

Year 4 Autumn 2026 Curriculum Guide

English

- Pupils will build on the basic comprehension skills they learnt in Year 3 and will begin to respond to a question using the format of statement/explain.
- These tasks will link to the development of key writing skills that cover both fiction and non-fiction styles each week.
- Pupils take part in a weekly spelling, punctuation and grammar lessons and will learn a poem by heart to promote spoken language skills.
- The class reader this term is *Bill's New Frock*.
- Pupils will be expected to complete Accelerated Reader quizzes throughout the term on suitable Year 4 texts.
- Reading every day is recorded in the Reading Record.
- Visualisation exercises and spelling tests take place every week. Homework includes comprehension, creative writing and SPAG tasks.

Maths

- During the autumn term the pupils will be developing their number work as well as some shape and space work.
- The number work will include **place value** – reading and writing large numbers, counting in 10's, 100's and 1000's, rounding numbers, introducing negative numbers; **addition and subtraction** – introduce strategies to increase recall of these two operations mentally.
- Consolidate the formal process of addition and subtraction, introduce the inverse operation, and to solve word problems; **multiplication and division** – introducing strategies to increase recall of tables (including partitioning), multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1000, use the formal method to multiply and divide.
- Spatially, the pupils will cover: **2D shapes** – understand properties of triangles and polygons, draw circles and semi-circles; **co-ordinates** – to read the axes on a graph, to understand translation (the movement on a shape); **symmetry** – to understand congruent shapes, to draw lines of symmetry on shapes, to draw reflections of shapes.
- The pupils will also be using MyMaths and TTRockstars to support their classwork and their homework.

Science

- Understand the safety rules of working in a laboratory.
- Accurately measure length, mass and volume.
- Be able to plan and conduct a scientific investigation.
- Investigate how variables can affect an investigation.

- Explain how to safely use a Bunsen burner.
- Pupils will use this knowledge to construct our own newtons cradle in the engineering sessions.
- Conduct experiments involving static electricity by doing simple charge experiments.
- Building electrical circuits.
- Investigate which materials are conductors and insulators.
- Know the difference between mains electricity and batteries.
- Construct fruit batteries.
- Pupils will use this knowledge to construct torches in the engineering sessions.

French

- The key objectives in French are to: engage our pupils and communicate our passion for French and modern languages in general, to unlock the full potential of our pupils' ability to speak and write French, to promote a love of speaking a foreign language through entertaining and engaging teaching techniques and to introduce our students to the culture, geography and history of France.
- The topic areas and grammar for the autumn term are: Classroom instructions. Greetings, name, age, birthday, where you live. Alphabet, numbers to 31, days, months, dates, brothers, sisters, pets. Introduction to gender of nouns and verbs in the present tense (first person singular). Christmas vocabulary, Christmas in France.

Latin

Latin is introduced via the course book, Minimus 1. It provides an opportunity for pupils to:

- translate simple stories in Latin
- understand and use some Latin vocabulary and grammar
- identify derivations in English (and occasionally in French)

The key objectives are:

- to engage and maintain curiosity and interest in the Graeco-Roman world
- to introduce pupils to aspects of the Latin language
- to provide a stimulating environment for the development of skills related to the learning of Latin and languages in general

In the autumn term, pupils will:

- be introduced to key vocabulary on the topics of the family, food and animals
- learn about differences between English and Latin grammar including nouns, adjectives and regular verbs in the present tense
- study the myth of Medusa

History

- This term, pupils learn about the history of Britain from prehistoric times to the Norman Conquest.
- Specific topics are prehistoric Britain (including the mystery of why Stonehenge was built), Roman Britain (including the invasion, Boudicca's revolt, Hadrian's Wall, and why the Romans left Britain), the contrast between Celtic and Roman ways of life, the Anglo-Saxons (including the invasions and the legend of King Arthur), the Vikings (including the raid on Lindisfarne, the Danelaw and Ivar the Boneless) and the story of Alfred the Great, the creation of England.

RS

This term we shall have a brief introduction to Hinduism: what do Hindus worship, how they worship and how they celebrate.

Geography

- Pupils will complete a short unit focussing on harvest in the UK and comparing our traditions to those of our partner school in Malawi.
- Pupils will then study volcanoes and earthquakes, including case studies of Mount Vesuvius and San Francisco.

Digital Skills

- Year 4 are going to start to learn how to find their way around a computer operating system and pick up some essential computer vocabulary along the way. They will be learning about files, folders and drives and the all-important saving of work in an organised way.
- Apps and operating systems will also be covered. PowerPoint will also be introduced, and the basic features shown. The importance of online safety and vigilance will also be frequently discussed.

Art and design

- Using Seashells and Corrals of Western Australia as our inspiration, explore the process of creating an art piece from observation of Nature
- Starting with a pencil and progress to a charcoal drawing while learning how to represent a 3D object on paper.
- Learn about elements of art: Line, Shape and Form.
- Work with charcoal and chalk and use black and white photographs as guidelines for shading and texture.
- Learn how to independently develop realistic drawing into an abstract piece of art by adding colour and using mixed media.

- Create an oil pastel drawing of an abstract shell inspired by Georgia O'Keefe.

Music

- Pupils will explore the history of European Medieval music (sacred and secular) and learn about early instruments, notation and genres.
- They will write and sing their own plainsong chant and compose a dance tune, which they will perform to the class using their own or classroom instruments.
- In the second half of term, they will also prepare for the Christmas carol service and will develop their singing technique including breathing, sound production and diction, through a range of exercises alongside the carols.
- Both projects will encourage pupils to start appraising their own performances and that of others through watching, listening and discussing performance skills (eg how to communicate with an audience).

Drama

Pupils will focus on developing 3 main skills in drama this term:

1. Making & Devising (Creation)

Working in small groups to create a narrative scene. Collaborating and compromising so that teamwork is evident.

2. Performance & Vocal/Physical Expression (Execution)

- Adapting pitch, pace, and projection to suit a specific character or setting.
- Manipulating body language, posture, and facial expressions to non-verbally convey complex emotions.
- Maintaining focus, staying in character while moving.

3. Responding & Evaluation (Reflection)

- Giving peers feedback and learning to take constructive criticism.
- Investigating why a character behaved a certain way and introducing 'inner monologues'.

Games

During this term:

- The Mall School approach to football is developed.
- The basic skill structure and concepts are imparted to the pupils.
- This foundation development is drawn upon throughout the school.
- All pupils represent the school in competitive matches against other schools.

- Pupils are streamed into squads based upon what would be the most appropriate challenge for them during games sessions and matches.
- All pupils travel to Sunbury Cricket Club for their games afternoons.

PE

During the term:

- Pupils study gymnastics and netball in the first part of the term
- They move on to use flight and work on the shapes they can create using actions.
- Pupils begin to play a larger version of netball introducing specific rules to play.

Swimming

- Pupils are introduced to more technical aspects of the basic strokes.
- Times are taken over 20 metres to measure improvement.
- Those pupils who display good ability compared to others are invited to represent the school in competitive swimming galas both nationally and against local opposition.

NVR

During the autumn term, the pupils will be tackling written and online non-verbal reasoning exercises. They will continue to learn searching for patterns, for example, by counting, looking at shapes, and using rotation and reflection. There will be a written exam for this subject.

VR

This term, pupils will develop their comprehension skills and explore figurative language in passages. They will also examine logic puzzles and find hidden information in texts.