Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Termly Curriculum Information for Parents - Year 4

What your child will be learning about this Autumn term and how you can help at home

English

Writing:
This term, Year 4 will be studying a range of high quality narrative texts, including the exciting fiction writing of Neil Gaiman and Sally Pomme. The children will be reading the following texts: *The Wolves in the Walls* by Neil Gaiman; and *Varjak Paw* by S.F Said. These high quality texts will be used to model writing, inspire the children's own writing and extend skills in vocabulary, grammar, punctuation (including use of inverted commas and other punctuation for direct speech) and spelling. We will be continuing to encourage the children to write for a purpose, e.g. explanations, non-chronological reports, stories, recounts, poetry and retells. Linked with the children's science work, the children will be writing non-chronological reports and explanation texts about living things and their habitats.

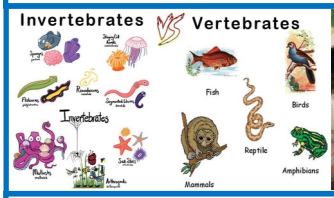
Grammar:
The children will learn to use the following grammatical features in their writing: **noun phrases** expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases (e.g. *the teacher* expanded to: *the strict maths teacher with curly hair*); and **fronted adverbials** (e.g. *Later that day*, *I heard the bad news.*) They will also learn to use paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme and inverted commas and other **punctuation** to indicate direct speech.

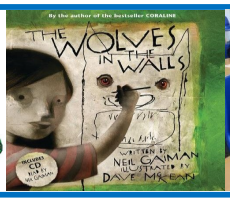
Reading:
In daily Reading lessons, the children will be developing their reading fluency, comprehension skills and ability to read with expression.

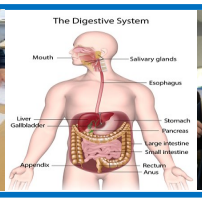
How you can help:
Encourage your child to read a variety of literature, including a range of newspapers and magazines, fiction and non-fiction books written by different authors. Help your child to learn their spellings each week. Listen to your child read on a regular basis, asking them questions to make sure they have understood what they have been reading.

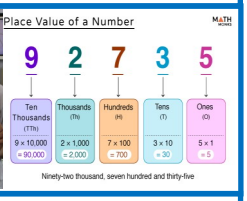
Please sign your initials in your child's Reading Record each week to show they are reading at home.

Visit the **BBC Bitesize** website with your child: **https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/collections/year-4-and-p5-english-lessons/1**





Maths:
This term, Year 4 will be learning the following:

Number: Place value
Counting in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1000; finding 1000 more or less than a given number; counting backwards through zero to include negative numbers; and recognising the place value of each digit in a four-digit number (thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones). The children will be learning to order and compare numbers beyond 1000; to round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000; to solve number and practical problems, with increasingly large positive numbers; and to read Roman numerals to 100.

Number: Addition & Subtraction
Adding and subtracting numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written methods of column addition and subtraction; estimating and using inverse operations to check answers to a calculation; and solving addition and subtraction two-step problems.

Measurement: Area
They learn that area is the amount of space taken up by a two-dimensional shape or surface. They explore different ways of working out the area of a shape, and it is important that children recognise that some ways are better than others

Number: Multiplication and Division
Recalling multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 × 12; using place value, known and derived facts to multiply and divide mentally; multiplying by 0 and 1; dividing by 1; and multiplying together three numbers. Year 4 will also learn to recognise and use factor pairs; to multiply two-digit and three-digit numbers by a one-digit number using formal methods; and to solve problems involving multiplying and dividing.

How you can help: Ask your child to explain their mathematical thinking to you (e.g. *"What strategy did you use?"*).
By the end of Year 4, the children are expected to know all the times tables up to 12 x 12: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12.
Encourage your child to log on to *Times Tables Rockstars*: **https://ttrockstars.com** to practice for 10 minutes each day.

Log in to **https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-4/subjects/maths** for some Y4 Maths consolidation.

Science

Animals including humans

This term, Year 4 will be learning to recognise the main body parts that make up the digestive system. The children will be learning to identify the different teeth that humans have and what their functions are. Working scientifically, Year 4 will be learning to plan and conduct an investigation into the effectiveness of toothpaste. They will be learning to research dental care and to report their findings. The children will also be learning to construct food chains and webs.

Living things and their habitats

This term, Year 4 will be learning to group and classify living things in different ways, based on whether they are flowering or non-flowering plants. Year 4 will also learn to use classification keys to sort vertebrate and invertebrate groups.

Visit https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2pfb9q for a selection of science videos.

