



# John Ruskin School Parents' Information Leaflet

## Year Four

### Summer 2024

What Year 4 are learning	Hints for helping your child
<p><b>English</b></p> <p>This term the children will plan extended written pieces using vocabulary and grammar influenced by other writers.</p> <p>They will produce an increasingly wide variety of written pieces of narrative, non-fiction and poetry with a clear understanding of audience and purpose.</p> <p>The children will learn to make some deliberate choices of vocabulary and use an increasing range of sentence structures.</p> <p>In the first half term, we will read Michael Morpurgo's version of Beowulf the Anglo-Saxon legend. This is an artfully told and magnificently illustrated book about a murderous monster that stalks the night. The story is full of passion and high drama, making it a real page turner.</p> <p>Then, based on 'FARTHER' pupils will retell, write a recount (postcards), describe a setting, write a diary entry and create instructions, looking at the themes of invention, innovation and dreams.</p> <p>Finally, Year 4 will read 'Pride': The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag by Rob Sanders. We will write a motivational speech and biography.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to read for at least ten minutes every day and discuss their reading with them. Share your favourite books with your child and encourage a love for literature.</p> <p>There will be the opportunity for your child to take books out of the school library and the class book corner. Please ensure that comments are made on a regular basis in the reading record.</p> <p>Please help your child practise spelling words as they arise in weekly homework.</p> <p>Try to sit with your child while they do their homework and encourage them to say their sentences to you before they write them down. Rehearse- write- check!</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p> <p>We will follow the White Rose maths curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Decimals</li> </ul> <p>Compare numbers with the same number of decimal places up to two decimal places. Round decimals with one decimal place to the nearest whole number. Recognise and write decimal equivalents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Money</li> </ul> <p>Estimate, compare and calculate different measures, including money in pounds and pence. Solve simple measure and money problems involving fractions and decimals to two decimal places.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Time</li> </ul>	<p>Ensure your child knows number bonds to 20, e.g. your child quickly knows <math>9+8=17</math> or <math>11-4 = 7</math></p> <p>Drill your child on multiplication tables as often as possible.</p> <p>Discuss different shapes with your child: triangle, quadrilaterals, etc. and their properties and find them in hidden places; e.g. squares on windows.</p> <p>Help your child to learn how to tell the time.</p> <p>Practice word problems with your child so they can use and apply skills learnt in school.</p> <p>Play maths games online:</p> <p><a href="http://www.primarygames.co.uk">www.primarygames.co.uk</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.mathszone.co.uk">www.mathszone.co.uk</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.hitthebutton.co.uk">www.hitthebutton.co.uk</a></p>

<p>Read, write and convert time between analogue and digital 12- and 24-hour clocks. Solve problems involving converting from hours to minutes; minutes to seconds; years to months; weeks to days.</p> <p>- Statistics Interpret and present discrete and continuous data using appropriate graphical methods, including bar charts and time graphs.</p> <p>- Geometry – properties of shapes, position and direction Compare and classify geometric shapes, including quadrilaterals and triangles, based on their properties and sizes.</p>	
<p><b>Science</b> Children will be taught to compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases. Observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C). Identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.</p>	<p>Discuss events in the news which link with our studies in Science. Encourage the children to ask questions and help them to research their answers. Where possible, take your child to the Science Museum in order to research Science topics.</p>
<p><b>Computing</b> We are Meteorologists This unit will enable children to develop analysis and presentation skills as they take on the role of meteorologists.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to use computers sensibly and please discuss internet safety with them.</p>
<p><b>History</b> Children will be taught the effects of Anglo Saxon, Viking and Scots settlement in Britain. Children will be introduced to the idea that people from other societies have been coming to Britain for a long time. They will learn about some of the tensions involved in the settlement as well as ways of life and matters that impact on us still. Links will be made with other societies that contributed to the formation of the United Kingdom and how Saxons and Scots contributed to the development of institutions, culture and ways of life in the country.</p>	<p>You can help your child to research this topic through supervised use of the internet or by visiting the local library and museums.</p>
<p><b>Geography</b> Geography Skills to be covered during this unit: Location Knowledge – where is France on a map of Europe, location of important rivers, mountains and towns. Describe its location in relation to UK. Use map skills. Place Knowledge – the different climate, flora and fauna. Uses of rivers and mountains within the region.</p>	<p>You can help your child to research this topic through supervised use of the internet or by visiting the local library and museums.</p>

