



**Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School**  
**WE BELIEVE, WE NURTURE, WE SUCCEED!**

# **Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter**

- This newsletter will give you an overview of the learning for your child this term.
- Mrs Bromley will teach Year 4 on a Friday and every other Wednesday afternoon and will cover Art, Computing, PSHE and Modern Foreign Languages
- If you have any further questions or would like to discuss anything in more detail, please make an appointment to speak to one of us.

Thank you, Miss Reynolds.

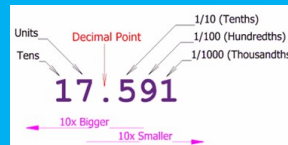
**Autumn Term 2023**

## English

This year, we will be following an English curriculum map developed specifically for our school using Grammarsaurus. There is a copy of our grammar and writing overviews attached to this letter. We will start the year off by reading the excellent book 'The Borrowers' by Mary Norton. We will use this text as a part of our whole class guided reading and the children will write a set of instructions focusing on how to survive as a borrower. Following on from this we will have a poetry focus where we will study 3 different types of poems. After the half term, we will be studying model texts involving discussions and persuasive adverts focusing on the specific structure and features of each text.

Your child will continue to receive spellings every 3 weeks. The spellings chosen fit the texts studied so that they have more meaning. These will be uploaded to Seesaw and the children will receive a hard copy in the form of a bookmark to keep in their trays.

## Mathematics



As a school, we will continue to follow the White Rose Maths scheme. The White Rose schemes of learning are designed to support a mastery approach to teaching and learning, as well as support the aims and objectives of the National Curriculum. The White Rose schemes have number at the heart and a lot of time is spent reinforcing number to build competency. It also provides opportunities to build reasoning and problem solving into each lesson.

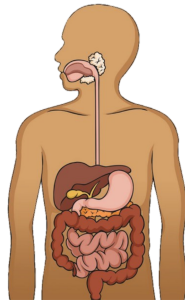
The children will be able to build on their abilities by following a concrete-pictorial-abstract approach where necessary (CPA).

**Concrete:** Using concrete objects and manipulatives to help them understand and explain what they are doing.

**Pictorial:** Building upon the concrete approach by using pictorial representations, which can then be used to reason and solve problems.

**Abstract:** With the foundations firmly laid, children can move to an abstract approach using numbers and key concepts with confidence.

With this newsletter, there is a copy of our long-term plan and a breakdown of the learning we will be covering in the Autumn Term.



## Science

In the first Autumn term we will learn about Animals Including Humans: exploring the digestive system, teeth and food chains. Key vocabulary will include digestion, function and nutrients as well all of the names of the organs that make up the digestive system and dental structure.

In Autumn 2 we will be learning about Electricity. This will involve the children experimenting with electrical circuits.

## Religious Education

This half term, we will be learning about Hinduism, focusing on the theme of 'What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?'.

After half term we will be following the Understanding Christianity scheme (Diocesan Syllabus for Religious Education in the Diocese of Leeds and York) and exploring the theme 'What kind of world did Jesus want?'.



## Computing

In the first half term, we will focus on E-Safety in Computing. This is due to the importance of keeping children safe online. We will look at how to deal with cyberbullying, the importance of information sharing, as well as other E-Safety topics such as plagiarism. This builds on the thorough E-Safety content the children have learnt in previous years.

After half term we will move onto information technology where the children will develop their presentations skills using PowerPoint. The children will learn how to text wrap images as well as how to use hyperlinks and the snipping tool.

## History / Geography

During the Autumn term our History topic is the 'Ruthless Romans'. Throughout the first half term, we will be learning about the Roman invasion of Britain, as well as the rebellion of the Celtic soldier; Boudicca.

After half term, we will continue to learn about the Romans and will be focusing on topics such as how and why the Romans created roads, as well as the Roman gods and goddesses and the importance of Roman baths.



## Physical Education

Indoor PE is on a Monday afternoon. This half term, Miss Walsh will be teaching these sessions whilst Miss Reynolds teaches Music to Year 3. On Mondays, the children are to come to school in their PE kits. Please make sure your child is wearing the correct PE kit: PE is a statutory requirement. If your child is unable to do PE for any reason, please inform us. Jewellery must be removed for PE including earrings.

During the first half term, the children will be learning how to play tennis, focusing on developing their throwing and catching skills before going on to practise hitting the ball with a racket. After half term, we will move on to gymnastics. The children will be practising their jumping and rolling skills before developing sequences that incorporate the apparatus.





## [ Art / Design Technology ]

This term, we are going to have a DT focus in our Art lessons. During the first half term, the children are going to be designing and making their own Roman shields, linking to our topic of 'Ruthless Romans'.

After half term, we will move onto looking at battery operated lights. During this topic, the children will design and make their own battery operated LED Christmas card.

## [ Music ]

This year is an exciting year for Year 4. They will be building on their existing skills of being able to read music by learning to play a brass instrument. This session will take place on a Monday afternoon and we will be shortly making arrangements for the children to take the brass instruments home at some point within the term.



## [ MFL ]

This year, the children are going to be learning French. For the first half term, we will be focusing on learning greetings, numbers to 10 and colours.

After half term, we will move on to learn how to say days of the week and months of the year in French.



## Homework

Every Wednesday, we will set English, Maths and talking homework to be completed by the following Monday. The English and talking homework will be uploaded onto Seesaw and the Maths homework will be set via MyMaths. If your child has forgotten their login details, please let us know either by emailing the office or asking your child to inform us.



## Reading

Children are able to bring books in from home and borrow them from our class library. The books in our class libraries are rotated on a half-termly basis to keep the excitement and enthusiasm alive for children in relation to reading. It is of vital importance for children to read every day. Reading a wide range of different books stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. Please encourage your children to read at home every day, even if it is just for 10 minutes.

In school, we will have dedicated independent reading times as well as a slot for Social Reading. Social Reading will be on a Wednesday and the children can bring in their own reading material to share with others. The reading material can take many forms e.g. fiction and non-fiction texts, magazines, annuals etc.





## PSHE

During the first half term, we will be focusing on identifying the children's own personal interests, strengths and skills. Alongside this, we will also be discussing other themes such as ambition, resilience and individuality.

After half term, we will focus on the theme of respect and what it means to be respectful. The children will also discuss the ways in which they can be respectful towards other people.



## Swimming

Every Friday morning, the children will visit Sowerby Bridge swimming pool for swimming lessons. The children will be taught basic swimming strokes, and as part of the curriculum, the children will also be taught water safety.

Children will need a one-piece swimming costume or trunks (not baggy shorts) as well as a towel. Swimming hats and goggles are optional. It is advised that an extra plastic bag is sent in to put wet clothes into before putting them into their swimming bags. Earrings and jewellery should be taken out and left at home.

