



# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

## Termly Curriculum Information for Parents - Year 4

### What your child will be learning about this summer term and how you can help at home

#### English

##### Writing:

This term, Year 4 will be studying a range of high quality texts and genres. The children will be reading the following key text: *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. This high quality text will be used to model writing, inspire the children's own writing and extend skills in vocabulary, grammar and spelling. We will be continuing to encourage the children to write for a purpose, e.g. letters, diary entries, newspaper reports and balanced arguments. The children will also be writing poetry about the sights and sounds of the rainforest.

Linked with the children's science work, Year 4 will also be writing non-fiction texts about Living Things and Their Habitats.

##### Grammar:

The children will be learning to use **modal verbs** and **relative clauses** beginning with *who, which, where, when, whose, that*. They will also be learning to link ideas across paragraphs using **adverbials** of time [e.g. *later*], place [e.g. *nearby*] and number [e.g. *secondly*] or tense choices [e.g. he *had* seen her before]. Year 4 will be learning to use brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis.

##### Reading:

In daily Destination Reader lessons, the children will be developing their reading fluency, comprehension skills and ability to read with expression.

##### How you can help:

Encourage your child to read a variety of literature, including a range of newspapers and magazines, fiction and non-fiction books written by different authors. Help your child to learn their spellings each week. Listen to your child read on a regular basis, asking them questions to make sure they have understood what they have been reading. Encourage your child to read books at home.

Visit the **BBC Bitesize** website with your child: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/collections/year-4-and-p5-english-lessons/1>



#### Maths:

This term, Year 4 will be learning the following:

##### Number: Decimals

Recognising and writing decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths; recognising and writing decimal equivalents to  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ; dividing a one- or two-digit number by 10 and 100, and identifying the value of the digits in the answer as ones, tenths and hundredths; and rounding decimals with one decimal place to the nearest whole number.

##### Measurement: Money

Solving simple money problems involving fractions and decimals to two decimal places; and estimating, comparing and calculating different measures, including money in pounds and pence.

##### Measurement: Time

Reading, writing and converting time between analogue and digital 12- and 24-hour clocks; and solving problems involving converting from hours to minutes; minutes to seconds; years to months; weeks to days.

##### Geometry: Properties of Shape

Comparing and classifying geometric shapes, including quadrilaterals and triangles, based on their properties and sizes; and identifying acute and obtuse angles, and comparing and ordering angles up to two right angles by size.

**How you can help:** Ask your child to explain their mathematical thinking to you (e.g. "What strategy did you use?").

**By the end of Year 4, the children are expected to know all the times tables up to 12 x 12: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12.**

Encourage your child to log on to *Times Tables Rockstars*: <https://trockstars.com> to practise for 10 minutes each day.

Log in to <https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-4/subjects/maths> for some Y4 Mathematics consolidation.

## Science

### Forces

Year 4 will be learning to explore the effects of friction, air resistance and water resistance. Working scientifically, the children will be learning to measure friction between moving surfaces, to test results about air resistance and to measure the effects of water resistance. They will be learning about mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, learning how they work and how they allow a smaller force to have a greater effect. Working scientifically, the children will be predicting, measuring and investigating.

### Life cycles and their habitats

Year 4 will be describing the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.

Visit <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2pfb9q> for a selection of science videos.

## Music

This term, Year 4 will learn about tuned instruments including the guitar. The children will learn about the parts of these instruments and their functions, including the name of the guitar strings and an introduction to tab notation. Year 4 will also learn about the lives of great guitarists. They will listen to live guitar music played by visiting musicians and to recordings of inspiring guitar music.

## Computing

This term, Year 4 will be learning about **programming**: they will be learning how selection is used in computer quizzes.

The children will learn to explain how a conditional statement connects a condition to an outcome, and how a selection directs the flow of a program. The children will then create and evaluate their own program, which uses selection (a quiz).

