



YEAR 4

AUTUMN 2026 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

For all the essential information about what we will learn during the Autumn Term.

English

In guided reading we are focusing on the story of Charlotte's Web.

We are studying our Pathways text Gorilla by Anthony Browne.

Our key learning objectives are:

- Expand noun phrases by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and prepositional phrases
- Use co-ordination and subordination to extend sentences
- Use fronted adverbials
- Use commas after fronted adverbials
- Organise paragraphs around a theme (to organise and sequence more extended narrative structures)

Mathematics

- Count in multiples of 25 and 1000. Find 1000 more or less than a given number
- Count backwards through zero to include negative numbers
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a four-digit number (thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones)
- Order and compare numbers beyond 1000. Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations
- Round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000
- Solve number and practical problems that involve all of the above and with increasingly large positive numbers
- Read Roman numerals to 100 (I to C) and know that over time, the numeral system changed to include the concept of zero and place value

Physical Education

Invasion games – Tag Rugby

- Apply a secure understanding of passing, moving to create a space and score
- Apply tagging to prevent an attacker scoring
- Demonstrate a growing understanding of the difference between attack and defence understanding when to apply certain skills

Dodgeball

- Apply a secure understanding of dodging, throwing, jumping, ducking and catching skills to outwit their opponents and win the game
- Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of applying skills at the right time (where, when, why) in order to win

Dance – Africa

- Respond imaginatively to a range of stimuli related to character and narrative
- Use simple motifs and movement patterns to structure dance phrases on their own, with a partner and in a group
- Refine, repeat and remember dance phrases and dances
- Perform dances clearly and fluently

Design Technology

Mechanical systems – pneumatics

- Use annotated sketches and prototypes to develop, model and communicate ideas
- Order the main stages of making
- Select from and use appropriate tools with some accuracy to cut and join materials and components such as tubing, syringes and balloons
- Investigate and analyse books, videos and products with pneumatic mechanisms
- Understand and use pneumatic mechanisms

Religious Education

How and why is Muhammad important to most Muslims?

- Islam, Christianity and Judaism share stories in The Qur'an/Old Testament/Torah – e.g Creation, Abraham and Moses
- Muslims believe the Qur'an is Allah's message to the people
- Muslims treat the Qur'an with respect
- Muslims believe they should show devotion to Allah at home and in the mosque
- Muslims prepare for prayer by following the ritual of Wudu

What is a worldview?

- Christianity is a worldview shaped by belief in God, Jesus and the Bible
- Everybody has a worldview based on their beliefs and understanding, this can change over time
- Experiences can influence a person's worldview
- Christianity, Islam and Jewish way of lives, have similarities because they are based on the Abrahamic tradition-Creation, Revelation (prophets/written text), Redemption
- It is healthy to explore my own worldview and be aware of the influences on my life

Geography

Africa – human and physical geography

- Know what a biome is (A biome is a community of plants and animals that have common characteristics for the environment they exist in) Aquatic/grassland/forest/desert/tundra
- Name a gorilla's habitat using geographical language (mountains, rainforests)
- Name physical geographical features of Africa (mountains, climate zones, different biomes, rivers)
- Name some human geographical features of Africa (settlements/land use/ trade links)
- Know that Africa has many different biomes

Music

Body and tuned percussion

- Know that deciding the structure of music when composing can help us create interesting music with contrasting sections
- Know that combining different instruments and different rhythms when we compose can create layers of sound we call 'texture'
- Know that a 'loop' in music is a repeated melody or rhythm
- Know that changing the dynamics of a musical phrase or motif can change the texture of a piece of music

Changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics – Rivers

- Know that when you sing without accompaniment it is called 'A Cappella'
- Know that harmony means playing two notes at the same time that usually sound good together
- Know that an ostinato is a musical pattern that is repeated over and over; a vocal ostinato is a pattern created with your voice
- Know that 'performance directions' are words added to musical notation to tell the performers how to play

History

Castles over time

- Know that primary purpose of a castle was to protect the people within it
- There are different types of castle including Motte-and-Bailey, Shell Keep, Concentric and Royal palace
- Know that Motte-and-Bailey castles –the earliest types of castle were introduced by Normans
- Castles were predominantly built during the Middle Ages to protect members of royalty or other important people at the time
- Castles lost their effectiveness as siege weapons were developed

Families might like to visit Beeston Castle or other castles in our local area.

