

Life in All its Fullness – Come and See



Year 4 Spring 2026 Newsletter



Happy New Year and welcome back to the Spring term! We very much hope everyone had a joyful, restful and healthy Christmas break. We're very excited for this new year and to continue our year 4 learning. Myself and Mrs Godfrey would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge and heartfelt thank you for all our wonderfully generous Christmas gifts.

Maths

In Maths, we follow the **Herts Essential Maths** scheme, with other supporting resources. Techniques to support learning include use of partner talk, games, investigations and CPA approaches (concrete, pictorial and abstract). This term, we will be starting with the topic of converting units of measure. We then move on to comparing, estimating and calculating measure; interpreting and presenting discrete and continuous data; measuring and calculating perimeter; properties of shape; symmetry; recognising and using decimal numbers; money; problem solving and exploring fractions. We will continue to practice all times tables up to 12×12 as part of our **Maths Fluency** sessions.



English

Our focus text for writing this half term is 'Our Tower' by Joseph Coelho. As well as continuing to regularly encourage the use of paragraphs and fronted adverbials, this text will help the children learn to use a variety of verb forms and to punctuate direct speech correctly. The unit will culminate in the children rewriting the adventure as a journal from a character's point of view. Throughout, the children will have the opportunity to build their vocabulary, develop their inference skills, use their creativity, and participate in discussions. This text will also support our weekly spelling sessions in the first half term.

After half term, we will look at the text 'Wisp, a story of hope,' and use it to write a fictional narrative.

We will have guided reading sessions throughout the week. These sessions will help support the children's fluency and understanding of familiar and unfamiliar words, as well as focus on VIPERS skills.

Science

During this term, once we have finished our previous unit, we will be exploring **sound**. We will identify how sounds are made, associate them with something vibrating and recognise that vibrations from sounds travel from a source through a medium to the ear. The children will have many opportunities to work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate and learn how to present their findings scientifically.



Geography

For the entire Spring term, we will be immersing ourselves in the topic of 'Rivers.' We will start by defining what exactly a river is and locating some of the world's longest rivers. We will then look at the features of rivers and link rivers to our prior learning about the water cycle. We will be investigating the relationship between humans and rivers around the world, including how human activity affects rivers, together with the impact that flooding has on communities.

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RE

We will be continuing to follow our excellent *The Emmanuel Project* scheme. This term the children will have opportunities to further their knowledge of Christianity and Hinduism by unpicking the following big questions:

Spring 1: How does the story of Rama and Sita inspire Hindus to follow their dharma?

Spring 2: Why are good stewardship & generous giving important for every Christian?



Art and DT

Through our new Kapow scheme, our focus in Art this term will be on drawing. We will explore using tone to create 3D effects and show areas of light and dark. Children will develop an awareness of proportion and contrast in their compositions. Our focus after half term will move to DT.

PE

PE will continue to be on **Wednesday** and **Friday** afternoons. Please ensure that children come to school in their PE kits on those days. This half term, we will be exploring levels in gymnastics, and developing skills in netball. During the second half of the term, we will be doing orienteering, as well as working on the dances for our production. Lessons will be outside where possible and appropriate, so please do make sure that clothing is appropriate for all weathers. A spare pair of socks in their school bag might be helpful.



Computing

This term, our units are 'logo' and 'animation.' The first unit has strong links to Maths and will teach children about commands to programming. This will allow children to develop their ability to compose algorithms. After half term, we learn about stop-motion animation.



Music

We are lucky to welcome a specialist music teacher this term, Mrs. Marshall, who will be teaching music across the school. She is looking forward to working with the children to develop composition and performance. We will also start practicing the songs for our production.



RHE

Lessons will follow the JIGSAW scheme of work. This term, the units are '**Dreams and Goals**' and '**Healthy Me.**'

Further information

By the end of Year 4, your child should know multiplication and division facts for **times tables** up to 12×12 . Whilst we will continue to practise a huge amount in school, it is imperative your child practises at home regularly too in order to develop speed of recall and fluency. **Towards the end of the year, the children will sit the new 'Multiplication tables Check'.** Online resources such as the Times Table Rockstars website, Supermoves, Hit the button, or songs on YouTube can be fun ways of practising.

Please provide your child with a daily healthy snack for break time and please ensure your child has a **named water bottle** in school each day. As the weather starts to turn colder and wetter, please do ensure a coat is bought in every day.

Home learning consists of reading at home, practicing times tables, and practicing/revising statutory spellings (including ones previously taught.) There is also an optional homework grid. Please see the attached document for further information.

We are really looking forward to a fabulous term, with lots of new learning and experiences for the children, celebrating **life in all its fullness**.

Miss Cox and Mrs Godfrey

