

Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2026 – Year 4

Topic

Term	Topic
Autumn first half term	Can we control it? (electricity and sound) – <i>Construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers.</i> <i>Identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating</i>
Autumn second half term	Were the Anglo-Saxons smashing? - <i>Understanding Their Role in Britain's Early History</i>
Spring first half term	Were the Vikings vicious and victorious? - <i>The Viking and Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to time of Edward the Confessor</i>
Spring second half term	When is water not water? – <i>Water cycles, Change of state.</i>
Summer first half term	What systems do we use to survive? -. <i>Food chains. Living things.</i>
Summer second half term	Did Benin belong to Britain? - <i>Locate Benin within the continent of Africa, key people, art, artefacts, how the Kingdom began and ended. Climate – rainforest.</i>

Religious Education

Creation and Covenant

Understanding the World of Abraham and Joseph:

Children will explore the historical, cultural, and religious background in which Abraham lived and was called by God.

The Story of Abraham:

Pupils will learn to accurately retell the key events of Abraham's life and understand the meaning of "covenant."

Abraham and Isaac – A Story of Faith (Genesis 22:1–18):

Pupils will reflect on the meaning of this story and how it can be understood both in its historical setting and today.

Covenant – A Foundation of Faith:

Children will learn how God's covenant with Abraham is central to the beliefs of both Judaism and Christianity.

English

Reading

We will be reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts with children discussing key features of texts, strengthening reading strategies and developing comprehension skills. In school reading experiences will vary between independent reading, reading with teacher and/or another adult and whole class reading. For maximum progress to be made, it is vital that children are also reading with an adult on a daily basis at home. The Year 4 children can use their organisers to record books they have read. This will need to be signed by parents and will be checked by the teacher once a week.

Writing

This term we will be looking at reading & writing:

- Poetry
- Narrative
- Newspapers
- Diary

Spelling

We will be revising key words from Y4 where necessary. We will also be working on a range of different spelling rules:

- Adding prefixes to words (in, il, ir, im)
- Adding the suffixes to words (ed, ing)
- Using apostrophes: to show ownership or a contraction
- Homophones – words that sound the same but have different meanings

Our weekly spelling test will be on Thursdays.

Grammar & Punctuation

We will be learning about the importance of proofreading our writing to check for grammatical sense and correct use of punctuation. The children will be expected to be able to use capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences. They will use inverted commas to punctuate direct speech, apostrophes to show ownership or contractions and be introduced to semi-colons, colons and brackets. They will practise their handwriting, joining their letters correctly and minding their spacing, sizing and consistency when forming each letter while writing.

In their written work children will be expected to use a range of conjunctions [for example, when, before, after, while, so, because], adverbs [for example, then, next, soon, therefore], adjectives (for example, blue, soft, large, tall) and prepositions [for example, before, after, during, in, because of]. By the end of year 4 children are expected to be able to use a wide variety of punctuation, connectives and have an increasing vocabulary; it is vital that children read a wide variety of material to support this development of language.

Mathematics

Where possible maths lessons will link to our topic but this will clearly not always be possible and many concepts need to be taught in isolation. In addition, your children should be practising their times tables at home in preparation for our weekly test on Fridays.

We aim to cover the following topics this term:

- Place value (reading, writing, rounding, comparing and ordering numbers)
- Decimals (To recognise and write decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths.)
- Measuring (using and converting between mm /cm/m)
- Addition & Subtraction (mental and formal written methods)
- Methods for Multiplying
- Fractions (recognise and write fractions of amounts and objects)
- Geometry – 2-D Shapes, Angles and Symmetry

Science

Electricity

Identify common appliances that run on electricity and construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts of a circuit. Recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.

Sound

Identify how sounds are made and recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear.

History/Geography

Anglo Saxons

From Anglo-Saxon invasions, movement patterns, settlements and kingdoms: place names and village life. Recognise Anglo-Saxon art and culture including Christian conversion. Name and locate geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics.

Spanish

Year 4 children are continuing to learn Spanish in a weekly lesson. This term our Spanish topic is 'Greetings'. Within this topic we will be covering:

- Pronunciations, sounds and spellings
- greetings
- days of the week
- numbers

Communication with Parents

It is very important to us as a school that we work in partnership with parents. Therefore, if you have any concerns or worries, please send a message through the office to your child's class teacher Mrs John-Lewis or Mrs Alexander-Amah.