<p>Human and Physical geography – the impact of tourism on the land, impact of the physical geography on the food in France. Geographical skills and fieldwork – plotting on a map, using a geographic key to mark maps.</p>	
<p><b>Art</b> Children will be taught to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including textiles, drawing and painting. They will learn through exploring French artists like Monet and Renoir.</p>	<p>Visit any local art galleries in your area, e.g. The Tate, Dulwich Picture Gallery.</p>
<p><b>DT</b> Children will make a moving book and learn to select from and use a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks [for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing], accurately. They will evaluate their ideas and products against their own design criteria and consider the views of others to improve their work Children will be taught to use mechanical systems in their products [for example, gears, pulleys, cams, levers and linkages].</p>	<p>Encourage children to begin to think how electronic devices work e.g. appliances within the household, electronic games they may own.</p>
<p><b>RE</b> What makes me the person I am? Reflect on aspects of their identity and what they share with others and the world around them  What happens when someone gets married? Explore a variety of different types of wedding ceremonies. Discuss what happens in the ceremonies as well as symbolism contained in the customs and rituals of a Hindu wedding.</p>	<p>Talk about the different groups that the children belong to and anyone that influences their lives.  There is an opportunity in the first lesson for children to bring in a photograph of a wedding they have attended. Please bring in photos of any weddings that have been attended.</p>
<p><b>Music</b> The children will continue music lessons with music teacher where they will learn simple songs from memory with enjoyment. They will develop the use of expression and a sense of the shape of the melody. Children will listen carefully and recall short rhythmic and melodic patterns. Children will learn to show physical control when playing musical instruments and responding to music. They will also use sound expressively in response to a stimulus.</p>	<p>Play different types of music to your child. Ask child to try and pick out the different ways the sounds are made.  Those who are learning an instrument should be encouraged to practice at home often.</p>
<p><b>PE</b> At the moment, PE is done as part of our outdoor learning sessions. We will cover Athletics and batting, bowling and fielding games. In school, we will be learning about how to increase fitness, strength, flexibility and stamina through athletics activities and batting</p>	<p>Take your child to the park regularly to make sure that they are physically active. Go for a bike ride where possible or play games in the park.</p>

<p>and fielding skills such as hitting and throwing and catching in bat , bowl and field games.</p>	
<p><b>PSHE</b>  Living in the wider community - Media and the community  The children will learn about how the media influences decisions. The children will hold a debate on a topical issue.  Recycling project  The children will learn more about the local community and how communities have a responsibility to the environment.  The children should be able to explain what can be recycled in their "local" recycling bins.  Health and Wellbeing - SRE  Children will learn how their body will change as they approach and move through puberty.</p>	<p>Discuss with your child areas that s/he is good in to build up confidence. Give your child new responsibilities.  Discuss your child's role in helping take of the environment and being a positive member of the classroom and school.  Discuss changes that will happen to their bodies as they grow up.</p>
<p><b>French</b>  Learn some of the basic French sounds and phonics.  Further develop current vocabulary of colours, numbers, days and months.</p>	<p>See if you can find some basic French vocabulary books in your local library. Look online (BBC) to find fun resources and games to help your child practice their new vocabulary.</p>
<p><b>Useful Information</b>  If you have any questions about the topics above, please feel free to contact one of the Year 4 teachers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book bags are to be brought to school EVERY DAY. Your child will get an Oxford Reading Tree book and a free choice book every week as well as the option of a library book. We expect Oxford Reading Tree books to be changed at least once a week. Please ensure your child reads for approximately 20 minutes daily, sometimes independently and sometimes with an adult.</li> <li>• Every week there will be homework: one piece of English and Maths. It is handed out on Thursday and is always due back the next Wednesday morning.</li> <li>• Weekly spelling tests will also be administered. Please help your child to practice test words the week before.</li> <li>• Please check your child's book bag for important school letters daily.</li> <li>• Please continue your support for our class outings by joining us on trips or weekly swimming when you are available.</li> </ul>	