Science

Animals and Humans

- Know that food enters the body through the mouth. Digestion starts when the teeth start to break the food down. Saliva is added and the tongue rolls the food into a ball
- Know that the food is swallowed and passes down the oesophagus to the stomach. Here the food is broken down further by being churned around and other chemicals are added. The food passes into the small intestine. Here nutrients are removed from the food and leave the digestive system to be used elsewhere in the body
- Know that the rest of the food then passes into the large intestine. Here the water is removed for use elsewhere in the body
- Know that what is left is then stored in the rectum until it leaves the body through the anus when you go to the toilet
- Know that humans have four types of teeth: incisors for cutting; canines for tearing; and molars and premolars for grinding (chewing)
- Know that living things can be classified as producers, predators and prey according to their place in the food chain

States of matter

- Compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases
- Observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C)
- Identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature
- Know that evaporation is the same state change as boiling (liquid to gas), but it happens slowly at lower temperatures and only at the surface of the liquid. Evaporation happens more quickly if the temperature is higher, the liquid is spread out or it is windy
- Know that condensation is the change back from a gas to a liquid caused by cooling

Art

- Observational drawings – sketching and shading
- To develop sketching techniques with a focus on shading
- To know that different graded pencils produce different shades of colour
- To explore the different effects of different graded pencils
- To choose and use an appropriate grade of pencil for the effect they wish to create

Modern Foreign Languages

French

- Listen, read and show understanding of short phrases in texts as well as songs and rhymes
- Ask and answer several simple and familiar questions
- Write and say a simple phrase to describe people, places and things with a language scaffold as well as be confident to do the same without support
- Read aloud short familiar sentences using knowledge of phonics
- Use a bi-lingual dictionary to find the meaning or translation of a word
- Join in with the words of familiar songs, stories and rhymes sometimes from memory

Knowledge

- Concept of gender of nouns
- Formation of a question with rising intonation
- Pattern of questions with question words
- Better understanding of silent letters
- Awareness of elision
- Rules for making nouns plural
- Formation of 1st and 2nd person singular of 2 irregular high frequency verbs
- Partitive in plural
- Making a sentence say not
- Facts about the Eiffel Tower

Computing

- Coding – using sequencing, selection and repetition
- Know that a program can be broken down into smaller parts to solve it
- Know how repetition works and that it can help reduce the number of steps that need to be written
- Know what is meant by input and output
- Know that variables can be used to introduce scoring to a game

Homework

- Homework is set on a Thursday
- Your child will receive Maths and English in CGP books
- It is due back to school on a Tuesday where it will be marked
- Your child is expected to read 4 times each week
- Your child is expected to practise their Times Table Rock Stars three times per week

PE and Forest School

- PE Days are Monday and Friday
- Please note one session will be tag rugby so please wear old trainers on Friday.
- Forest school will begin in Autumn 2 on a Wednesday morning – exact dates will be sent out shortly.

Personal, Social, Health & Relationships Education

My Happy Mind

Meet Your Brain Module

- Can understand how our brains work
- Can show respect and manage hurtful behaviour

Celebrate Module

- Identify your own unique character strengths
- Understand your unique character strengths and how to celebrate them
- Can recognise every person has different character strengths
- Can build self-esteem

Useful Websites

- www.spag.com
- www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button
- www.ttrockstars.com
- www.scratch.mit.edu
- <https://urbrainy.com/maths-games/mtc-and-times-tables>
- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

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