

September 2026

Dear Parents

Autumn Term 2026 – Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

Welcome to Year 4

We hope you all had a good summer holiday! The children have an exciting and busy year ahead of them.

English

In English we will begin by studying poetic imagery and will begin to focus on writing related to our Neolithic history topic as well as reading the class text *The Wild Way Home*. The children will also be taking part in drama where we will be travelling back in time to the Stone Age using *Now Press Play*. Please note all children will soon have a home reader which needs to be read for 15 minutes each night. Please remind your child to independently change their books, when necessary, each morning when they come into class, we will also remind them. We are striving to develop independence this year.

Maths

Maths this term focuses on number work, problem solving and reasoning. We will work on the 4 operations, focusing on place value and tables. We will regularly use and apply the maths skills we learn, to investigate and solve problems. In addition, the children will be practising their times tables and we would encourage short, frequent practice at home (*Times Table Rock Stars* is great for this-let us know if any problems with log-ins etc. We are currently ensuring that all classes are updated to reflect the new classes so please bear with us).

Science

This term, we will begin by exploring states of matter. Children will group materials as solids, liquids or gases and investigate how some materials change state when heated or cooled. They will measure or research the temperatures at which these changes occur before exploring the water cycle, with a particular focus on evaporation, condensation and how temperature affects the rate of evaporation. During the second half of the term, children will learn about electricity. They will identify common electrical appliances and construct simple series circuits using components such as cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. Children will investigate how circuits work by predicting whether a lamp will light based on whether a circuit is complete. They will also explore the role of switches and identify electrical conductors and insulators, recognising that metals are good conductors.

Computing

We will also be learning coding associated with controlling switches using 'Micro:Bits', as well as developing key computing skill such as word processing.

History

This term our topic is the Neolithic. We have planned with Jersey Heritage, a visit to La Hougue Bie in September, where we will travel back in time to the Stone Age. Here we will be taking part in some 'hands on' activities including; grinding corn using Neolithic querns and making Neolithic shell necklaces. Our topic will extend to English tasks, computing and all aspects of our foundation curriculum.

Music

This term we will take part in an instrumental music project in partnership with the Jersey Music Service which will begin in late September. The children will receive 10 weeks of class lessons on an orchestral instrument, led by a specialist instrumental teacher. The instrument and lessons will be provided for 10 weeks free of charge, and the children will be expected to bring in their instrument each week and are encouraged to practice at home. A short concert for parents will take place towards the end of the term. Further details will follow in early September.

PSHE

As part of our 'Jigsaw' PSHE lessons, we will be starting with 'Being Me in My World' and producing our own class charter in line with the UN 'rights of the child'.

RE

In RE, we will be looking at Christianity and Islam.

Art

We have planned a wide variety of art activities for the term. The children will begin to explore a variety of mediums including sketching, pastels and painting using various paints and surfaces. They will also be doing some clay work with pottery to link with our Neolithic topic. Aprons must be in school to avoid creating a very messy uniform!

French

Each class will have a session of French each week on a Friday, taught by Mrs Morrison. This term we will be revising greetings and salutations and talking about ourselves.

Alentou d'Jèrri – exploring Jersey's history, tradition, culture and language.

"Alentou d'Jèrri" focuses on important historical dates and themes, going right back to when Jersey first became an island. We will also look at how Jèrriais evolved and how it has shaped some aspects of our island. We will learn about the influence of the Vikings, Romans and Normans in Jersey and will explore the history of the parishes, as well as some local legends and traditional tales. Mrs Parker will be running these sessions on Mondays, starting on Monday 15th September. We will also be taking part in a fun afternoon of 'Norman' games.

Homework

Homework each week will consist of reading (15mins per night) of their school reader, tables practice (on designated times table) and spellings (Set Monday for Friday). Spellings will be set electronically through Spelling Shed.

Class Parent Rep

We also require a class parent rep for each class and would appreciate it if you could email us if you are willing to do it.

As you can see, we have much to look forward this term. If you have any queries about this term, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

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