



BUNBURY ALDERSEY C OF E PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Meet the Teacher
Year 4
Mrs Blackburn

“Let your light shine”
Matthew 5:16

Our Senior Leadership Team



Mrs Nic Badger - Executive Headteacher



Mrs Cath Smith - Deputy Principal



Mrs Emily Ehlen - SENCo

*Who will be working in your child's class this
year....*

Mrs Blackburn
and
Mrs Mitchell (Monday–Wednesday)

We strive to provide a primary
education your child will never
forget. Rich with diverse
opportunities and experiences set
within a
Christian context.

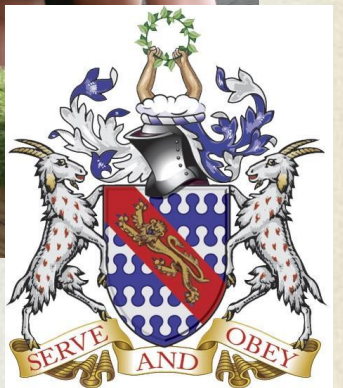
*“Let your light shine”
Matthew 5:16*



Our Christian values underpin all we do:

* Our children are happy, caring and empathetic to others

* Our children learn and develop as moral individuals
within the context of Christian values



*“Let your light shine”
Matthew 5:16*

As a Rights Respecting School children's rights are also at the centre of our ethos.

We are currently aiming to become a Gold Rights Respecting School.

The children learn about their rights through a variety of different activities and about the importance of children's rights in the world through themed days.

At the start of this year, our class completed our class charter.



OUR SCHOOL RULES



'Blessed are those who act justly, who always do what is right'

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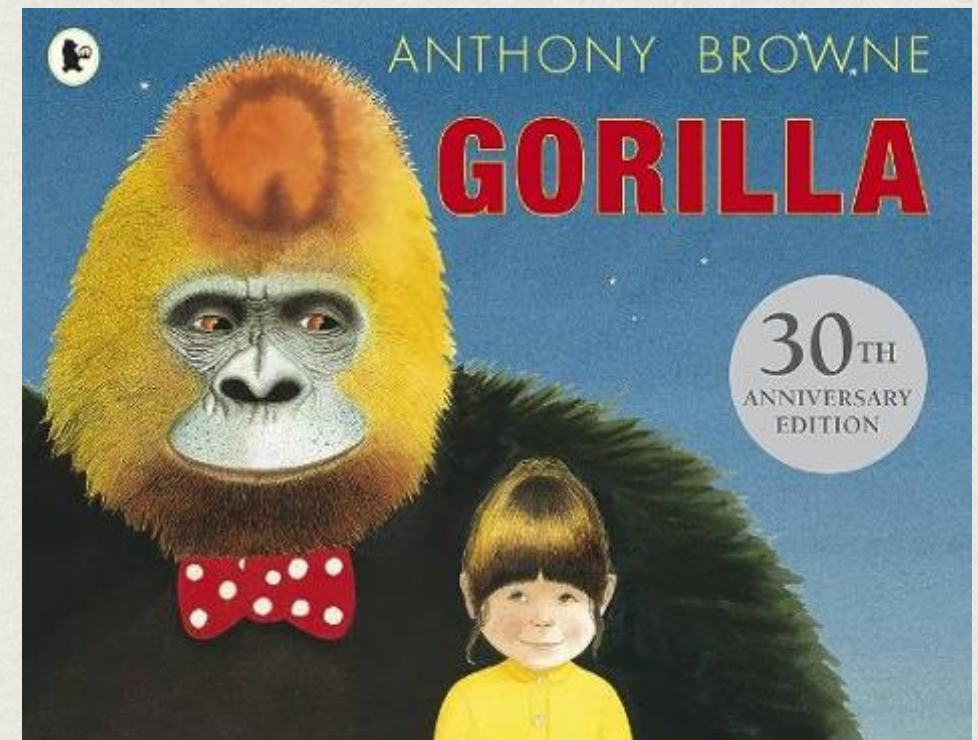
Psalm106:3