## History

### The Mayan Civilisation

This term, Year 4 will be learning to know the time and place of the Mayan civilisation. The children will be learning to describe the traditional Mayan way of life, including Mayan religious beliefs. They will be learning to explain what Mayan discoveries tell us about Mayan civilisation and to explain whether, or not, the Mayans were an advanced civilisation. Year 4 will also learn about the collapse of the Maya.

## Geography

### Africa - Kenya

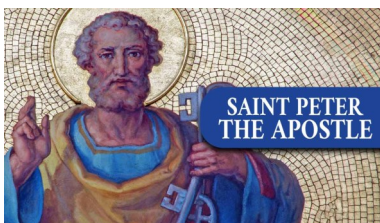
This term, Year 4 will be learning to describe different landscapes in Africa. They will be learning about the landscape of Kenya and about how Kenya is changing.

## Religious Education

May is the month of Mary: we will pray the Hail Mary prayer every day remembering Mary our mother in heaven.

**To the ends of the Earth:** The children will learn the story of St Peter's denial of Jesus and how this special friend of Jesus became the first Pope. They will understand that the current Pope is a successor to Jesus' friend Peter. They will learn about the Resurrection and how the Church is made up of people who believe in the Resurrection and place their hope in Christ.

**Dialogue and Encounter:** The children will learn about St Paul and his encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus. They will study his travels and teaching as an apostle of Christ. They will explore some elements of the universal Catholic Church and explore other Christian communities. The children will also learn about the five pillars of the Muslim faith and understand some ways that Muslims live out their beliefs.



## Art and design

### Collage and Textiles (Working with Wool)

This term, Year 4 will be learning to explore ways to alter cloth and to embroider. The children will be learning to weave on a twig loom and to mark-make with wools.

### Digital Media (Digital Towns)

This term, Year 4 will be learning to practice and apply digital image-manipulation techniques and to use text in *Pixlr*. The children will be learning to create art using printed digital media, to edit digital images and to consolidate skills and techniques for image editing.

## Design Technology

The children will be designing, making and evaluating **an alarm system** in their unit of work about **electrical systems**.

### Food Technology

Year 4 will be learning about the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet. The children will also use a range of cooking techniques to prepare **Falafel Pittas**.

## PSHCE

This term, Year 4 will learn that **images in the media** do not always reflect reality and can affect how people feel about themselves. The children will learn about **emotional well-being**, learning that emotions change as they grow up, and they will also learn that openness with trusted adults when they are worried ensures healthy well-being.

The children will learn the difference between **harmful and harmless videos and images**, the impact that harmful videos and images can have on young minds and they will learn ways to combat and deal with viewing harmful videos and images.

## Spanish

Year 4 will be studying the following topics this term, led by our specialist Spanish teacher: the city; body and face parts; descriptions; opinions; food and drink; likes and dislikes; weather; and verbs. They will also learn Spanish games and songs.

## PE

This term, Year 4 children will be developing their athletics skills. They will also practise their co-ordination and footwork by playing invasion games, such as rounders and tennis.

## How can I help at home?

Make it clear that you value homework – set aside a specific time and area for your child to work on their homework on Google Classroom. Your child will receive homework once a week. Help them to be organised with their time so that their homework is handed in on time.

Encourage your child to **read a variety of texts**, not just books from school.

**Listen** to your child read and ask them questions about the text to help increase their **understanding**. Discuss what happened in the story; would you make the same choices as the characters? Why? Why not? Encourage your child to support their opinion with evidence from the text.

Encourage them to do every **day mathematics**, such as telling the time, using bus / train timetables or working out the total / change in a shop.

Spend time reviewing their **times tables** with them each day.

### Help your child to be organised:

- ◇ Have you got your **book bag**? Needs to be in school **every day**.
- ◇ Are **ALL** your reading books inside it?
- ◇ Have you completed your **homework**? Homework should be submitted on Google Classroom by **Wednesday**.

