



January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a lovely break. The whole Year 4 team would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you again for your generous gifts. We really appreciate your support and kindness.

## Curriculum

**Geography** – Our Geography focus this half term will be on earthquakes. The children will learn why earthquakes happen, how we measure them, what the effects are, and finally, how humans live with earthquakes.

**History** – Our History focus this term will be on Roman Britain. We will be learning about diversity, migration, Celtic language, Celtic culture, and the rebellions of Caratacus and Boudicca. We will discuss the effects of the Roman invasion on Britain and the collapse of Roman rule in Britain.

**Science** – We will be learning about the science of sound. We will learn how sounds are made, how the ear identifies sound, and changes in pitch and volume.

**Music** – Our focus will be on icy timbres and textures in a range of contexts. We will identify the use of metre in 2 or 3 in a piece of recorded or live music, determine whether a song has a verse/chorus or call-and-response structure, and recognize the combined effect of layers of sound by listening to their own arrangements and compositions.

**Maths** – We will continue our unit on multiplication and division. The children will learn how to use the grid method for one-digit multiplied by two-digit or three-digit questions (e.g.,  $3 \times 456$ ). Please look at the calculation policy on our website to see the methods we use. Once completed, the children will begin a unit on area, learning how to find the area of a 2D shape.

**English** – We started this term by completing our unit on instructional writing. We will be moving on to a narrative piece using the story, Fox. In this unit, the children will plan and write their own stories using a range of grammatical techniques.

**PE** – PE will be taught by Mario Vitrano and class teachers. Our topics will be:

Dance: Fox dance

Games: Problem-solving and inventing games

Gymnastics: Rotation

**PSHE** – We will be completing our learning on a families and relationships unit before starting our health and well-being topic. This unit will cover developing emotional maturity, learning that we experience a range of emotions and are responsible for these, appreciating the emotions of others, developing a growth mindset, identifying calming and relaxing activities, and developing independence in dental hygiene.

**Headteacher Leon Choueke**

**Design & Technology** – Children will plan, create, and evaluate a book sleeve using felt. They will use fastenings such as buttons. They will sew the edges to create the book sleeve and decorate the front once complete.

**Computing and Online Safety** – Our topic for this term will be Further Coding with Scratch. We will recall the features of Scratch, what a variable is, and how to make a variable, then use this information to create a quiz. Our online safety lessons will explain why lots of people sharing the same opinions or beliefs online do not make those opinions and beliefs true. We will also look at how technology can be designed to act like or impersonate living things.

**Spellings** – The children will continue to bring home spellings in their yellow books on Tuesday to learn each week and then be tested the following week.

**Times tables** – This term, we are really encouraging the children to work hard on their times tables before the Multiplication Tables Check in June this year. A letter will be sent home about this later in the year, but for now, we ask you to support them at home as much as possible. Each week, the children will be told which times table they need to learn for the following Friday. Spellings and times tables are published in the Weekly Overview.

More detailed information about what we are teaching week-by-week can be found in the Weekly Overview, which is sent out each Friday on ParentHub.

### Trips / Visits

#### **Roman Theatre**

Freshwater Theatre Company will be performing a production at Coleridge for all Year 4 classes on Tuesday, 11th February. The performance is called *The Return of the Romans*.

#### **Natural History Museum**

All classes will go on a trip to the Natural History Museum in March to see a show and exhibition about earthquakes. We welcome assistance from parents and carers. Please speak to your class teacher if you would like to join. Classes will be going on the following dates:

**Tuesday, 11th March: 4R and 4B**

**Thursday, 20th March: 4O and 4P**

#### **Forest School**

This year, all Year 4 classes will take part in Forest School sessions at Queen's Woods. A message has been sent home to parents/carers with further information about dates, timings, and suitable clothing.

The dates the classes will be going to Forest School for this term are:

**4R: 22nd January and 5th February**

**4P: 15th January and 29th January**

**4O: 8th January (owed session), 26th February, and 12th March**

**4B: 5th March and 19th March**

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**Dates for your diaries**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January:** Sibling photos

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January:** INSET day (school is closed for all children)

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March:** INSET day (school is closed for all children)

If you have any questions or queries, please let us know.

Yours sincerely,

Year 4 team

**Headteacher Leon Choueke**

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