

Welcome to Year Four



Expectations and Events

We are here to work with you to help your children, please contact us if there is anything we can do to help you.

Topics



Autumn

- Roman Remains - the Romans
- Roman Remains - Italy

Spring

- Would you rather be an Anglo-Saxon or a Viking?

Summer

- Homes and Habitats

English

Children will have the opportunity to write for a range of audiences and purposes. They will:

- * Use high quality model texts to identify the features of a range of genres
- * Understand and use different features and layouts of non-fiction texts
- * Write descriptions using a range of devices such as similes, metaphors and expanded noun phrases
- * Explore the use of paragraphing

We will continue to familiarise children with a range of grammatical terms through the texts that we explore and we will work to build spelling accuracy. Reading confidence, fluency and comprehension will always be a focus as part of varied reading lessons.

Computing

Children will:

- * Learn how to use technology safely and appropriately, including knowing what to do if they see something online that upsets them
- * Understand how networks work and how this relates to the Internet and World Wide Web
- * Create a presentation incorporating text, images and sounds

PE

Outdoor PE will focus on developing ball control and team work skills in hockey and tag rugby. Indoor PE will focus on gymnastics (creating sequences of different moves and balances) and indoor athletics.

RE

Children will be thinking about:

- * Sikhism – beginnings, festivals and main beliefs
- * The role of feasting and fasting in religion

History and Geography

The focus in the first half-term will be on the Ancient Romans and we will then shift our focus to modern day Italy and its cultural legacy. Children will:

- * Visit Bignor Roman Villa
- * Use different sources to find out information about the Ancient Romans & Italy
- * Explore Italy's human & physical geography
- * Learn about Italian culture
- * Develop orienteering skills

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Roman Remains

Music

Through our music scheme, children will:

- * Listen to and appraise music
- * Begin to recognise and read musical notation
- * Build on their knowledge of pulse and rhythm
- * Develop their musical skills by continuing to play the glockenspiel

Homework (Wednesday to Monday)

- * Times tables and mental maths practice
- * Spelling
- * Reading
- Half termly- Topic-Based Activity

Maths

The maths opportunities this term will focus on:

- * Place value, ordering, rounding and Roman Numerals
- * Continuing quick and accurate recall of times tables as well as focusing specifically on the relationship between the 3, 6 and 9s
- * Calculations – developing mental and written methods for addition and subtraction, answering word problems and reasoning questions
- * Understanding how to calculate the perimeter of rectangles and regular polygons

Science

Through our science topics (States of Matter and Electricity), children will work scientifically asking questions and setting up scientific enquiries to answer them. Children will be able to:

- * Compare and group materials together based on their properties
- * Observe the effects of heating and cooling
- * Identify common electrical appliances
- * Construct simple electrical circuits and discuss the effects of their components
- * Explore common electrical conductors and insulators

French

The children will learn about animals, numbers and family members through a range of oral and written activities.

Art / DT

- * Create a Roman mosaic
- * Study the work of famous Italian artists
- * Design, make and evaluate a pizza

Trips and visitors



- Autumn term - Bignor Roman Villa
- Autumn term - A Taste of Italy - Italy day in school
- Spring term - The Viking Man
- Summer term - Local mapping walks

Rewards and Sanctions



Specific praise

Honour book recognition

House points:

- For recognition of positive behaviour in the classroom and around school. These points add into the whole school house point system.

Merits:

- Individual rewards for exemplary work and behaviour. Children will need to gain 44 Merits to achieve their Bronze award. Then it will be repeated for their Silver/Gold/Platinum Awards.

Values stickers:

- Children will be rewarded with stickers that reflect our school values. These are: Be Kind, Be Creative, Be Courageous.

P.E.



Monday - hockey (outdoors)

Friday - gymnastics (indoors)

PE days will change each half-term as we have a number of external sports specialist coaches. Please come to school in PE kit, trainers and NO jewellery/earrings.

Homework



- Daily reading (15-20 minutes)
- Spellings (20 minutes/week) – daily practice
- Maths (Schofield and Simms arithmetic books; Section A&B) (20 mins)
- Times tables (set on Times Tables Rockstars) (20 mins)
- Homework will be set on Wednesdays and due the following Monday.

Assessment



Year 4 times tables test. This takes place in the summer term. All children will take a test using the iPad. They will get 25 questions with 6 seconds to answer each question. They need to know all their times tables.

Assessment is ongoing and continuous. Carefully planned lessons and frequent retrieval activities will support the children to remember what they have learned. Some assessment is formative where we look at how your child performs in class and demonstrates their understanding. Other assessment is more formal and done via formal written tests. This is always backed up by teacher judgements.

Children have been assessed throughout their time in school. This is nothing new and helps us to identify areas where support is needed.

Social Media



We know that social media is a major part of everyday lives but please be vigilant around the ways in which your child is using technology. Some resources that may help:

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/>
- <https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Parental-Controls-booklet-2023.pdf>

How can you help?



- Please read our home-school agreement
- Please read as much as possible with your child
- Help your child identify a quiet time and place for homework
- Be positive
- Attend school events
- Volunteers
- 'Friends' contact for the class
- Parent governor vacancy
- Tell school if there are issues
- Email - we respond within 48 hours (Monday to Friday)