



January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! The whole Year 4 Team would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you again for all your support last term, and your generous gifts. We really appreciate your kindness and ongoing support. We have lots of exciting opportunities coming up for the children, so we hope this term will be another stimulating and successful one!

## Curriculum

Below is an overview for this half term. As always, 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; it outlines our learning for the week ahead.

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

**History** – Continuing with our learning about the Romans, we now move on to focusing specifically on Roman Britain. We will be learning about diversity, migration, Celtic culture and language, and the rebellions of Caratacus and Boudicca. We will discuss the effects of the Roman invasion on Britain, and the later collapse of Roman rule in Britain.

**Science** – We will learn about the science of sound. We will learn how sounds are made, how the ear identifies sound, and changes in pitch and volume. We will also be making various rudimentary musical instruments!

**Music** – Our focus this half term will be 'Three Little Birds' by Bob Marley and the Wailers. We will discuss and appraise the song, learn to sing it, and to play instruments alongside it. We will also use tuned and untuned musical instruments to create short compositions inspired by the piece. We will also explore the possible messages and meaning within the song – linking it to discussions about our core value resilience.

**Maths** – We have begun a second unit on multiplication and division. In this unit, we will learn about factor pairs, multiplying & dividing by 10, and by 100, and informal written methods for multiplication. We will move on to using the grid method for one-digit multiplied by two-digit or three-digit questions (e.g.,  $3 \times 456$ ). We will then introduce formal written methods for dividing a 2-digit or 3-digit number by a 1-digit number. Please see the calculation policy on our website for detailed explanations of the methods we use.

**English** – Our core text for this half term is 'Fox' by Margaret Wild. This is a highly illustrative book which explores the themes of friendship, loyalty, risk and betrayal. Towards the end of this unit, the children will plan and write their own stories using a range of writing devices.

**PE** – This half term, we are lucky to be taking part in weekly squash sessions at Coolhurst Tennis Club!

**PSHE** – We will be completing our 'Families and Relationships' unit before starting a 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**

**Computing and Online Safety** – the topic for this term is ‘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 & times tables** – We will continue to test these weekly (spellings on Mondays & times tables on Fridays). We ask you to continue to support the children at home as much as possible. Spellings and times tables will continue to be put on ParentHub each week.

### **School Trips!**

#### This half term – London Mithraeum

As part of our history curriculum, Year 4 will be visiting the London Mithraeum, a Roman archaeological site in Bank. Please see the ParentHub message for more specific details about the day, and please do get in touch with your child’s class teacher if you are able to come along and support us.

#### Next half term – Natural History Museum & Theatre Trip

To complement our geography curriculum, all classes will go on a trip to the Natural History Museum to see a show and exhibition about earthquakes. More details will be sent out in a letter nearer the time. Next half term, we will also be taking the children to the Unicorn Theatre to see a production of Shakespeare’s ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ (again, more details to follow!).

### **Forest School**

All Year 4 classes will continue to take part in Forest School sessions at Queen’s Woods. Messages have been posted on ParentHub with further information about timings, and suitable clothing.

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

**4R: 14th January, 28th January, 11th February, 18th March**

**4P: 7th January, 4th February, 25th February, 11th March**

**4O: 25th March, 6th May, 20th May, 10th June**

**4B: 15th April, 29th April, 13th May, 3rd June**

### **London Mithraeum Trip:**

**4O – Tuesday 27th January**

**4B – Tuesday 3rd February**

**4P – Thursday 5th February**

**4R – Tuesday 10th February**

**Headteacher Leon Choueke**

**Dates for your diaries:**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January:** Sibling photos

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January:** INSET day (school is closed for all children)

**Getting in touch**

If you have any questions or queries, please do get in touch with us. As always, you can reach us via the school admin email address: [admin@coleridgeprimary.net](mailto:admin@coleridgeprimary.net) For quick questions or issues pertinent to the current school day, please do speak to the member of the Year 4 Team on the door in the morning.

We look forward another great half term with the Year 4 children!

Yours sincerely,

Year 4 team

**Headteacher Leon Choueke**

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