

St Eugene's Catholic Primary School

Termly Curriculum Information for Parents - Year 4

What your child will be learning about this summer term and how you can help at home

English

Writing:

This term, Year 4 will be studying a range of high quality narrative texts, including *The Lost Happy Endings* by Carol Anne Duffy and *A Year Full of Poems* by Michael Harrison. These high quality texts will be used to model writing, inspire the children's own writing and extend skills in vocabulary, grammar and spelling. We will be continuing to encourage the children to write for a purpose, e.g. stories, newspaper reports, poems, explanations, retellings and diary entries. Linked with the children's geography work, the children will be writing reports about countries including Canada and the Rocky Mountains.

Grammar:

The children will learn to use the following grammatical features in their writing: **noun phrases** expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases (e.g. *the teacher* expanded to: *the strict maths teacher with curly hair*); and **fronted adverbials** (e.g. *Later that day, I heard the bad news.*) They will also learn to use paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme and inverted commas and other **punctuation** to indicate direct speech.

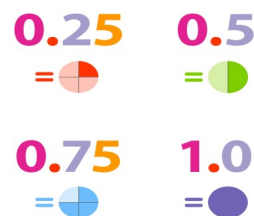
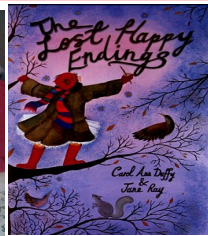
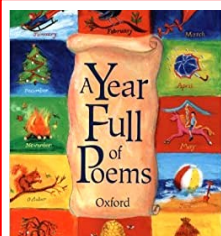
Reading:

In daily reading practice lessons, the children will be developing their reading fluency, comprehension skills and ability to read with expression.

How you can help:

Encourage your child to read a variety of literature, including a range of newspapers and magazines, fiction and non-fiction books written by different authors. Help your child to learn their spellings each week. Listen to your child read on a regular basis, asking them questions to make sure they have understood what they have been reading.

Visit the [BBC Bitesize Year 4 English](https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/year4/english) website with your child to practise the key Year 4 grammar skills.



Maths:

This term, Year 4 will be learning the following:

Number: Decimals

Recognising and writing decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths; recognising and writing decimal equivalents to $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$; dividing a one- or two-digit number by 10 and 100 and rounding decimals with one decimal place to the nearest whole number e.g. rounding 6.7 to 7.

Measurement: Money

Solving simple money problems involving fractions and decimals to two decimal places; and estimating, comparing and calculating different measures, including money in pounds and pence.

Measurement: Time

Reading, writing and converting time between analogue and digital 12- and 24-hour clocks; and solving problems involving converting from hours to minutes; minutes to seconds; years to months; weeks to days.

Geometry: Properties of Shape

Comparing and classifying geometric shapes, including quadrilaterals and triangles, based on their properties and sizes; and identifying acute and obtuse angles, and comparing and ordering angles up to two right angles by size.

How you can help: Ask your child to explain their mathematical thinking to you (e.g. "What strategy did you use?").

By the end of Year 4, the children are expected to know all the times tables up to 12 x 12: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12. Encourage your child to log on to *Times Tables Rockstars*: <https://ttrockstars.com> to practice for 10 minutes every day.

Science

Living things

This term, Year 4 will be learning to recognise the changes in our local environment. They will be learning to give examples of positive and negative ways in which humans change the environment, researching and presenting information about the impact of litter on animals. The children will also be learning to describe environmental dangers to endangered species. Year 4 will be identifying seashore animals using a key and learning to recognise characteristics of some of the main invertebrate groups.

Electricity

This term, Year 4 will be learning to classify electrical objects. Working scientifically, the children will be learning how to make and record electric circuits. They will be learning how to predict and test complete and incomplete circuits and to describe what a switch does and how it works. Year 4 will also be learning to identify conductors and insulators.

Visit www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z6svr82 for a selection of science videos.

Music

This term, Year 4 will learn about tuned instruments, e.g. the guitar. The children will learn about the parts of these instruments and their functions, including the name of the guitar strings and an introduction to tab notation. Year 4 will also learn about the lives of great guitarists. They will listen to live guitar music played by visiting musicians and to recordings of inspiring guitar music. They will be taking part in their weekly Wider Opportunities music lessons.

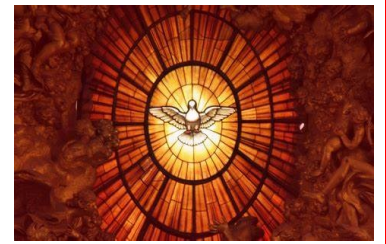
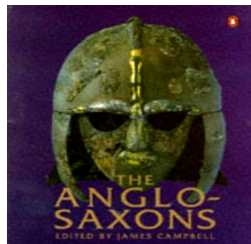
Please encourage them to practice their music at home.

