



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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Dear Parents,

YEAR 4 TERMLY CURRICULUM LETTER AUTUMN TERM 2021

For your information we have outlined below some of the topics that will be covered this term in Year 4. We have already made a good start to our studies and we know that you will make every effort to assist and encourage your child as this term progresses.

Assessments

Following the introduction of the new National Curriculum for Years 1-6 in 2014 and new assessment and reporting arrangements the Abbey School staff will assess the children's level of attainment at the end of each term (December, March, May) in Years 1-6 using the phrases:

- Securely within Age Related Expectations (ARE)
- Broadly within ARE
- Below ARE
- Above ARE

Year 4 will take the compulsory Key Stage 2 multiplication check. This will take place over a three-week period – more information to follow.





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Formal 10minute parent/teacher consultations take place in the middle of the Autumn and Spring Terms (October and February). This is an opportunity to discuss your child's progress, behaviour, social interactions and English and maths strengths and areas for development. An annual report to parents is produced in the summer term.

Summary of Objectives for Year 4

The following is a summary of the curriculum we will be covering:

English

In **English** children will be taught:

Before half term:

- Fiction (traditional tales): the children will read and write Roman myths.
- Non-Fiction: The children will be perfecting their dictionary skills.

This half term, the spelling rules we will focus on each week are:

- Homophones
- Prefix 'in'
- Prefix 'il', 'im' and 'ir'
- Prefix 'sub'
- Prefix 'inter'
- Challenge week (any common misconceptions from previous weeks)

After half term:

- Non-Fiction: The children will write non-chronological reports using David Weisner's book 'Tuesday' as a stimulus.
- Poetry: The children will use alliteration, similes and descriptive vocabulary to create images.

Maths

In **Maths** children will be taught:

- Place value – order, compare and round numbers beyond 1000.
- Securing addition and subtraction with mental fluency as well as the written method.
- Counting in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1000.



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- Securing number facts: Finding pairs of numbers that total 100 or 1,000, place value.
- Measurement and Statistics: Using standard units of length, converting units of measure and telling the time on an analogue or 24-hour clock. Recording and interpreting information and constructing bar charts.
- Multiplication and division facts using the (Times Tables)
- Discrete and continuous data through graphs.
- Perimeter – finding the perimeter of a variety of shapes.

Science

Before half term our topic is Teeth and Digestion – see vocabulary list.

After half term our topic is States of Matter – see vocabulary list.

As **scientists** the children will be taught to:

- To research how the digestive system works and the structure of teeth.
- Group materials into solids, liquids and gases. Observe changes in state as materials are heated and cooled.

Guided Reading

Year 4 will be engaging in 3 guided reading sessions a week. These will be whole class sessions based on a new topic each week. The children will have the chance to engage with the text and practise key skills to answer questions about that text.

In **Computing** we will be software developers who are able to play and analyse educational games, eventually creating our own working prototype.

In **Religious Education** we will explore our class value of wisdom. Our main topic will be 'People of God' and looking at what it is like to follow God.

In **History** this term we will be focussing on **The Romans** and in **Geography** we will be seeing **how we can live more sustainably**.

As **historians** the children will be taught to:

- Access a variety of sources and understand the impact of the Roman Empire on Britain.



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- Investigate in depth questions about the important changes that occurred during the Roman times as well as studying aspects of Roman life that they already have some awareness of.

As **geographers** the children will be taught to:

- Understand through a range of examples what sustainability entails.
- Recognise how to apply those principles to our own lives.

As **artists** the children will be taught to:

- Develop observational sketching and shading.
- Investigate different perspectives and viewpoints and comment on their effect.

As **designers** the children will be taught to:

- Understand the importance of recycling and design and create a bird box using natural or recycled materials.

Music

As **musicians** this term the children will focus on sound production and classification along with music composed for media. The children will learn a range of hymns and songs through whole-school singing assemblies in preparation for services throughout the term including the Harvest Service, Advent Eucharist and Carol Service. They will also prepare for the St Albans Primary Schools Music Association Carol Service.

French

In **French** this half-term the children will be learning about the topic of 'All Around Town'. They will explore French towns and cities along with typical places in 'my' town. They will have opportunities to practise talking about what's in their own town and building on counting in 10s.

What do we expect of you? You can help and support us by:

- **Labelling all items of clothing and providing a water bottle.**
- Listening to your child read each evening.
- Testing times tables on a regular basis.



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- Providing safe computer access in order for them to access Maths homework.
- Assisting your child with research and other studies as appropriate.
- Ensuring that your child has their PE kit/ swimming kit in school.
- **Homework** will be set on a Friday and should be **completed by the following Wednesday**. Written homework should not be rushed and should always be presented well using a blue pen. The homework will consolidate the work we have done in class or give the opportunity to develop the children's research skills. Maths homework will occasionally be an online activity but may often be a written task and should be written in pencil.
- **Spelling**- We will send spelling homework which will aim to help the children practise the new rule(s) we have been learning that week. A weekly spelling test will see how the children are getting on with their spellings and any gaps in learning.
- **Times Tables**- There will be a times tables or Mental Maths activity each week, so please ensure the children regularly read through and practise their times tables at home. Children will be expected to learn their Times Tables up to 11x11. We will continue to use 'Times Tables Rock Stars' so please encourage your child to spend time practising on there. Their username and password is on the front of their reading records.
- **Reading**- The children have been given a reading record which will be checked periodically by the teacher and teaching assistant. In order to grow their independence, this should be completed as far as possible by your child. However, please check that your child is completing the reading record whenever they read and an adult sign it once a week.

Your child will have **PE on Tuesdays and Fridays** with Mr Morgan, qualified sports coach. Your child should come into school wearing their PE kit on these days. It is a statutory requirement that all children must participate in games sessions. If your child does not have their kit in on a games day then they will have to participate in the session in their school uniform and school shoes.



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If your child has a genuine medical reason why they cannot take part in a games session then a note must be provided. If you feel your child is too unwell to take part in PE then please consider whether they are well enough to be in school.

Homework:

Homework will be set on Google Classroom. This will be set every Friday and is due to be handed in by the following Wednesday, but can be uploaded before. The children will receive an English and Maths task each week with the occasional topic based task. They will also receive a list of spellings which they should practise at home – little and often is best rather than all in one day if possible. They will also be set a group of times tables on Times Tables Rock Star website which they can use to practise their tables. Again, little and often would be great to practise their times tables. Their username and password is on the front of their reading records and on the card we sent home with the first set of homework. Please let us know if you need it again and we can send a copy home.

Who will be working with your children this term?

Miss Roberts is the class teacher for this half-term. We are also fortunate to have the expertise of Mrs Clarke working with us in the role of Teaching Assistant every morning (and Monday/Tuesday afternoons).

If, at any stage, you have questions or require further clarification relating to any aspect of your child's school activities, please do not hesitate to contact and speak with me in the first instance. I have appreciated your support and assistance so far in this new academic year and I am confident that you will continue to work with us to ensure that your child has a happy and successful term.

Yours sincerely,

Miss J Roberts
Year 4 Teacher