

# Curriculum Newsletter

## Year 4 / Autumn 2



Welcome to another busy term in year 4!

We are so proud of the work the children produced last half term. The care and pride the children are taking in the presentation of their work has been fantastic. The children have shown a great passion for their learning especially when studying about the Romans and earthquakes. They are already making great progress and have been showing a real commitment to improving their times table knowledge. 

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### Home learning

Home learning will continue to be given each Friday. This will be one piece of work linked to the week's learning in either maths or writing.

We expect children to be reading and completing maths activities at home at least four times per week. The children will receive rewards for doing this so please ensure you remember to record any maths or reading activities you do at home in your reading diaries.

Times tables are a big focus for year 4! Daily times table practice is encouraged to ensure children develop speed and fluency in all their times tables. Children can log into [ttrockstars.com](http://ttrockstars.com) for a fun way to do this.

Children will also be given spellings to practise each week. We will quiz children on these spellings on Fridays.

### Key vocabulary

invasion	to enter for conquest
molars	a tooth with a rounded or flattened surface adapted for grinding
canines (teeth)	sharp teeth used for tearing food
incisors	the flat, sharp-edged teeth in the front of the mouth that cut foods when we bite into them.
cavity	a hole in a tooth that can grow bigger and deeper over time
(tooth) decay	the breakdown of tooth enamel

### Upcoming Dates

- ★ **Wednesday 6th and 7th November** – Bikeability
- ★ **Friday 8th November @ 3:15-3:45** - Horstead Residential Parent Meeting
- ★ **Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th (Rabbits only)/Wednesday 13th November (Owls/Pheasants)** - Parent Meetings
- ★ **Friday 22nd November** - Anti Bullying Curriculum Day
- ★ **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November @ 2:30** - Year 4 Assembly
- ★ **Tuesday 17th December** - KS2 Christmas Dinner
- ★ **Friday 20th December** - Last day of term

## Topic: The Romans - 'What did they do for us?'

This curriculum newsletter provides an overview of your child's learning this half-term.



### Science

#### As scientists we will:

Learn about the digestive system in humans and animals and the functions of teeth.

Children will learn more about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores in the context of teeth, digestion and the food chain. In addition, they will extend their understanding of food chains to more complex chains and food webs.

### Computing

#### As computer scientists we will:

Learn about audio editing. We will look at input and output devices and will record and edit our own podcasts. The skills we will use include editing our work, adding multiple tracks, and opening and saving the audio files.

### English

#### As writers:

We will be exploring what Pompeii was like before the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79AD. Using our knowledge of Roman towns, we will write a first person diary entry, including a detailed setting description which will focus on:

- Using similes at the start of a sentence
- Writing compound sentences (using coordinating conjunctions)
- Using rule of 3 to add detail to our descriptions.

These descriptions will contrast what it was like in the city before and after the eruption.

Towards Christmas, we will be entering the Young Writers yearly competition, which this year is themed 'The Spook Squad'. Children will be encouraged to use all their creative writing techniques to compose a ghost story in less than 250 words. The best stories from around the country will be published into a real book!

#### As readers:

We will be using the Comprehension Ninja reading programme to explore extracts from a variety of text types and genres, including fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

We will work towards building on our existing VIPERs skills:

- V – understanding of vocabulary

### PE

#### As athletes we will:

Improve our fitness, ball skills and teamwork by taking part in fitness, hockey and specific skill based sessions.

### RE

#### As theologians we will:

Consider the questions, 'What do we mean by truth? Is seeing believing?' During this half term, we will be looking at multiple faiths and their views on having faith in God.

### Art and Design Technology

#### As artists and designers we will:

Use our measuring and woodwork skills to design and make our own working Roman catapults.

### Geography

#### As geographers we will:

Continue to learn about natural disasters and explain the process of what happens when a volcano erupts.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I – using clues to make inferences</li> <li>● P – using what we have read to make predictions</li> <li>● E – explaining what you have understood referring to the text</li> <li>● R – retrieving answers directly from the text</li> <li>● S – summarising the events or main ideas from the text</li> </ul>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Maths</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Music</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RHE</b></p>
<p><b>As mathematicians we will:</b> Continue our work on formal written methods for subtraction and addition involving numbers up to 10,000. We will then be learning how to calculate and compare area.</p> <p>Later on in the term we will be focusing on multiplication and division. We will be explicitly teaching and exploring links between times tables such as 3x, 6x and 9x. Children will build on their knowledge of the 2 and 10 times-tables to explore the 12 times-table. They will recognise that they can partition 12 into 10 and 2 and use known facts to support their understanding. They also build on their knowledge of the 6 times-table, recognising that multiplying by 12 is the same as multiplying by 6 and then doubling. Children will also be learning corresponding division facts.</p> <p>We will also be looking at multiplying 3 numbers e.g. 2 x 3 x 5.</p>	<p><b>As musicians we will:</b> Learn about the language of music through taking part in instrumental guitar lessons.</p> <p style="background-color: #fff2cc;"><b>History</b></p> <p><b>As historians we will:</b> Continue our Romans topic. We will learn about the motives for Emperor Claudius' Invasion of Britain in AD43. We will also be comparing and contrasting the armies of Boudicca and the Romans.</p>	<p>To understand ourselves and others, we will be learning about marriage and understanding that marriage is a choice. We will also be learning more about our bodies.</p> <p style="background-color: #fff2cc;"><b>Languages</b></p> <p><b>As linguists we will:</b> Be learning new French vocabulary and simple sentences linked to going to work and jobs.</p>