

# Year 4 Spring Term Learning



## English:

The stimulus for all our writing this term is the novel *Varjak Paw* by S. F. Said. The children will be building on skills introduced last term to write in a variety of writing styles.

These will include new writing styles such as biography and discussion texts, as well as revisiting styles such as newspaper reports and letters. Children will be taught how to edit their work to both correct and improve their writing, working with a partner as well as independently. In English lessons, children will use drama activities to explore and unpack the text. All children will be able to extend their sentences, use full stops and capital letters correctly, and write in continuous cursive.

## Maths:

This term we focus on new times tables in order to develop fluency with all tables up to  $12 \times 12$ . The term will therefore begin with a focus on 9, 11, 7 and 12. Children have a weekly mental maths lesson where mental strategies such as partitioning are explicitly taught. Mathematical vocabulary is another key area of teaching this term, including learning synonyms for the four operations. Children will develop their understanding of all areas of the

## Topic:

We will be learning about many new and exciting topics this term. The children will learn about rivers in Geography and will also study the Transatlantic Slave Trade, looking particularly at Bristol's role then and its legacy in the city today. In Science, the children will be learning about living things and their habitats. Children will continue to study Spanish and receive fortnightly remote ukulele lessons with a specialist music teacher. The children will also explore sculpture in Art and study the collection and presentation of data in Computing.

## Other information:

PE will take place on Wednesday afternoons. Children will need to have the correct sports kit in school every week for this session, as PE is a crucial part of the national curriculum. During these colder months, some warmer clothes would be necessary as PE will usually take place outside.

Homework will be handed out every Friday. Most weeks this will consist of one task related to English, Maths or other topics, alongside the weekly spellings. The spelling test takes place on a Friday.

## How can I help:

Reading with your child is still very important in Year 4. Even a few minutes of reading is beneficial, with reading skills being so important across the curriculum. Please support your child in regular practice of spellings and times tables. Times Tables Rockstars is a great place to do this.

Useful websites: ·

<https://uk.ixl.com/>

<http://nrich.maths.org/frontpage>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zsgkwmn/resources/1>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zryycdm>

# Year 4 Suggested Reading List



Title	Author
The Akimbo Adventures	Alexander McCall Smith
The Angel of Nitshill Road	Anne Fine
A Christmas Carol	Marcia Williams
A Hen in the Wardrobe	Wendy Meddour
Beaver Towers	Nigel Hinton
Boy with the Magic Numbers	Sally Gardner
Captain Cat	Inga Moore
The Chicken Gave It to Me	Anne Fine
Cloud Tea Monkeys	Elspeth Graham and Mal Peet
The Demon Headmaster	Gillian Cross
Dinner Ladies Don't Count	Bernard Ashley
Dragons and Crumbling Castle	Terry Pratchett
Famous Adventures of Jack	Berlie Doherty
Fastest Boy in the World	Elizabeth Laird
Flow	Pippa Goodhart
Freckle Juice	Judy Blum
Girls, Goddesses and Giants	Lari Don
Give Peas a Chance	Morris Gleitzman
The Graet Piratical Rumbustification	Margaret Mahy
I Was A Rat	Phillip Pullman
Legend of Captain Crow's Teeth	Eoin Colfer
One Dog and his Boy	Eva Ibbotson
Oranges in No Man's Land	Elizabeth Laird
Pippi Longstocking	Astrid Lingren
The Story Thief	Andrew Peters
Wolf Brother	Michelle Paver



## English

Autumn: Fiction & non-fiction writing based on *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis. Non-fiction writing on other topic work.

Spring: Fiction and non-fiction writing on *Varjak Paw* by S F Said. Non-fiction writing on other topic work.

Summer: Fiction and non-fiction writing based on *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo.

## Maths

Autumn: Place value, rounding, 2D shape four operations (+ - x /)

Spring: four operations (+ - x /), estimating, angles

Summer: converting units of measure, fractions, decimals, time money, area, perimeter, pictograms, bar charts

## Physical Education

Autumn: Athletics, skipping, personal best, football, basketball, netball, rugby

Spring: Dance, gymnastics, athletics

Summer: Racket sports, cricket, rounders

## Science

Autumn: States of Matter

Spring: Plants, Living things and their Habitats, Sound

Summer: Animals including Humans, electricity

## History

Autumn: Ancient Civilisations: Mayans

Spring: Local History: Bristol and the Slave Trade

Summer: Ancient Greeks

## Geography

Autumn: North and South America

Spring: Water Cycle and Rivers

Summer: Fieldwork—digital mapping

## DT

Autumn: DT in the world: Robots

Summer: DT construction: Kensuke's Island,

## Art

Autumn: Collage

Spring: Sculpture

Summer: Textiles and digital media

## Religious Education

Autumn: practices and lifestyles; beliefs and teachings

Spring: how beliefs are conveyed; identity, diversity and belonging

Summer: reflection; understanding values

## Music

Autumn, Spring and Summer: Ukulele lessons taught by specialist teacher from Bristol Plays Music

## Computing

Autumn: Digital Literacy: permission to use photos/data of other people

Spring: Computer science: to debug programs

Summer: Information Technology : to create a short film

## Languages: Spanish

Autumn: body, animals and Christmas

Spring: family, pets and Easter

Summer: hobbies, transport and holidays