

Year 4 Summer Term Overview

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a wonderful holiday and are ready for an exciting summer term ahead. Below is an outline of the key topics and activities we will be covering in Year 4 this term:

English

This term, pupils will begin by exploring stories from other cultures, focusing on *Akimbo and the Elephants* by Alexander McCall Smith. They will discuss setting, character, and themes, and compare life in different parts of the world. Following this, Year 4 will study nature poetry; reading and choosing poems, comparing their structures and analysing their language. Year 4 will also study key grammatical concepts such as fronted adverbials and possessive apostrophes, all within the engaging context of *A Poem for Every Day of the Year*. Later in the term, they will study *Mr Stink* by David Walliams, developing skills in inference, dialogue, and characterisation. Writing outcomes will include diary entries, letters, descriptive narratives, and persuasive pieces inspired by the texts.

Maths

Following the White Rose Maths curriculum, children will build on their understanding of decimals, including comparing and rounding. They will apply this to solving problems involving money and time. Pupils will explore properties of shape, interpret and present data in statistics, and describe movements and turns in position and direction. Reasoning and problem-solving will continue to be key focuses throughout.

CbIDS

This term our CbIDS aspects of orderly growth include: Adaptability, resourcefulness, vigilance, insight, foresight, happiness, and celebrating fulfilment.



History (Summer 1) – The British Monarchy from 1066 to the Present Day

Children will explore the development of the British monarchy from the Norman Conquest through to modern times. They will learn about significant monarchs such as William the Conqueror, Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria, examining how their reigns shaped the country. Pupils will create timelines, analyse key events, and compare the roles and powers of monarchs over time.

Geography (Summer 2) – Celebrating Our World

This unit focuses on the diversity and wonder of our world. Children will study continents, countries, landmarks, and cultures, celebrating the achievements and features of different places. They will use maps, globes, and digital tools to locate places, compare environments and reflect on the importance of sustainability and global citizenship.

Music (Summer 1) – Blackbird by The Beatles

Pupils will explore the song "Blackbird" by The Beatles, focusing on its melody, rhythm, structure, and lyrics. They will learn to sing the song, play along using tuned percussion, and compose their own music in a similar style. The unit also encourages reflection on historical and social messages within music, particularly around equality and civil rights.

R.E. (Summer 2) – Sacred Texts and Stories; Taking Responsibility for Living Together

This term, we will be exploring the theme of 'Commitment and Compassion: Living out Beliefs'. We will look into how Christians and Muslims demonstrate their faith through actions. Our learning will focus on the Christian teaching of 'love your neighbour', looking at how this is shown through stories like the parables of Jesus and through the work of Christian charities. We will also study the importance of commitment in Islam, focusing on the Five Pillars and the practice of fasting during Ramadan, understanding its significance and impact on individuals and the community.

Computing

Creating Media: Photo Editing – Children will learn how to digitally manipulate and enhance photographs. They will explore cropping, rotating, layering, and



filtering, as well as considering the ethical use of images and the importance of permission and honesty in digital presentation.

Programming B: Repetition in Games – In this unit, pupils will develop their understanding of loops and repetition by designing and coding simple games. Using block-based programming tools, they will create animations, set rules, and test interactive elements, improving their debugging and problem-solving skills along the way.

Art – Festival Feasts

Children will explore the role of food in festivals across different cultures and how this is represented in art. They will study artists who use food as a theme, experiment with colour, texture, and still-life techniques, and create vibrant mixed-media artworks celebrating community and celebration.

Design Technology – Mechanical Systems: Pneumatics – Make a Mascot

This exciting project introduces pupils to pneumatic systems. They will design and build a moving mascot using air-powered mechanisms, learning about pressure, force, and mechanical design. Children will test, refine, and evaluate their models, focusing on function, stability, and creativity.

Other important information

P.E. this term will be on Thursdays. PE will be on site during this time.

I will set homework on a Friday, and the children will be expected to complete and return the work by the following Friday.

Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school, and a healthy snack can be brought for morning break time.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Allan Lowrie

Year 4 Teacher