Music

This term, Year 4 will be introduced to tuned instruments through weekly guitar lessons. The children will be introduced to the parts of the instruments and their functions, including the names of the guitar strings. Year 4 will also learn about tab notation and the lives of great guitarists. Year 4 will also listen to live guitar music played by visiting musicians and to recordings of inspiring guitar music. **The children will need to bring their *guitar into school every Wednesday.***

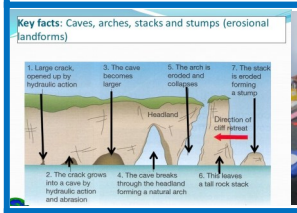
Computing

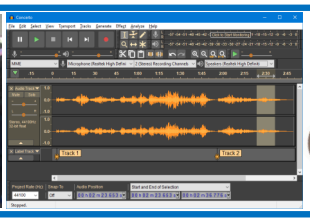
Creating Media - Audio editing

This term, Year 4 will be learning to identify that sound can be digitally recorded and they will be learning to use a digital device to record sound. The children will also be learning to explain that a digital recording is stored as a file and to explain that audio can be changed through editing. Year 4 will be learning to show that different types of audio can be combined and played together. They will also be learning to evaluate editing choices made.

How you can help:

Have a conversation with your child about being safe online. For some informative and age appropriate videos to start conversations, visit the following website: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/






History

Ancient Greece

This term, Year 4 will be learning to know the time and place of Ancient Greece. The children will be learning to understand Athenian democracy and to describe religious beliefs in Ancient Greece (Greek mythology). Year 4 will be learning to describe entertainment in Ancient Greece and they will be learning about Ancient Greek architecture. The children will also be learning to explain how the Ancient Greeks have influenced us today

Geography

Coasts, Rivers and Weather patterns

This term, Year 4 will be learning to understand what the coast is like and the different animals and plants at the coast. The children will be learning to describe rivers and how people use rivers. Year 4 will also be learning to understand how the weather affects us and how to record the weather

Religious Education

Religious Education: Creation and Covenant/Prophecy and Promise

In the Autumn Term, the children will learn about Abraham and God's special promise, or covenant, with him. They will explore the stories of Abraham and Isaac and think about how Abraham's faith guided his choices. In the second half of the term, they will learn about the miracle of the flour and oil, John the Baptist, and how Christians prepare for Jesus during Advent. They will also reflect on the meaning of Christmas for Christians.

Things to do at home…

Please read The Call of Abraham (Genesis 12:1–5) and God's Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 15:1–6). Children could make a short booklet about Abraham's life, find out about the Jesse Tree, and draw or paint a Jesse Tree symbol that is meaningful to them.

Art and design

Drawing (Key Skills and Techniques)
This term, Year 4 will be learning to draw homes and to draw a pictorial map. The children will be learning to sketch an object from the inside to the outside edge, to draw portraits using their imaginations and to design an award.

Painting (Landscapes)
This term, Year 4 will be learning about landscapes. The children will be learning about the colour and texture of paint. Year 4 will be learning to compose a range of landscapes, including painting a landscape using watercolours and painting a landscape inspired by the Fauve artists.

Design Technology
Structures (Chinese Inventions)
Year 4 will be designing, making and evaluating a kite with a simple structure in their unit of work about inventions of the world.

Food Technology
Bruschetta
Year 4 will be learning about the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet. The children will also be preparing **Bruschetta**.

PSHCE
This term, Year 4 will be learning to understand that food gives us energy and the importance of nutrients. The children will be learning that there are drugs which are common in everyday life (not medicine) and about why people choose to use them. Year 4 will also be learning about the effects and risks of drinking alcohol and about different patterns of behaviour that are related to drug use. They will also be learning to understand the importance of asking questions.
How you can help: Talk to your child about their feelings and who they can talk to at school if they have a worry.

Spanish

The children will be studying the following topics in this term's Spanish lessons, led by our specialist Spanish teacher: greetings; phonics; feelings; numbers 1-30; maths; Halloween; months of the year; days of the week; birthdays; animal descriptions; and Christmas. The children will also be playing games and singing songs in Spanish.

PE

Each Friday Year 4 will need to come to school dressed in their PE kits, ready for their P.E. lesson.
Year 4 will be developing their ball skills, co-ordination and footwork by playing invasion games, such as football and tag rugby.

How can I help at home?

Make it clear that you value homework – set aside a specific time and area for your child to work on their homework. Help them to be organised with their time so that their homework is handed in on time.

Encourage your child to **read a variety of texts,** not just books from school.

Listen to your child read and ask them **questions** about the text to help increase their **understanding**. Encourage your child to make predictions about what might happen next (For example, 'What do you think will happen next?' 'Why do you think that?').

Please sign your initials in your child's Reading Record each week.

Encourage your child to do **every day mathematics,** such as telling the time, using bus/ train timetables or working out the total/change in a shop.

Spend time reviewing their **times tables** with them each day.



Help your child to be organised:

- Have you got your **book bag**? *(Needs to be in school **every day**)* Are **ALL** your reading books inside it?
- Guitars will need to be brought in every Wednesday.
- Have you completed your **homework**? Homework must be returned to Miss Zakari every **Wednesday.** (New homework will be set every Friday.)