



Curriculum Letter Autumn Term 2025 – Year 4

TEACHERS: Mr Cook

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Mrs Hougham (Mon-Fri AM), Mrs Foote (Tues & Wed PM), Miss Smith (Mon & Fri PM, Wed & Thurs AM), Mrs Cain (Mon, Tues & Fri AM, Thurs PM).

Welcome to Year 4! We hope that you all had a fantastic summer holiday and feel refreshed and eager to start another exciting year. We have heard lots of lovely things about what everyone was doing and it's great to see everyone coming into class with a massive smile, although it is understandable that some will have nerves. We know they will work very hard this year and give their best and rise to all the challenges the year will offer. They will have a fantastic year and the Year 4 team are very excited to teach the class.

The purpose of this letter is to keep you informed about your child's learning this term and to ensure you are aware of the class routines and procedures. Also, to let you know that our door is always open if you wish to discuss anything regarding your child and we look forward to meeting you all throughout the year.

Here is an overview of what we will be learning at school during the Autumn Term:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Work which we will cover during the Autumn Term</u>
Literacy	Place Value of Punctuation and Grammar • Nouns • Verbs • Subject focus • Single clause sentences • Application of subjects/verbs • Co-ordinating conjunctions
Maths	• Place Value for 4 digits • Partitioning of numbers, rounding, ordering and comparing numbers up to 10,000 • Addition, subtraction, estimating, multiplication and division – using the column and 'bus stop' methods • Multiplication and division facts up to 12 x 12 (ongoing throughout the year) • Multiplying of 3 numbers • Area of shape • Problem solving involving all the above areas of maths Weekly times tables tests.
R.E.	Our topics include: Learning about Our Mission Statement as well as our R.E. Curriculum units of, Creation • <i>Know how God protects and works through human beings, through the example of Abraham and Isaac.</i> • <i>Know that we are made in God's image and likeness and that the school's mission statement reminds us to recognise this in others.</i> Mary • <i>Story of Mary and Martha</i> • <i>Know about the Rosary</i> Catholic Social Teaching • <i>Focus on the principle of Dignity</i> Advent • <i>Know that Jesus had ancestors and that those ancestors helped us to understand God's plan.</i> • <i>Know and understand the titles used by the Old Testament prophets to describe Jesus.</i>
R.S.H.E	Autumn 1: • Being unique and feelings Autumn 2: • Friendships
Science	Classify living things – habitats • Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. • Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. • Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things Sound • Identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating.

	Recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear
Humanities (Geography & History)	History: Mayans: - Where and when did the Maya live? - How were the Mayans able to be such a successful civilisation when they were in the jungle? - How do we know about the Mayan life at the height of the Mayan civilisation? (art work and buildings) - What food and produce did the Spanish introduce from the Mayans to Europe? - What was the Mayan writing and number system like? - What was the religious system of the Mayans and are there any similarities to Catholicism? - How can we solve the riddle of why the Mayan empire ended so quickly?
Computing	Word Processing: - create different effects with different technological tools, demonstrating control; - use appropriate keyboard commands to amend text on a device; - use applications and devices in order to communicate ideas, work, and messages; - insert a picture/text/graph/hyperlink from the internet or a personal file; - use key vocabulary to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in this strand - save, retrieve and evaluate work, making amendments
P.E.	- Swimming - Tag Rugby - Handball
Music	Roman marching music
Art	Art & Design Skills 3D drawing - Sense of proportion - Drawing using different instruments Formal Elements of Art - Tints and Shades - Painting techniques - Composition
Design & Technology	N/A as Art
French	All Around Town - develop their intercultural understanding by being introduced to the sights of some typical French cities. - learn to describe places in a town, - count to 100 - give their address in French On the Move - learn to develop their conversational skills via some new topics that include transport, direction and movement - to learn and use various ways of the verb 'go'

Please Note: P.E. will be taught on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Please ensure the correct P.E. uniform is available in school every day, labelled with your child's name and that pupils have tracksuit bottoms and trainers for cooler and wet weather. Please could you also provide your child with a pair of white sports socks to wear every time they do P.E. If your child has ear piercings, please provide tape for their earrings to be covered with. P.E. kits will be sent home half termly to be cleaned.

WATER: To ensure maximum concentration and comfort, pupils should have access to water throughout the day especially in the warmer weather. For the purposes of hygiene, it is advisable that your child brings in a bottle of water with their name clearly labelled on it.

SNACKS: At morning break (10:15am) children may have a piece of fruit to eat. This should be fresh fruit or at least dried fruit. Please remember that St. Joseph's is a nut-free school, so please ensure any food brought in adheres to this. If ever support is needed with regards to the provision of fruit at this break, then please make us and/or the school office aware.

READING: Please encourage your child to read at home, both to themselves and aloud to someone who can hear them for 20 minutes per night. Your child will record their reading in their reading diary. Please guide them in their reading, but most importantly praise them. If you require any resources to help with questioning when hearing your child read, we are happy to provide you with these. The children really need to focus and improve upon their comprehension of what they are reading. Rewards are provided to each child to encourage them to read in class and at home. Reading diaries must be signed by an adult at home and returned to school on a Monday morning. Once checked by Mrs Hougham, the reading diaries are then returned to the children to take home for the next week. If you have any questions about reading, please come and speak with us. We will also actively encourage the completion of book reviews so children can articulate what they read and to evaluate texts.



TIMES TABLES: Throughout this academic year, there will be a heavy focus on the learning of times tables with the culmination of this being in June 2026 when the children will be carrying out an online statutory (as directed by the Government) end of Year 4 assessment called the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). The children will be expected to know all their times tables up to 12x12 by this time. The class will be having weekly times tables tests in class, as well as online testing, so that they become confident in their knowledge and speed of recall, but in addition, they become familiar and grow in confidence with the platform that the MTC uses. We shall devise incentives to motivate the children and support those who need additional help.

Please refer to our curriculum overview for Year 4 at <https://www.stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk/curriculum-overviews/> for further information.

HOME LEARNING: As stated above, Times Tables are key learning in Year 4. Your child has a log in to <https://ttrockstars.com/> to practice their times tables, for **a minimum of 30 minutes per week**. We regularly test the children on times tables during the week, as part of our morning routine. It is important that pupils have a quiet space in which to do their home learning and that they are organised, a fantastic life skill to practice early on! If your child does have any problems when attempting their homework, please feel free to come and see us at the end of the day, or via the office.

If you have any concerns and/or wish to pass on good news, please do not hesitate to let us know. We'd be happy to help. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Mr Cook, Mrs Hougham and the rest of the Year 4 team.

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." Wayne Gretzky

