Curriculum Overview for Year 4 – Autumn 2 (2026 – 2027)

Migration

Guiding question:

Why do people leave their homes?

Main foundation subject link:
Geography
See Knowledge Organiser for more details

Literacy:

This half term, we will be writing letters (to persuade) and narratives (to entertain). We'll take inspiration from our whole-class text, the award-winning book **'The Boy at the Back of the Class'** by Onjali Q Rauf. We will continue to rehearse our sentences aloud (to check for sense) and use fronted adverbials. Our grammar focusses this half term will be using the possessive apostrophe (for singular and plural nouns) and using conjunctions to extend our sentences. We will continue having spelling and handwriting lessons four times a week. In handwriting, we are continuing to revise letter joins. In spelling, we will learn new words relating to our Migration topic, as well as suffixes and words from the Year 3/4 statutory list.

Maths:

We will start this half term with multiplication and division. We'll build fluency with times tables up to 12 × 12, practise mental strategies using place value, and learn about factor pairs.

Alongside this, children will be getting ready for the statutory Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) later in the year so we will also have regular slots dedicated to learning our times tables. By the end of Year Four, children are expected to be fluent in all times tables up to 12x12, so please support your child with regular access to TTRS (Times Tables Rock Stars) at home. TTRS is an especially useful tool as each account is tailored to the skills and needs of each child.

Science: Living Things and their Habitats

This half term in science, our topic is Living Things and Their Habitats. We will be learning how to group living things in a variety of ways and explore the similarities and differences between plants and animals. We will use classification keys to help them identify, group and name different living things in their local environment and beyond. We will also learn about different habitats and how changes to the environment can sometimes pose dangers to living things, developing an understanding of the importance of protecting plants, animals and their habitats.

DT: This half term, we will create tote bags. We will focus on cutting and shaping within the material's perimeter, measuring with precision, exploring joining techniques suitable for fabric, and understanding the importance of seam allowance. This project will help us develop practical skills in both design and construction.

Spanish: We will continue building on our year 3 knowledge by discussing who we live with.

Music: We will continue learning the ukulele with Layla and having weekly singing lessons as a class with Lucy. In class, our key artist will be London band, Hi-Tension.

RE: Buddhism

We will learn about the importance of the Buddhist community, known as the Sangha. We will learn about the story of the King's Elephant and explore places of Buddhist worship, including shrines, temples and Buddhist centres. We will also discuss images of the Buddha and learn how these represent important Buddhist values, such as wisdom and compassion.

PSHE/RSE

We will be learning about the importance of being assertive and how to express feelings confidently but respectfully. We will explore stereotypes, particularly those relating to gender and disability, and learn how to challenge unfair assumptions. We will also develop an understanding of how change and loss can affect people and how we can manage these feelings.

Other information:

PE days: Wednesday (coach Reuben – basketball) and Monday (teacher - dodgeball). Children to please wear comfortable clothing and suitable shoes.

Homework expectations: Weekly spellings practice to be uploaded to Seesaw every Friday. Children are expected to read every day and record this in their reading records at least three times a week (to be signed by an adult at school on Fridays). Children will be set times tables on Times Table Rock Stars; they should be practising every day ahead of the MTC later in the year.