



Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn Term 1

Welcome to Year 4 and the first half of the Autumn Term!

We are all really excited for the year ahead and for all the wonderful learning experiences the children will have. We are looking forward to working together with you to ensure that your children have the best experience in Year 4. We hope that this newsletter helps you to understand and talk with your child about the learning they will be doing this half term.

General Class Information

- All the children have got their new reading books and reading records. Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly at home, for 10 minutes daily, and make some time to discuss and ask questions about the text to develop comprehension skills. We would be grateful if you could please make a note of how your child reads, in their reading diary, each time your child is heard to read by an adult, whether this is a school book, an online book, comic, newspaper or a book of their own.
- The children have a PE lesson on **Mondays** and a swimming lesson on **Wednesdays**. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing the correct PE uniform (school jumper, white t-shirt, black shorts/joggers/leggings and trainers or pumps). We would like our children to look smart at all times. They will need a one-piece costume or trunks, a swimming hat, towel and bag for swimming.



LEARNING MEANS THE WORLD – 'LIGHTENING SPEED'

'Lightning Speed' is a thematic unit based around the history and development of the internet and World Wide Web, with a focus on computing. It primarily looks at how computers communicate, the importance of networks, how email works and how the internet enables collaboration.

Art

The children will be exploring a range of lines and marks to create different effects when printing. They will use polystyrene tiles to print with on different materials and choose their favourite to make a final piece of art.

Science

In science, the children will learn to construct a simple electrical circuit and demonstrate this. They will also be identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers.

PSHE

As this theme is focused on communication, the children will be learning how to stay safe on the internet. Most children of this age are communicating online daily so it is crucial they are aware of social media, age restrictions and dangers of sharing information online.

Computing

The children will be researching online often. We will be showing them how to look for secure sites, safe pages and they will become more fluent at using a chrome book. Each child has their chrome book to use in class.

Music

The children will learn to copy melodic phrases on the glockenspiels. They will learn about tempo, pitch and how western music is written down.

English – Writing

We use the 'Write Stuff' approach to teach writing at St George's. Writing is taught in a sequence so that the children have a clear understanding and model of how to compose a piece of writing, the punctuation they should be using and a broad range of vocabulary to enrich their writing.

This half term our focuses are Autumn poetry and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

The children will be using these texts to create...

- Autumn poetry
- A narrative
- A formal letter

English – Guided Reading

During guided reading lessons, the children read a variety of texts both fiction and non-fiction within their groups. We discuss the book in detail and the children develop strategies to improve fluency and understanding when reading. Alongside reading strategies the children are assessed on their comprehension and inference skills. **It is vital that you read at home with your child so that they can practise their reading skills on a daily basis.**

Maths

We use White Rose Maths to plan and deliver the teaching of Maths. For each topic, we work through the following sequence:

- Concrete – using concrete materials, e.g. using counters, to model and solve problems.
- Pictorial – drawing pictures of concrete materials to model and solve problems
- Abstract – using mathematical symbols such as + - = and numbers to model and solve problems.

This half term, the children will be learning about place value, addition and subtraction. Here are the small steps of learning:

Year 4 Autumn term Block 1 – Place value	Year 4 Autumn term Block 1 – Place value	Year 4 Autumn term Block 2 – Addition and subtraction
Small steps	Small steps	Small steps
Step 1 Represent numbers to 1,000	Step 9 Number line to 10,000	Step 1 Add and subtract 1s, 10s, 100s and 1,000s
Step 2 Partition numbers to 1,000	Step 10 Estimate on a number line to 10,000	Step 2 Add up to two 4-digit numbers – no exchange
Step 3 Number line to 1,000	Step 11 Compare numbers to 10,000	Step 3 Add two 4-digit numbers – one exchange
Step 4 Thousands	Step 12 Order numbers to 10,000	Step 4 Add two 4-digit numbers – more than one exchange
Step 5 Represent numbers to 10,000	Step 13 Roman numerals	Step 5 Subtract two 4-digit numbers – no exchange
Step 6 Partition numbers to 10,000	Step 14 Round to the nearest 10	Step 6 Subtract two 4-digit numbers – one exchange
Step 7 Flexible partitioning of numbers to 10,000	Step 15 Round to the nearest 100	Step 7 Subtract two 4-digit numbers – more than one exchange
Step 8 Find 1, 10, 100, 1,000 more or less	Step 16 Round to the nearest 1,000	Step 8 Efficient subtraction

RE

Our topic for this half term: *What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?*

Through this topic, the children will be focusing on British Hindus, and the great diversity within British Hindu tradition, as well as in ancient and modern Indian Hindu traditions. They will find out some key Hindu beliefs, and how these are expressed in thoughts and actions. The children will also be thinking about being a Hindu in Britain today.

Our whole school Christian Value this half term is THANKFULNESS.

‘Always be thankful.’ 1 Thessalonians 5.16

During our Collective Worship assemblies, the children will be reflecting on the themes of thanking God for people who help us, praising God in creation, remembering to say thank you, giving thanks even when times are difficult, counting our blessings and living fruitful lives.