

Year 4 Curriculum Overview for Parents 2018-189



Introduction: This overview is to help parents to understand what the children will be learning while they are in Year 4. The first page shows the general timetable for the class and the following page gives an overview of the learning going on in each half term 'unit'.

Our curriculum is built on exciting ideas: each half term we will be immersing ourselves in an idea, connecting skills in literacy, numeracy, science and computing as well as becoming familiar with artwork, music and the lives of interesting people who have a connection to the ideas we are exploring. Our curriculum is dynamic so during the year we may change elements in response to new opportunities.

Core skills: Our English (reading and writing) and Maths curriculum aims to help children develop a range of skills over the year. In maths, this includes continual development of areas such as number, data, shape, space and measure. In English, this involves exploring various units such as poetry, non-fiction and narrative. The descriptions below give some specific aspects of what we will be focusing on at various points during the year.

Year 4 Timetable: This is a summary timetable, showing the general organisation of learning in Year 4. The timetable is flexible and subject to change throughout the year.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	English	Maths	English	Maths	English
	Maths / Ivrit swap	English / Ivrit swap	Maths / Ivrit swap	Jewish LeARNING / Ivrit swap	Handwriting
PM	Topic	PE	Computing	Music	SPAG
	Library	SPAG	Assembly	Science	Kabbalat Shabbat

Library books are normally changed on a Monday but please ensure that your child brings their reading book into school every day, as we hear children read on different days.

Supporting your child's learning in Year 4

- A key way to support your child's learning is to encourage them to read every day. It is important for them to have opportunities to read out loud to an adult so that they can develop good reading skills and engage in discussion about the ideas in the texts they are reading. Take them to local libraries to explore and try some online reading apps.
- Taking your child to visit exciting places of learning, such as the Science Museum, the Greenwich Observatory or the Natural History Museum, can give them an opportunity to share their learning with you and to further embed the things they have explored in school.
- Support your child's growing mathematical understanding by helping them to learn their times tables, number bonds to 100 and 1000 and involve them in cooking, shopping, telling the time and other areas of home life in order to help them practise their skills in real life situations.
- Have fun with science by exploring different influential scientists and their creations and experiment by conducting investigations involving sound, electricity, habitats.
- During the year, we will be exposing children to the lives of 'interesting people', with a particular focus on positive 'female role models'. You can further stimulate their interest and understanding by researching these individuals using encyclopaedias and online.

Curriculum themes for Year 4

<p>September-October: Medicine</p> <p>In this theme, the children will explore the history of medicine from the prehistoric period to modern times. This will lead to a focus on the NHS and a variety of other professions linked to medicine. We will also be reading 'George's Marvellous Medicine' and exploring the interesting lives of individuals such as Florence Nightingale, Marie Curie and Elizabeth Blackwell. We will explore artists that have been inspired by the body and conduct science experiments linked to medicine. In our computing lessons we will be creating a class medicine 'wiki'. Our PSHE foci explore alternative medicines, staying safe and keeping healthy, as well as physical and mental wellbeing. In Jewish Learning the children will explore Jewish connections to medicine, including prayers linked to the body.</p>	<p>November-December: Calendar</p> <p>In this unit, we will be learning about space, planets, the sun and moon. We will be immersing ourselves in the class text 'Moon Man' and exploring festivals and key dates which are celebrated in the calendars of different religions and faiths. We will be looking at the interesting lives of Aristotle, Halley and Israeli astronauts. Our PSHE foci explore the language used to describe both positive and negative behaviours. In Jewish Learning and Ivrit, the children will look at the Mishnaot for the new moon, Rosh <u>Hodesh</u> and the Hebrew calendar. Our main focus in maths will be multiplication and division.</p>
<p>January-February: Monarchy and Leadership</p> <p>This theme delves into the Royal Family in the UK as well as monarchy within other countries and cultures. The children will look at different leaders throughout history to contemporary times and will explore the impact and influence that they have had on society. Our PSHE focus will look at the leadership qualities the children possess and wish to develop in the future and the ways these will support them in their everyday lives. They will investigate the interesting lives of female leaders and the way in which gender stereotypes and equality have shaped this. In Jewish Learning the children will explore some of the challenges of monarchy in the bible, including the narratives of King David and the prayer for the Royal Family.</p>	<p>March-April: Parents and Children</p> <p>Jewish tradition teaches the importance of respecting parents and through this theme, we have an opportunity to learn about different elements of the relationships between children and parents, as well as exploring social frameworks such as the UN convention of the child and the legal parental responsibilities families have in contemporary Britain.</p> <p>Jewish learning and Ivrit lesson will give children and opportunity to study the biblical story of the binding of Isaac (the Akedah) and to explore the commentary of Rashi, a seminal medieval Rabbinical thinker.</p>
<p>April-May: Conflict</p> <p>In the first half of the summer term, we will look at the theme of conflict in Shakespeare and visit the Globe theatre to immerse ourselves in drama and playwriting. We will explore conflicts throughout history, particularly those involving the interesting lives of Nelson Mandela and Rosa Parks. The children will be exposed to different types of artwork from wartimes and will explore the impact that these pieces had on retaining proof and evidence. In maths, the children will develop their knowledge and understanding of geometry and measurement and will begin to look at statistics at a greater depth. Our PSHE focus will be conflict and resolution; the children will look at the ways in which they can resolve conflicts themselves and the importance of justice in society.</p> <p>Jewish learning in this unit will explore narratives and views on conflict from tradition, including the early rabbinical ideas about conflict resolution.</p>	<p>June-July: Pupil led topic</p> <p><i>This half term will be a class- chosen topic. The children will be guided and supported to include a variety of mathematical, literacy, science, arts, humanities and ICT skills within this topic.</i></p>

In addition to our normal curriculum, during this year, children will be learning about the lives of 'interesting people', with a particular focus on 'Diversity and Tolerance'. We will be exploring a variety of religions, faiths, tribes and cultures, as well as helping children to develop the skill of 'makhlohet – respectful disagreement', through our curriculum, school trips, visitors and research projects.