on the guitar. Their guitar sessions from The Music Hub will include warm-ups, rhythm and instrumental exercises and the children will continue to develop techniques of ensemble playing and will learn more difficult pieces. The children will demonstrate their musical understanding and learning through performance. Year 4 will prepare multiple pieces for the summer-term music concert.

Computing

In **computing**, Year 4 will be learning about **programming** in their unit of work about **repetition in shapes**. The children will be learning the following: identifying that accuracy in programming is important; creating a program in a text-based language; explaining what 'repeat' means; modifying a count-controlled loop to produce a given outcome; decomposing a task into small steps; and creating a program that uses count-controlled loops to produce a given outcome.

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: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/



History

The Anglo Saxons in Britain

This term, Year 4 will be learning to know the time and place of Anglo Saxon Britain. The children will be learning to understand how the Anglo Saxons settled in Britain and how Anglo Saxon Britain was divided into Kingdoms. They will be learning about daily life in Anglo Saxon Britain, and learning to explain the influence of the Anglo Saxons on Britain. The influence of Anglo Saxons on religious beliefs will be explored and the children will be learning about Alfred the Great.

Geography

Germany

This term, Year 4 will be learning about the geographical features of Germany and North America. They will be learning to locate Germany and Canada using an atlas and learning about the importance of the River Rhine and the Rocky Mountains. The children will also be learning to understand how land use in Germany has changed over time and about North America's different geographical features.

Religious Education

Hinduism - What does it mean to be a Hindu?

This term, Year 4 will be learning about the Key beliefs of Hinduism and how these are applied to daily life for some Hindus. The pupils will learn about key practices and how values and ideals influence and underpin behaviour and attitudes.

Liturgy - Why is liturgy important to many Christians?

This term, Year 4 will be learning about the main ingredients of Christian public liturgy and worship. The children will be learning about the role of liturgy for Christians in building their relationships with God, with each other and with themselves. They will learn how individuals respond to different elements of the liturgy and how they are changed by their experiences. Year 4 will also learn how important each of the different elements of the liturgy are when compared to one another and the relationship between the different elements.

The children will also explore the following questions: *How can participation in a Eucharistic liturgy bring about positive transformation?* and *How would you create a liturgy for your school or your parish?*

Art and design

Collage and Textiles (Plants and Patterns)

This term, Year 4 will be learning to re-create the textures of the rainforest. The children will be learning to work collaboratively to create a collage. They will be learning to investigate costume and textiles and to decorate fabric.

Digital Media (Layers)

This term, Year 4 will be learning to create a digital collage. The children will be learning to alter images and explore scale and composition. They will be learning to alter images to create an original design based on traditional Greek art and in the style of Andy Warhol.

Design Technology

The children will be designing, making and evaluating **storybooks** 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 a **Cheeky Sandwich**.

PSHCE

This term, Year 4 will be learning what the term **puberty** means, learning what changes happen to boys and girls during puberty. The children will develop a greater awareness of **bullying** (including cyber-bullying), and how to respond to bullying, and they will learn that all bullying is wrong. They will learn about **harassment** and **exploitation in relationships**, including physical and emotional abuse, including how to respond.

The children will learn to make good, informed judgements about what kind of **physical contact** is acceptable or unacceptable and how to respond, and they will learn that there are different people we can trust and ask for help. They will learn **how a baby grows** and develops in its mother's womb and how **conception and life in the womb** fits into the cycle of life.

Spanish

The children will be studying the following topics in this term's Spanish lessons: the weather; food; transport; hobbies; how do you feel?; and, routines and times. They will learn to play Spanish games.

PE

In **Cricket**, Year 4 will be developing the range of **cricket** skills they can apply in a competitive context, choosing and using a range of simple tactics in isolation and in a game context.

In **Athletics**, Year 4 will be using running, jumping and throwing stations to investigate different ways of performing these activities. Using a variety of equipment, Year 4 will be finding ways of measuring and timing, comparing the effectiveness of different styles of runs, jumps and throws.

In **Tennis**, Year 4 will explore some forehand and backhand shots, work to return the serve and explore positions in gameplay.

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?').

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 **book 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**.

