



Year 3/4 Curriculum Newsletter – Summer Term 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Summer Term! We hope you have all had a relaxing time over the Easter Holidays and enjoyed some of the glorious weather. We are very excited for the learning opportunities that have been carefully planned this term. Please find below a summary of Years 3/4's main learning areas for this term along with some general reminders.

English

As writers, our learning for summer term 1 will be planned around the text, 'Amazing Islands' by the author Sabrina Weiss and in summer term 2 will be planned around the text, 'Blue John' by the author Berlie Doherty. Across both terms we will continue to develop our understanding of the key fundamentals: sentence structure, punctuation and composition. The children will learn how to expand noun phrases by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and prepositional phrases, use fronted adverbials and be able to choose nouns or pronouns for clarity and cohesion. We will also look at different verb forms: present perfect and the progressive; as well as punctuating speech using the correct punctuation. Through careful consideration of composition, the children will learn how to use paragraphs to organise information and ideas around a theme (to organise and sequence more extended narrative structures). This will be achieved through a range of genres, including diaries, narratives, letter writing and non-fiction and the children will also be given opportunities to apply their skills to independent writing tasks that have been designed to be personal and purposeful.

In addition to our writing lessons, we will also have four weekly spelling lessons, three explicit grammar lessons and regular handwriting practise. This is to support our learning from our English lessons and also support accelerating progress and securing fundamental knowledge.

As readers, our learning for summer term will be planned around the text, 'Dragon Racers' by the author Peter Bunzel and 'The Accidental Prime Minister' by the author, Tom McLaughlin. Through whole class reading lessons, we will focus our learning around three core skills: vocabulary, retrieval and inference. We will also develop our prediction skills. Children in Year 4 will be challenged further with mastering explain and summarise type questions.

Maths

As mathematicians, Year 3 and Year 4 will be taught separately to ensure the children continue to make accelerated progress. The term will begin focussing on Geometry, Statistics, Position and Direction, Fractions and Decimals. We will also continue to enhance our understanding of solving problems with the four main operations: addition and subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be focusing on the four operations and fluency using pictorial, abstract and concrete methods. We will encourage the use of manipulatives. Year 4 will also extend their learning by developing their knowledge and skills, in line with the White Rose Maths Scheme. There will also be a focus on learning their times tables weekly. Year 4 will have the Multiplication Table Check in June 2025.

Science

As Scientists we will learn about the unit, 'States of Matter'. We will recap our previous learning and develop our understanding of solids, liquids and gases. We will learn about the different stages of The Water Cycle and will use our scientific enquiry skills to conduct investigations around this.

During summer term 2, our science learning will continue through the teaching of the unit, 'Electricity'. Here we will introduce the children to the idea of circuits and circuit symbols. We will explore elements of electricity through hands on activities and develop a sound understanding of the theory around it too. Throughout both Science units, we will ensure we develop our investigative skills through practical investigations.

P.E.

Year 3/4 will have PE sessions every **Wednesday** (Indoors – swimming) Sullivan Class will have their additional PE lesson on a **Thursday** afternoon (outdoors – POSH) and Elgar and Jenkins will have their outdoor PE on **Friday** (outdoors - POSH). However, other sessions may arise throughout the week so please ensure your child has their PE kit in school at all times and are prepared for the unpredictable winter weather. **PE kit is a plain white t-shirt or polo shirt, black or navy shorts, black or navy joggers and an outdoor jumper** (when the weather requires it), outdoor trainers (these must be different shoes to the ones your child wears to school) and a water bottle. Dojo points will be rewarded for correct uniform. Earrings need to be removed at home, if your child cannot remove them by themselves in school. Long-hair must be tied back. PE is a statutory requirement of the National Curriculum. More information about swimming will follow on Dojo.

Homework

Spellings will be shared on Dojo on a Monday. We expect the children to learn their spellings at home and in school. They will also be expected to use the spellings in their writing. Whilst we will not be formally assessing spellings through a test, these will be monitored informally through the curriculum and application.

