ST LAURENCE CHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 4 News

September 2025

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.

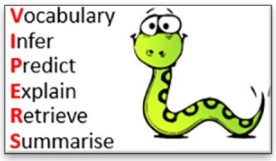
The Year 4 team are:
Mrs Durose (Year Leader and 4D teacher)
Mrs Hemming (4H)
Miss Williams (4W)
Mrs Earp (Teaching Assistants)

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: http://www.stlaurencechurchjuniorschool.co.uk/year-4/

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

English

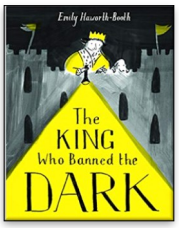
Reading



Throughout the term, we will read a variety of different texts as a class as part of our reading session. This will continue to improve the children's confidence and enjoyment in reading. Each week we will focus on a different text and unpick it as a class, focusing on our VIPERS skills and the author's intent. Throughout the half term we will look at a variety of genres, including a range of novels, poems, songs and non-fiction texts.

Please continue to encourage your children to read at home as they are rewarded a 'smiley' face for three entries in their diaries every week and these can then be added towards the children's merits. Two entries can be from an adult who has heard the child read, and one should be a quality comment written by the child. Children can record additional books read in their reading diaries—don't forget this can include books from home. The children will also get the opportunity to visit the library each week, where they will get to pick a book of their choice. We love to hear about what they have been reading about.

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.

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 2026 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 24th October***. You will be invited into school at 2:45pm on this day and we will share photos of the on our school Twitter page (@StLaurenceJnr) and on the Year 4 curriculum area. 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 sound and how it is created.

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.

4H will go swimming on Thursday afternoons.

4D will have PE on Monday afternoons.

4W will have PE on Monday 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

11th September
4H begin swimming

2nd October
Flu Vaccinations in school

7th October
Harvest Service at Church 9:15am for Y3 and Y4

11th October
Final Harvest Collection

20th October
Individual School Photos

24th October
Y4 Fabulous Finish — parents and carers invited into school. School breaks up for half term holidays.

3rd November
Return to school

11th November
Parents' evening 3:45 -6:15

13th November
Parents' evening 4:30 -7:00

14th November
INSET school closed