*“Let your light shine”
Matthew 5:16*

Autumn 1: Fantastic Beasts

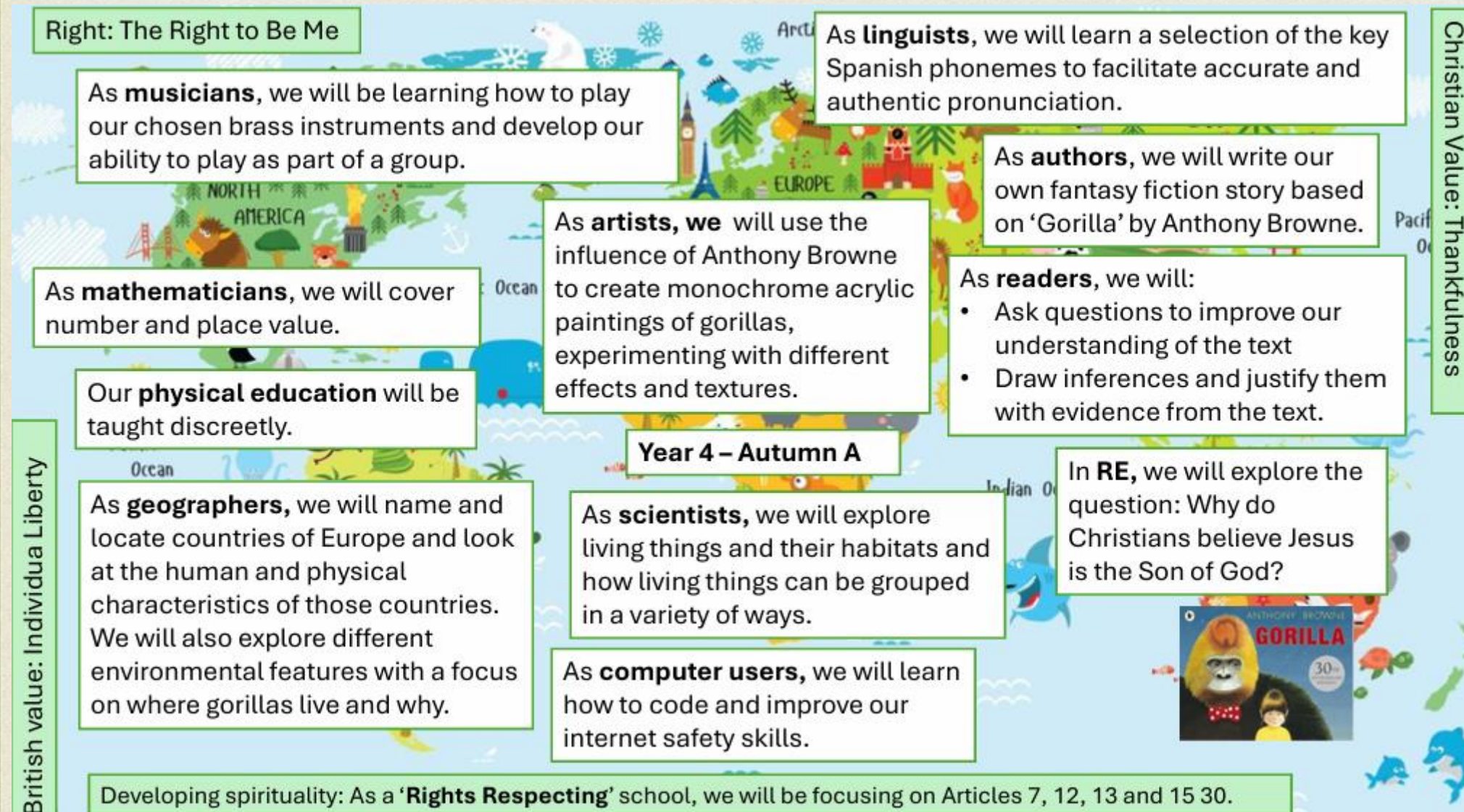


- Our class Autumn 1 topic is based around **'Gorilla'** written by Anthony Browne. This is an award-winning tale about a girl who loves gorilla despite never seeing one. Her father's too busy to take her to the zoo – or for anything else come to that. For her birthday present, Hannah asks her father for a gorilla – but is disappointed when she discovers her new gorilla is just a toy one. However, something extraordinary happens ... the toy turns into a real gorilla.
- *We'll use this book to inspire our own fantasy fiction story.*