For **Maths** homework, the children need to complete 15 minutes TT rock stars (<https://trockstars.com/>) three times a week. In addition, children are required to practise multiplication tables and division facts to aid rapid recall. TT Rockstars will be monitored weekly, and we will have class competition and individual celebrations around these. Times table recall is fundamental to many aspects of mathematics and being able to recall these fluently will significantly support other concepts in maths.

Reading: In Years 3/4 children need to read 3-5 times per week. Dojo points will be rewarded for 3, 4 and 5 times a week achievement. This will be checked on your child's reading day. You will be notified of this day through Dojo. When the children read at home, it should be for the equivalent of at least 10 minutes and comprehension developed through questioning. They need to complete their reading record each time they read. We would very much appreciate you listening to your child read and discussing their book with them. Parents/carers should write a comment in their book, and we request that you sign your child's reading record book too. Without a signature, the reward system cannot be awarded. Reading regularly at home will really help them to progress in reading and writing.

Your child will bring two books home: a reading for pleasure book and an Accelerated Reader book. Every time your child completes a book, they will take a quiz on AR (Accelerated Reader) where we can track their comprehension progress. Once complete, they will change their book. Your child's reading diary will let you know what their reading ZPD (level) is. Once children have quizzed 3 times at 100%, they will move up a level within their ZPD.

We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead, thank you in advance for your continued support.

From the Year 3 and 4 team.

Sullivan Class: Mrs Smith/Mrs Duddy, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Carroll, Mrs Harwin

Jenkins Class: Mrs Davies, Mrs Shaughnessy, Mrs Simkins, Miss Plumridge

Elgar Class: Mr Offredi, Mrs Witt, Mrs Woollard

Year 3/4 Topic – Spring Term 2025

Geography

As geographers, we will learn about London and the Southeast region in the first half term. Here we will understand key places and will make comparisons with Cambridgeshire, our locality. During spring term 2, we will be learning about Asia, with a focus study on Japan. We will explore what it is like to visit and explore the human and physical geography of this wonderful part of the world.



History

As historians, throughout spring term we will learn about The Stuarts and their role in the changing monarchy. We will explore significant individuals, including James I; Charles I; Oliver Cromwell and the Commonwealth; The restoration of Charles II; Christopher Wren and the rebuilding of London; James II and the Monmouth Rebellion; and William and Mary and the Bill of Rights. We will also look at key events, including, The Gunpowder; the Union of the Crowns; The English Civil War; The Great Plague; and The Great Fire of London.



Handwriting

During the summer term we will consolidate our handwriting skills by practising during spellings, early morning work and through explicit lessons. We always take pride in our work.

PSHE

As citizens, we will develop our knowledge of 'Economic Well-being'. During the second half term, we will delve into 'Transition and Change'.

PE

As sportsmen/women, during the summer term, we will have indoor and outdoor PE. During indoor PE, we will develop our knowledge and skills through swimming. During outdoor PE, POSH will teach us rounders and athletics.



Design Technology

As designers, we will develop our designing, making and evaluating skills through cooking, where we will be making ratatouille & couscous, apple crumble. We would love to share our learning with you, and you will be invited in to join us. More information will follow.

Computing

In computing we will learn about e-safety throughout the unit. We will also explore the website design. In summer 2, we will learn knowledge and skills when completing a showcase unit.

Religion and Worldviews

Being world aware, our two key questions this term are: 'Why is fire used ceremonially?' and 'Why is the Bible the best-selling book of all time?'. Through these questions we will explore: Hindu, Christian, Buddhist, Humanist, Sikh, Muslim and Shinto.

Music

As musicians we will be learning and developing our musical skills through Samba & carnival sounds. In the second half term, our focus will be adapting & transposing motifs



Art

As artists this term we will study the unit, 'Fabric of Nature' and Powerful Prints. Here we will explore, develop and experiment with using different medium and will learn how to print.