Computing

This term, Year 4 will be learning about **Programming—Repetition in shapes**. The children will learn to create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language to create and repeat patterns in shapes and in games.

Year 4 will also be learning to publish their work online and to evaluate work online, sensitively suggesting how to change or improve a design.

How you can help: Have a conversation with your child about being safe online. For some informative and age appropriate videos to start conversations, visit the following website: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/



History

The Anglo Saxons in Britain

This term, Year 4 will be learning to know the time and place of Anglo Saxon Britain. The children will be learning to understand how the Anglo Saxons settled in Britain and how Anglo Saxon Britain was divided into Kingdoms. They will be learning about daily life in Anglo Saxon Britain, and learning to explain the influence of the Anglo Saxons on Britain. The children will be learning about Alfred the Great and the influence of Anglo Saxons on religious beliefs will be also be explored.

Geography

This term, Year 4 will be learning about Germany and North America. They will be learning to locate Germany using an atlas and learning about the importance of the River Rhine. The children will also be learning to understand how land use in Germany has changed over time. We are learning to identify physical features of North America including the Rocky Mountains.

Religious Education

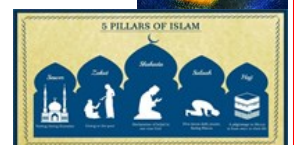
May is the month of Mary: we will pray the Hail Mary prayer every day remembering Mary our mother in heaven.

To the ends of the Earth: The children will learn the story of St Peter's denial of Jesus and how this special friend of Jesus became the first Pope. They will understand that the current Pope is a successor to Jesus' friend Peter.

They will learn about the Resurrection and how the Church is made up of people who believe in the Resurrection and place their hope in Christ.

Dialogue and Encounter: The children will learn about St Paul and his encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus. They will study his travels and teaching as an apostle of Christ. They will explore some elements of the universal Catholic Church and explore other Christian communities.

The children will also learn about the five pillars of the Muslim faith and understand some ways Muslims live out their beliefs.



Art and design

Collage and Textiles (Plants and Patterns)

This term, Year 4 will be learning to re-create the textures of the rainforest. The children will be learning to work collaboratively to create a collage. They will be learning to investigate costume and textiles and to decorate fabric.

Digital Media (Layers)

This term, Year 4 will be learning to create a digital collage. The children will be learning to alter images and explore scale and composition. They will be learning to alter images to create an original design based on traditional Greek art and in the style of Andy Warhol.

Design Technology

The children will be designing, making and evaluating **storybooks** in their unit of work about **structures**.

Food Technology

Year 4 will be learning about the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet. The children will also be preparing a **Cheeky Sandwich**.

PSHCE

This term, Year 4 will be learning what the term **puberty** means, learning what changes happen to boys and girls during puberty. The children will develop a greater awareness of **bullying** (including cyber-bullying), and how to respond to bullying, and they will learn that all bullying is wrong. They will learn about **harassment** and **exploitation in relationships**, including physical and emotional abuse, including how to respond.

The children will learn to make good, informed judgements about what kind of **physical contact** is acceptable or unacceptable and how to respond, and they will learn that there are different people we can trust and ask for help. They will learn **how a baby grows** and develops in its mother's womb and how **conception and life in the womb** fits into the cycle of life.

Spanish

The children will be studying the following topics in this term's Spanish lessons, led by our specialist Spanish teacher: describing hair and eyes; the verb 'to have'; my pencil case; food and drink; opinions; and weather. They will learn to play Spanish games.

PE

This term, Year 4 children will take part in a weekly PE lesson with coach. During these sessions, the children will develop their sporting and teamwork skills as well as increasing their fitness levels by participating in activities related to tennis, cricket and athletics. Children must wear their school PE kit with plain *black* trainers or shoes with a good grip. **PE is every Wednesday.**

How can I help at home?

Make it clear that you value homework – set aside a specific time and area for your child to work on their homework. Help them to be organised with their time so that their homework is handed in on time.

Encourage your child to **read a variety of texts**, not just books from school.

Listen to your child read and ask them **questions** about the text to help increase their **understanding**. Encourage your child to make predictions about what might happen next (For example, 'What do you think will happen next?' 'Why do you think that?').

Encourage your child to do **every day mathematics**, such as telling the time, using bus / train timetables or working out the total / change in a shop.

Spend time reviewing their **times tables** with them each day.

Help your child to be organised:

- ◇ Have you got your **book bag** in school **every day**?
- ◇ Are **ALL** your reading books inside it?
- ◇ Have you completed your **homework**? Homework should be submitted on Google Classroom by **Wednesday**.

