



ST LAURENCE CHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 4 News

September 2026

Issue 1

WELCOME TO YEAR 4

A very warm welcome to you at the start of what promises to be an exciting school year with lots on offer! The Year 4 team have already been impressed by the children's fantastic attitude to learning and we are looking forward to helping them grow and learn throughout the year.

The Year 4 team are:

Mrs Durose (Year Leader and 4D teacher)

Mrs Hemming (4H)

Mrs Robinson (4R)

Mrs Jones and Mrs Dickeson (Teaching Assistants)

Each half term we will write a newsletter, telling you about the learning for the next half term and any important dates.

The newsletter will be uploaded onto the school website: [Year 4](#)

Please check the website regularly as spellings and other important information will be put on there.

English

Reading

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Summarise



Throughout the term, we will explore a wide range of texts together during our whole-class reading sessions. These lessons are designed to develop the children's confidence, fluency and enjoyment of reading. Each week, we will focus on a different text, unpicking it as a class while developing our VIPERS reading skills and considering the author's purpose and intent. Over the half term, children will experience a variety of genres, including novels, poetry, songs and non-fiction texts.

Reading at home continues to play a vital role in supporting your child's progress, so we encourage regular reading outside of school. Children can merit points each week by recording three reading entries in their reading diaries. Two entries may be completed by an adult who has listened to the child read, while the third should be a thoughtful comment written by the child about their reading. Children are welcome to record additional books in their reading diaries, including books they enjoy at home. In addition, children will have the opportunity to visit the school library each week to choose a book of their choice. We always enjoy hearing about the books they are reading and sharing their enthusiasm for stories, characters and new learning.

Writing

Our writing work this half term will be based on the book 'The King Who Banned the Dark' by Emily Haworth-Booth. We will be thinking of questions to ask the king and enquiring about why he doesn't like the dark. We will then re-tell the story. Our focus will be on paragraphs and the use of inverted commas for speech. We will be working towards building independence and improving stamina in writing. This year, we will have an additional focus on handwriting.



Maths



Our focus in Maths this term will be place value, addition and subtraction skills. Times tables are also vital in all areas of maths, so children will be encouraged to recall facts and tables quickly. **By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know the multiplication and division facts up to 12 x 12. In June 2027 your child will sit a statutory multiplication test, to test their rapid recall of these multiplication facts.** To aid your child with this, it would be helpful if you could assist them at home with learning the rapid recall of times tables up to 12 x 12. Your child will still have access to Times Tables Rockstars in school and at home, which is a fantastic resource to help support with the learning of multiplication facts. Learning to tell the time is also part of the Year 4 curriculum and is also a life skill. We will be covering time and would really appreciate your help with this at home.



curriculum

Our History unit this half term is **Ancient Egypt**. The focus will be on the major achievements this ancient civilisation has created. Throughout the unit of work, we will look at how the pyramids were built and what was placed inside them. Mummification will be studied to understand how the Egyptians preserved bodies. In addition to this we will also look at the importance of the River Nile and how it impacted on farming and the access to food. We will finish this unit of work with a Fabulous Finish on **Friday 23rd October**. You will be invited into school at 2:45pm on this day. The children are invited to dress up as Egyptians on the day, although there is no requirement to do so.



In **Science** the children will be looking at living things and their habitats.

In **Art** we will look at how to use pencil, pen and charcoal, how to make tone, proportion, pattern and contrast.

The focus for **French** will be recapping previous learning.

In **Computing** we will be looking at Computing systems and networks. We will be looking at how networks help us to work together collaboratively.

In **R.E** we will be learning about the Old Testament and understanding the 'People of God' found in there. We will then be looking at the story of Noah and what this teaches us.

The theme for **Jigsaw** this half term is 'Being me in the World' where we will think about everyone's right to learn, how we work well with others. We will create a class charter and think about our school community.

4D will go swimming on Thursday afternoons.

4H will have PE on Thursday afternoons.

4R will have PE on Thursday afternoons.

PE will take place every week. For the first half term, our focus will be on football and gymnastics. Trainers are needed for outside and these can either be left in school or sent in on the day. As the weather may become colder throughout the term, we advise for dark tracksuits to be included in the kit. Correct indoor PE kit is a yellow t-shirt, blue shorts, which should also be loose fitting and black pumps. Girls should remove tights so they need to have socks in their pump bag. Earrings should be either removed at the start of the lesson or left at home on PE days.

Please don't hesitate to contact a member of the Year 4 Team if you have any questions about the work we will be completing. We look forward to working with you this year.

The Year 4 team

DIARY DATES

10th September
4D begin swimming

13th October
Harvest Service at Church 9:15am for Y3 and Y4

23rd October
Y4 Fabulous Finish — parents and carers invited into school. School breaks up for half term holidays.

2nd November
Return to school

10th November
Parents' evening 3:45 - 6:15

12th November
Parents' evening 4:30 - 7:00

13th November
INSET school closed