



# YEAR 4

## SPRING 2026 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

For all the essential information about what we will learn during this term.

### English

**Escape from Pompeii Fiction:** Historical narrative from a character's point of view

**Outcome:** Write the story for the point of view of one of the children.

- Variety of verb forms used correctly and consistently including the progressive and the present perfect forms
- Use Standard English for verb inflections
- Organise paragraphs around a theme (using fronted adverbial to introduce or connect paragraphs)
- Use and punctuate direct speech (using dialogue to show the relationship between characters)

**When the Giant Stirred Fiction: Adventure**

- Outcome: To write their own version of 'When the Giant stirred' in the first person from the point of view of the boy
- Expand noun phrases by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and prepositional phrases
- Choose nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition
- Use and punctuate direct speech
- Use commas after fronted adverbials

### Computing

#### Computing

- Know how Isle of Tune creates music
- Know how to select different instruments
- Be able to change the pitch of the chosen instruments
- Know how to layer sounds
- Be able to change the tempo of the music.
- Debug and edit the tune/composition for effect

### Geography

- Know that earthquakes are caused when the earth's tectonic plates suddenly move.
- Know most earthquakes occur near the tectonic plate boundaries
- Know that earthquakes can cause lots of damage to roads, buildings and property
- Know that volcanoes are made when pressure builds up inside the earth. This affects the earth's crust causing magma to sometimes erupt through it
- Know the difference between active, dormant and extinct volcanoes

### Music

- 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
- Understand that musical motifs (repeating patterns) are used as a building block in many well-known pieces of music for example, Beethoven's fifth symphony (dah dah dah dum!)
- Know that 'transposing' a melody means changing its key, making it higher or lower pitched
- Know that a motif can be adapted by changing the notes, the rhythm or the order of notes

## Mathematics

### Multiplication

- Learn all our times tables from 2, 5, 10, 3, 4, 8, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12
- Dividing by 1, 10 and 100
- Using scaling numbers by 10 and 100 using an efficient strategy.
- Introduction to fractions
- Placing mixed numbers and improper fractions on a number line
- Equivalent fractions using multiplication
- Finding fractions of an amount (unit and non-unit fractions)
- Adding and subtracting fractions

## History

### The Romans

- Know that the Roman era ran from the 8th century BC to the 5th century AD and started in Rome, Italy. Ancient Rome was one of the most influential civilisations in history
- Know that Romulus and Remus were twin brothers in Roman mythology whose story explains how Rome was founded
- Know that Romans invented many things such as underfloor heating, concrete and calendars
- Know that the Roman Empire grew so large as a result of its military strength
- Know the Romans invaded Britain in AD 43 and took over most of England and Wales. This led to an improvement in technology and housing.
- Know that there were two types of Roman soldier - legionaries who were Roman citizens and auxiliaries who were often recruited from Roman-controlled areas
- Know there were lots of benefits of being a legionary - steady pay and a pension when you retired

## Religious Education

### How do Jews celebrate their history?

- Jews believe God has a covenant (or promise) with them that they are his special people and will have a land of their own-Israel. This was given to Moses
- Today Jews celebrate the Passover/ Pesach (the way the children of Israel were rescued from Egypt when Pharaoh said NO and the death of the Lamb that protected them from the Angel of Death passing over.) with food and family events
- The Seder Plate has symbolic foods which relate to all the history of the Israelites in Egypt. Each item relating to an aspect of life endured
- Jews worship at home with prayers and songs and family events
- The Synagogue is the place of worship for Jews

### What can people understand about God from the Easter story?

- Christians believe they can trust Jesus because he promised to rescue them, and he did rescue them by dying on the cross
- Jesus recognised the weakness of his disciples in the garden of Gethsemane, they slept while he prayed
- Know that the events of Holy Week and Easter are key to understanding Jesus' work on earth. (Palm Sunday Jesus rode a donkey as a Humble King. Maundy Thursday Jesus washed the disciple's feet as a Servant leader. Jesus used Bread and wine to symbolise what would happen to his body and to establish 'Communion.')
- Jesus was betrayed by Judas, but he forgave those who put him on the cross
- Peter the disciple was forgiven and restored, then chosen by Jesus to lead the believers