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Topic Web



Our topic web, which details what we will be learning across the connected curriculum, can be found on the Year 4 webpage.

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Brass Lessons

As I'm sure you're aware, the children in Year 4 have the chance to learn how to play a brass instrument and we encourage all pupils to embrace this unique opportunity.

- Their brass teacher is Mr Curtin.
- Lessons take place each week on Wednesday from 9am-10am.
- The children will have the opportunity to bring their instruments home to practice when Mr Curtin feels they are ready – sorry in advance!
- Towards the end of the year, in the summer term, the children will play alongside the amazing Halle Orchestra and hundreds of other primary school children at the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester. Parents are able to come and watch, and it is a ticketed event. You will be made aware closer to the time when tickets are available to buy.

HOMework



Each child will receive a reading diary/journal and homework journal in which to complete homework tasks.

Reading – daily reading is given a high priority from reception to year 6. Children across the school will be expected to read at least 5 times per week. In KS1, Reading entries will be recorded in a reading diary which all the children will be provided with. In KS2, once children become free readers, they will be provided with a journal in which they will review the books they have read.. Each half term, class teachers will also issue a list of recommended reading both fiction and non-fiction linked to the connected curriculum theme.

Spelling – Children will receive a spelling list of age-appropriate high frequency words at the start of each term to learn. Using our booklet ‘Helping your child to spell’ the children need to work on learning around 8 words per week. This will be in addition to spelling patterns from staged spelling groups where words are tested weekly. Children in KS2 will receive these on a Friday and will be tested the following Thursday.

MyMaths – Children will receive a weekly online maths task related to learning which has taken place that week in school. These will be set on a Monday.

Times tables – Children will receive specific times tables to learn in each year group. Year 2 – 2x,5x,10x with an awareness of 3x and 4x, Year 3 – as in year 2 plus 3x,4x,8x, Year 4 –all times tables plus an awareness of related division facts, Year 5 and 6 all times tables with related division facts.

Home learning projects – As part of our inclusive connected curriculum, all classes will be asked to complete a home learning project **once a half term**. These projects, Take away homework, are linked to the class learning theme and children have a choice of which task they wish to complete at home. We believe that these projects are a great opportunity for parents/carers to work alongside their child, enhancing their learning experience. The projects are shared and celebrated with other classes.

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HOMework

[Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary and Nursery School: Year 4](#)

The link above will take you to the main Year 4 webpage. If you scroll to the bottom of this page, you will find useful documents for Year 6.

At the top of this page there is a Homework Tab. Here, you will find all the documents your child needs to complete their homework.

[Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary and Nursery School: Homework Autumn 1](#)

Alternatively, the link below takes you straight to the Autumn A Homework Page.

19th October 2026.

This half term's takeaway homework is due Wednesday 21st October 2026.

Reading For pleasure

Why is reading for pleasure important?

The National Literacy Trust has carried out some research on reading for pleasure. They discovered that reading for pleasure can also support wider literacy skills, general wellbeing, empathy, confidence and an aptitude for learning.

In fact, their 2024 research showed that twice as many children and young people who enjoy reading in their free time had above average reading skills than children who don't enjoy it.

Reading at home

Keep it
light and
enjoyable!



A Guide to **Book Chat**

Watch and listen
carefully to follow
their interests

Invite your
child to get
involved

Share your
emotional
responses!

Wonder
and connect
to your lives

Ponder and wonder.

