

Medium Term Curriculum Plan - Year 4 Term 1

English Writing/Reading

Our writing text will continue to be *The Iron Man by Ted Hughes*. Through this engaging text, children will develop their writing skills by composing diary entries, investigating the features of speech, creating detailed character descriptions, and concluding the unit by writing their own story that is based on the narrative of the Iron Man.

Our reading text will continue to be *The Undefeated* by Kwame Alexander. Children will continue their understanding of black history in America and how their previous knowledge fits with new historical facts they are presented with. Through the series of lessons children will consider definitions of key terms in context and discover poetic conventions and how they often link with music. There will be opportunities for children to practise answering retrieval, inference and summarising questions, as well as to express their opinions about the particular events presented through the text.

Spelling

Week 1: Words with /aw/ spelt with 'augh' and 'au'

Week 2: Adding the prefix 'in-' (meaning 'not' or 'into')

Week 3: Adding the prefix 'im-' (before a root word starting with 'm' or 'p')

Week 4: Adding the prefix 'il-' (before a root word starting with 'l') and the prefix 'ir-' (before a root word starting with 'r')

Week 5: Homophones & near homophones

Week 6: Words with /shun/ endings spelt with 'sion' (if the root word ends in 'se', 'de', or 'd')

Maths

Block 1: Place Value helps children build a firm grasp of numbers up to 1,000 using visuals, place value charts, and number lines, before stretching those exact skills to four-digit numbers up to 10,000. Children learn how to break numbers apart through flexible partitioning, quickly find 1, 10, 100, or 1,000 more or less, and practice comparing, ordering, and estimating where values fit on a scale. To wrap up the unit, pupils explore Roman numerals and learn how to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100, and 1,000.

Block 2: Addition and Subtraction kicks off with mental math, getting children comfortable adding and subtracting 1s, 10s, 100s, and 1,000s in their heads before moving on to formal written methods. For both operations, pupils build confidence with column addition and subtraction step by step—starting with simple calculations that need no exchange, moving to a single exchange, and finally tackling multiple exchanges across columns. The unit rounds off by teaching children how to choose efficient subtraction strategies, estimate their answers, and use inverse operations to check their work.

There will be opportunities to practise what they have learnt with our Infinity maths quizzes. Use the link here for access: [Infinity](#)

99 club and Times tables Rock stars

Computing: Term 1 – Further Coding with Scratch

"Further Coding with Scratch" builds children's programming skills as they learn to use variables, if statements, and sensing blocks to build and control a multiplication game. Pupils will practice tracking how conditions change gameplay, combining if/else blocks, and debugging code to fix errors. The unit concludes with pupils evaluating their finished games by explaining what worked well and what could be improved.

RE: Our Big Question is : Are all religions equal?

Identify some different names and ways of describing God.

Explain similarities and differences between the ways people from different worldviews understand God.

Describe the links between the story of Guru Nanak and some Sikh beliefs and practices.

Explain why equality and harmony were important to many Sikhs in the past and why they are still important today.

Use a range of sources to find out what might be important to some people from the Bahá'í faith. Compare what people with different worldviews may think about other religions. Express ideas creatively about how and why World Religion Day is important.

PSHE: Term 1 - My healthy self: How can I make healthy choices?

In PSHE, children will be guided through understanding the importance of diet, hydration, and various food groups in maintaining energy levels. Pupils will learn how physical activity keeps their bodies strong, identify positive and negative behavioural impacts, and explore emotional health, growth mindsets, and the importance of asking for help.

French: Term 1 – Clothes, getting dressed in France

This unit develops children's vocabulary and pronunciation of clothing items while teaching them about grammatical gender, indefinite articles and possessive adjectives. Through spelling practice and structured writing tasks, pupils learn to correctly position adjectives, use il/elle, and compose sentences expressing preferences using j'aime or je n'aime pas.

Geography

"Why Are Rainforests Important to Us?" begins by introducing children to biomes and the location and key features of the Amazon rainforest, before exploring the distinct characteristics and plant adaptations across its four layers. Pupils then learn about the lives of indigenous peoples who rely on the Amazon's resources, followed by an examination of why tropical rainforests are vital to our planet and the human threats causing them to change. The unit transitions to practical fieldwork where children collect data on local woodland usage, analyse and present their findings.

PE – Tuesday and Wednesday.

Our sports for this term are: Rugby and Football

Design & Technology

In DT, pupils will begin by exploring the history of the automobile and using a problem statement to establish clear design criteria. Pupils generate and develop their ideas through annotated sketches, exploded diagrams, and physical prototypes, testing different shapes and structures. Children then select and use appropriate tools and materials to build a chassis and a working slingshot launch mechanism, before creating and attaching vehicle body nets. The unit wraps up by measuring and comparing the distance travelled by the cars and assessing the final products against the initial design criteria.

Music: Guitar

Year 4 are lucky enough to be visited weekly by Mr Oates who will be teaching guitars, where they will be playing with expression and control, understanding notation, and exploring composition.

Science: Digestion and Food

"Animals including humans: Digestion and food" begins by exploring the main organs and functions of the human digestive system, evaluating models, and identifying different types of human teeth and their roles in eating. Pupils investigate dental care and variable testing before comparing how animal teeth vary based on carnivore, herbivore, or omnivore diets. The unit then moves on to constructing food chains while identifying producers, predators, and prey, and wraps up by examining "poo clues" to make scientific observations about animal digestion, teeth, and diet.