## Science

### Electricity

- Name common appliances that run on electricity
- Know precautions for working safely with electricity
- Know how to construct a simple series electrical circuit identifying and naming the basic parts of a simple electrical circuit, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers
- Identify whether a lamp will light in a simple series circuit based on whether the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery
- Recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether a lamp lights in a simple series circuit
- Recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductor

### Sound

- Know that a sound produces vibrations which travel through a medium from the source to our ears. Different mediums such as solids, liquids and gases can carry sound, but sound cannot travel through a vacuum (an area empty of matter)
- Know that the vibrations cause parts of our body inside our ears to vibrate, allowing us to hear (sense) the sound
- Know the loudness (volume) of the sound depends on the strength (size) of vibrations which decreases as they travel through the medium. Therefore, sounds decrease in volume as you move away from the source.
- Know that a sound insulator is a material which blocks sound effectively
- Know that pitch is the highness or lowness of a sound and is affected by features of objects producing the sounds. For example, smaller objects usually produce higher pitched sounds

## Personal, Social, Health & Relationships Education

### Keeping myself safe

- Understand 'danger', 'risk', and 'hazard' and suggest ways for managing these
- Understand that medicines are drugs and safety issues around these
- Know the key risks of smoking and drinking alcohol

### My Happy Mind - Appreciate

- Creating a habit of giving gratitude
- Learn how gratitude can help overcome problems and how our character strengths can help us appreciate ourselves

### Rights and respect

- Explain how the community and school help us stay safe and healthy
- Recognise the role we can play in outcomes based on our actions
- Understand why we have rules and how we can influence these
- Define 'income' and 'expenditure', income tax' and 'National Insurance' and 'VAT'
- Prioritise public services

### My Happy Mind - Relate

- How to understand and celebrate differences
- Learn what 'stop' and 'consider' mean and how it can help

## Modern Foreign Languages

### French

- Plural nouns
- Structure and features
- Counting nouns beginning with a consonant
- Elision (suppression of a final unstressed vowel)

## Physical Education

### Tennis

- Develop their forehand and backhand
- Learn how to score points in matches.
- Hit the ball accurately in the opponent's side of the court
- Create space for the next shot that will win them the point

### Outdoor adventure activities

- work as a team to create simple tactics
- what makes an effective team and team leader
- communicate well within our team
- solve problems by collaborating and communicating
- create simple attacking and defending tactics

## Learning outside the Classroom

- Roman visit to Grosvenor Museum (TBC)

## Art

### Sculpture

- Know that papier mâché is malleable when wet, but hard when dry
- Know that in order to make a shape using papier mâché, we need to create layers onto a base surface and allow them to dry
- Know how to create different textures and shapes by manipulating the papier mâché
- Use inspiration from 2D images to help decorate the final product
- Use skills from working with Modroc to manipulate papier mâché

## Design Technology

- 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

## Homework

- Homework is set on a Thursday
- Your child will receive Maths and English in CGP books. Children will also receive handwriting sheets to practice each week and return with their 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

## Local visits you can do

- Walk around the Roman Walls
- Visit the Roman Amphitheatre
- Visit the Roman Gardens

## Useful Websites

- [www.spag.com](http://www.spag.com)
- [www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button](http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button)
- [www.trockstars.com](http://www.trockstars.com)
- [www.scratch.mit.edu](http://www.scratch.mit.edu)

## Upcoming dates:

- 8th January: Early Help Navigator outside school at 8.40am
- 19th January: Spring term Clubs start
- 4th February: Early Help Navigator outside school at 8.40am
- 12th February: Year 4 Multiplication Musical at 4pm. Parents & Carers invited.
- 16th - 20th February: School Holidays

## PE and Forest School

- PE Days are Monday and Thursday
- Forest school is on Tuesdays

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