

Year 4

Curriculum Map

Key Dates
10th December
Christmas Production
16th December
Christmas Dinner

PE Days
Lambert
Wednesday and Thursday
Fossey
Tuesday and Thursday

English

Key Texts: *Shackleton's Journey* by William Grill and *The Crown* by Emily Kapff.
Through *Shackleton's Journey* by William Grill, Year 4 children will develop their reading, writing and oracy skills as they explore Shackleton's extraordinary Antarctic expedition. They will respond to an advertisement for volunteers by writing formal application letters and participating in interviews in role. As they discover the challenges faced by the crew, children will write setting descriptions, diary entries, dialogue and persuasive letters, developing their descriptive vocabulary and grammatical skills. Their Golden Write will be a newspaper report recounting the dramatic events of Shackleton's expedition.

Using *The Crown* by Emily Kapff, children will explore the wonders of the natural world through creative and descriptive writing. They will make inferences about characters, design and describe imaginative crowns, and explore emotions through diary entries and poetry. Throughout the unit, children will develop their use of figurative language, expanded noun phrases, the present perfect tense and correctly punctuated speech. Their Golden Write will be an information text celebrating the wonders of nature and explaining how we can protect the natural world.

Maths

We will follow the White Rose Maths scheme of learning, completing our unit on addition and subtraction before moving on to area, multiplication and division.
Children will complete the addition and subtraction unit consolidating their understanding of addition and subtraction with four-digit numbers, developing efficient mental strategies and exploring the impact of calculations on place value. They will then investigate area through practical activities, comparing and measuring surfaces by counting squares and exploring the importance of using consistent units.

In multiplication and division, children will revisit the 3 times-table, explore patterns and recognise multiples of 3. They will build on this knowledge to develop their understanding of the 6 and 9 times-tables. Throughout the term, children will develop their mathematical fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills.

We encourage regular use of NumBots and TT Rock Stars at home to improve fluency, speed and accuracy.
Knowledge organisers for each topic are available on the school website.

Year 4 Curriculum Overview Autumn 2

Science	Geography	Computing	RE
In this unit, children will explore electricity and how it is used in everyday life. They will identify mains-powered and battery-operated appliances before investigating how to build simple electrical circuits using bulbs, buzzers and switches. Through practical investigations, children will explore how switches control circuits, identify electrical conductors and insulators, and investigate how the number of bulbs affects their brightness. They will also develop an understanding of electrical safety and how to use electricity responsibly.	In Geography, children will explore the structure of the Earth and how the movement of tectonic plates causes mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes to form. They will investigate different types of volcanoes, their features and locations around the world. Children will consider the advantages and disadvantages of living near a volcano and explore the impact of earthquakes on communities. They will also develop their geographical skills through identifying, recording and mapping different types of rocks.	In this unit, children will explore how weather data is collected, recorded and used to create forecasts. They will develop their research skills by finding and comparing temperatures around the world and using spreadsheets to organise information. Children will investigate how weather stations use sensors to collect data and design their own weather station and automated weather-responsive device. They will apply their learning by creating a video weather forecast using the information they have gathered.	In this unit, children will explore the importance of religious and non-religious festivals in Britain today. They will compare celebrations such as Christmas and Diwali, identifying similarities and differences in beliefs, traditions and customs. Children will investigate the symbolism of light in different religions and consider how festivals bring communities together, encouraging kindness, hope and respect for different beliefs.
DT	**Music**	**Art and design**	**PE**
In this unit, children will apply their understanding of electrical circuits to design and make a working torch using recycled and reclaimed materials. They will investigate how torches work, explore their key features and consider what makes an effective design. Children will develop their practical skills by constructing a simple circuit with a switch before designing, making and evaluating their own functional torch against agreed design criteria.	In Music, children will explore rock and roll, identify its key features and use musical vocabulary to describe them. They will develop their singing and performance skills through learning the hand jive and playing a walking bass line. Children will focus on rhythm, timing, accuracy and expression, working collaboratively to perform with confidence. They will also evaluate their own and others' performances, suggesting improvements using appropriate musical vocabulary.	In Art, children will explore still life art, studying the work of different artists and how they use colour, shape, composition and texture. They will develop their observational drawing skills by sketching citrus fruits and experimenting with oil pastel techniques, including blending and layering. Children will explore how highlights and shadows create a three-dimensional effect before applying their skills to produce their own citrus fruit still life. They will also evaluate their artwork and offer constructive feedback.	In lacrosse and hockey, children will develop their coordination, ball control and teamwork through practising passing, dribbling, shooting and simple attacking and defending strategies in small-sided games. In gymnastics, children will explore the theme of festivals, creating and performing movement sequences inspired by celebrations. They will develop their balance, strength, flexibility and coordination, focusing on controlled movements, smooth transitions and evaluating their performances.
PSHCE	**French**	**Helping at Home**	**Homework**
In this unit, children will explore respect, positive self-talk and the importance of trusting friendships. They will learn to manage emotions, set personal boundaries and resolve disagreements fairly. Children will also develop an understanding of bullying, how to respond safely and why stereotypes can be unfair.	In French, children will learn to recognise, pronounce and write vocabulary for clothing. They will explore masculine, feminine and plural nouns, use adjectives to describe clothes and express their likes and dislikes. They will practise describing what they and others wear through simple French sentences.	Children can enhance learning at home by practising maths skills, such as telling the time, handling money and measuring ingredients. Encourage reading, discussing new vocabulary and sharing opinions. Playing board games, exploring school topics and discussing everyday experiences will help develop confidence, independence and problem-solving skills.	It is recommended that all children complete 5 minutes of TT Rockstars, Spelling Shed, reading each day and their My Maths and Atom tasks weekly. Homework is set on Thursday and due in on the following Thursday.