

Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn 1 2026

Welcome to Year 4!

English

Focus Text— Varmints: Literacy theme of finding freedom. Children will be given opportunities to describe flowers and make speeches. This series of lessons culminates in children writing an explanation text.

Focus Text—Until I met Dudley: Literary theme of Invention and Innovation. Children write their own explanation texts for everyday objects, inventing their own imaginary responses to the question of how they work, before researching and describing them properly. They also write letters to a fictional 'Dudley' character asking for his help.

Reading

It is expected that your child reads at least 5 times a week. Please encourage your child to read regularly at home and to get into the practice of recording this in their reading diary. This is checked each Friday in school to ensure that children are reading at home. Please write the page number they have read to in their book and make a comment on their reading.

Maths

This half term we will be exploring number and place value in greater depth. We will be building on previous learning and looking at new methods in addition and subtraction. They will use tens frames, partitioning and relationships between calculations. We will be learning our 3, 4 and 6 times tables and related division facts. We will also be practising mental maths regularly and will have a times test each week.

History

Our topic is 'The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor'. Children will investigate the origins of the Vikings, where and why they settled their struggle for power and the consequences of struggle and invasion.

PE

This year our PE days will be on Monday and Friday. Your child will need to come into school dressed in their PE kit. Their first PE lesson will be on Monday 7th September. This term the topics will be orienteering and football.

Science

Our unit is called 'Living things and their habitats'. The children will identify a variety of habitats and explore why organisms live in them. They will recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. We will explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things. They will explore the impact of changing habits and how this can pose dangers to living things.

Other Topics

Computing ~ imovie and Coding, **French** ~ Portraits **Music** ~ Body and tuned percussion **RE** ~ Are Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur important to Jewish children? **PSHE** ~ Being Me in My World
Art ~ Drawing and Painting