‘That reminds me of when...’

‘I wonder if/ whether /who/ why/ what ...’

‘How do you think the boy is feeling?’

Discuss what might happen next.

Handwriting

Kinetic Letters® is a handwriting programme that supports all learners. Using four main strands:

- Making bodies stronger
- Holding the pencil
- Learning the letters
- Developing flow and fluency

it enables children to develop legible handwriting that can be produced quickly and automatically. As handwriting becomes automatic, it becomes a valuable tool for learning rather than a hindrance.

The Kinetic Letters® font covers all the letters in the alphabet and is based on a set of rules that have been made as simple as possible to enable fast learning.

The order in which letters are taught recognizes the cognitive development of children. Initially reading and writing are taught separately and later on, reading and writing are combined.

Strength: Writing is a fine finger operation; children must have core body and arm strength to be able to control their fingers precisely.

Pencil hold: The pencil/pen grip must be comfortable to allow writing for long periods (eg exams often last for hours). Pens and pencils with a triangular cross-section assist in developing the correct hold.

Letter formation: The movements to form the letters begin with whole body movements and progress through writing in sand trays to writing on whiteboards and finally writing on paper.

Flow and fluency: Letter movements are minimized to help a fast writing style to develop. There are no lead-in strokes (a waste of time and effort).

MATHS IN SCHOOL

Last academic year we began using First4Maths and Magma Maths, which have effectively improved our outcomes across the majority of school and allowed for the effective use of concrete resources and practical activities, and digital platforms which help to fully consolidate learning and enable the children to develop independence and confidence.

Equally it allows teachers to understand the progression in every small step, which is exemplified to us as teachers to effectively adapt learning to meet the needs of all children, including those with SEND.

By using a mixture of both First4Maths and Magma we are able to diversify our Maths curriculum, and aim to meet the needs of all of our learners as well as get children engaged and excited about maths!

So please be assured that if you don't see as much work in their maths books as you feel you have previously, it's because we are using both books and tech to teach.



MATHS AT HOME

MyMaths is an interactive online teaching and homework subscription website for schools that builds pupil engagement and consolidates maths knowledge. Teachers will set weekly lessons for children to complete, this will, wherever possible be linked to our learning within school. There are step-by-step explanations to break down the lesson content into bite-sized pieces. This will help children to recap a concept and also help you, as parents/carers, to understand the method taught. There are also games to complete should children wish to.



There are also maths parent guides which have been uploaded onto each year group's class page. This document provides calculation method examples.

Multiplication check

- Year 4 Multiplication tables check will take place nationally **between Monday 2 June and Friday 20 June 2027.**
- The test consists of 25 questions with 6 seconds to answer each question
- The test is administered on an iPad in a similar way to Timetables Rockstars, the children will also have plenty of practice checks before completing the official check.
- The test is administered with the children in a quiet area on a 1:1 or small group basis
- There are some access arrangements that can be provided for those that need it – for example: larger font, audible questions and colour contrasting background. We will be doing lots of practice in school, with our weekly times tables.
- There will be further information sent out in the Spring Term.

PE KITS



- Children need to come to school in their PE kit
- PE is on the following days: Wednesday and Friday
- PE kit should be named
- Plain black tracksuit, black shorts or skort, green polo shirt and black canvas pumps/trainers in line with the new uniform, PE black hooded sweatshirt
- NO FOOTBALL TOPS or STRIPS please
- Dark sport trousers may be worn in the colder months

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Matthew 5:16

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

If there is anything you would like to talk to us about, no matter how small it may seem, please do!

Unless I have a club or other commitment straight after school, I will be on the playground each day at 3.15pm, or please make an appointment through the school office. Unfortunately, I cannot speak with anyone in the morning unless it is an emergency.

You can email the office on: admin@bunburyaldersey.cheshire.sch.uk
Or contact Mrs Badger: eht@bunburyaldersey.cheshire.sch.uk

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Thank you for your support.

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Matthew 5:16