

What will my child learn in Year 4?

This is a summary of what the children will be learning this year. A full explanation of skills, knowledge and vocabulary can be found on the curriculum pages.



Science

Animals: Digestion and food

Using models, children describe the function of key organs in the digestive system. They identify the types of human teeth and investigate factors that impact our dental health.

Energy: Electricity and circuits

Exploring appliances in their setting that use electricity, children learn how to work with electricity safely and build circuits.

Materials: States of matter

By investigating the properties of solids, liquids and gases, children learn about the different states of matter.

Energy: Sound and vibrations

Exploring different ways of producing sounds, children learn about the relationship between vibrations and what they hear. Children explore how pitch and volume can be altered and how sound can be insulated using different materials.

Living things: Classification and changing habitats

Children explore different ways living things can be grouped and make classification keys. Making connections: How does the flow of liquids compare?

The children explore the relationship between viscosity and the flow of liquids through experiments, data analysis and drawing conclusions. They apply their understanding of states of matter to make predictions and plan and carry out an enquiry.

Children also learn French, Music and access weekly P.E and PSHE sessions. Daily Literacy and Maths lessons support children to reach their curriculum end goals.

History

How Have Children's Lives Changed?

Investigating the changes in children's lives through time, children learn how children's spare time, health and work have changed. They learn about a day in the life of a working child and the significance of Lord Shaftesbury in changing the lives of children.

British History 3: How Hard Was it to Invade and Settle in Britain?

Developing an understanding of why people invaded and settled, children learn about Anglo-Saxon beliefs and the spread of Christianity and assessing the contribution of the Anglo-Saxons to modern Britain.

How did the Achievements of the Ancient Maya Impact Their Society and Beyond?

Children explore the achievements of ancient peoples like the Maya by investigating historical and archaeological evidence. Children scrutinise their settlement strategies in rainforests, the cultural significance of chocolate and the impact of their beliefs, inventions and decline within and beyond their society.

Geography

Why Are Rainforests Important to Us?

Children learn about biomes, ecosystems and tropics; mapping features of the Amazon rainforest and learn about its layers. They investigate how communities in Manaus use the Amazon's resources and discuss the global human impact on the Amazon.

Where Does Our Food Come From?

Children look at the distribution of the world's biomes and map food imports from around the world. They learn about trading fairly, focusing on Côte d'Ivoire and cocoa beans and explore where the food for the children's school dinners comes from and the argument of 'local versus global'.

What Are Rivers and How Are They Used?

Children learn about rivers, their place in the water cycle, the name and location of major rivers and how they are used.

Computing

Children strengthen their computational thinking skills, deepen their understanding of networks and digital information, and create increasingly sophisticated digital media while learning to stay safe online.

Programming 1: Further coding with Scratch

Children build more complex Scratch programs using a wider range of coding skills.

Computing systems: Connecting networks

Children learn how networks allow devices to communicate and share information.

Programming 2: Computational thinking

Children develop problem-solving skills using decomposition, pattern recognition and logical thinking.

Computing systems: Managing digital information

Children learn how digital information is organised, stored and accessed.

Creating media: Creating digital images

Children create and edit digital images using a range of design techniques.

Online safety: Connecting safely online

Children learn how to communicate responsibly and safely in online environments.

Each child has a **Homework Diary** which contains lots of useful links, information and passwords for different websites. Please use the diary to record their reading and non-urgent notes to school.



Art

Drawing: Power prints

Using mechanical engravings as a starting point, children develop an awareness of proportion, composition and pattern in drawing and combine media for effect when developing a drawing into a print.

Painting & mixed media: light and dark

Developing skills in colour mixing, focusing on using tints and shades to create a 3D effect, children experiment with composition and apply painting techniques to a personal still life piece.

Sculpture and 3D: Mega materials Exploring how different materials can be shaped and joined and learning about techniques used by artists as diverse as Barbara Hepworth and Sokari Douglas-Camp, children create their own sculptures.

Craft and design: Fabric of nature

Using the flora and fauna of tropical rainforests as a starting point, children develop drawings through experimentation and textile-based techniques to design a repeating pattern suitable for fabric.

RE

This year children develop a greater understanding of sacred texts, commitment, authority and key figures within religions. They explore how scripture shapes beliefs and why religious teachings continue to influence people today.

Are all religions equal?

Children investigate similarities and differences between religions and explore their historical origins.

What makes some texts sacred?

Children explore why certain texts are treated as sacred and authoritative.

Just how important are our beliefs?

Children consider how strongly held beliefs influence people's decisions and actions.

Who was Jesus really?

Children investigate different perspectives on the life and significance of Jesus.

Why is the Bible the best-selling book of all time?

Children explore the history, influence and global impact of the Bible.

Does the language of scripture matter?

Children investigate the importance of language in preserving and communicating sacred teachings.

Design & Technology

Mechanical Systems: Making a slingshot car

Using a range of materials, children design and make a car with a working slingshot mechanism and house the mechanism using a range of nets.

Structure: Pavilions

Children investigate and model frame structures to improve their stability, then apply this research to design and create a stable, decorated pavilion.

Textiles: Fastenings

Children will analyse and evaluate a range of existing fastenings, then devise a list of design criteria to design, generate templates and make a fabric book sleeve.

Electrical systems: Torches

Children will identify the difference between electrical and electronic products; evaluate a range of existing torches and their features; then develop a new functional torch design.

Cooking and nutrition: Adapting a recipe

Children learn a basic biscuits recipe and adapt it to suit a target audience.

Enrichment

All topics will be enriched with trips and visits e.g
The History Man, Theatre Trips