



West Hill Primary School
(a partner in the SMILE Learning Trust)
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Friday 1st May 2026

CLASS 4 SUMMER TERM CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers,

I can't believe it is the last full term of the year! The summer term always includes lots of exciting learning and events and I am sure that this year will be no different. I would also like to continue welcoming Mrs Donnithorne who will be teaching Class 4 a Tuesday morning.

Important dates for Class 4:

Wednesday 6th May - Roman Topic Day

Tuesday 12th May - Athletics Festival at King's School (pm)

Monday 1st June – Friday 12th June - Y4 Multiplication Check

Thursday 4th June – Clip n Climb, Exeter (am) details to follow

Monday 22nd June – River Otter Freshwater Invertebrate Workshop (in school)

Tuesday 23rd June – Collaborate & Create Exeter and East Devon Instrumental Inspire Day, details to follow

Wednesday 1st July - Paignton Zoo (return to school 4:30pm)

Writing/spelling

In writing, we will continue to explore a range of fiction and non-fiction texts, as well as poetry and prose. Some of these text types will include newspaper reports, traditional tales and balanced arguments, to name a few. Focus texts include Zoo by Anthony Browne and Zeraffa Giraffa by Dianne Hofmeyr. These texts link with our other topics where relevant, however, some texts we use in class stand alone. The class spelling test is still on a Thursday and we continue to use No Nonsense Spelling regularly throughout the week to explore Year 4 spelling patterns and rules.

Reading

It is important that children read every day and whilst we do have some individual reading time in class, it is important that children read at home and discuss their books with an adult. Children are encouraged to read a range of books, from our reading scheme, our library, our PTFA books and those on their own shelves at home! Please sign your child's homework diary when you read with them. To further develop the children's understanding, we have regular class reading comprehension sessions where we focus on key reading skills.



Maths

Our Busy Ants scheme continues to provide us with a variety of topics and this term, we will be looking at the four operations, fractions and decimals, properties of shape, position and direction, statistics and measurement including volume and capacity. The weekly end of unit test helps me to understand how children have found the week's learning and how I can best support them going forward. We also include problem solving and reasoning activities throughout the week to challenge children. In addition to our maths lessons, we will have a regular times tables practice in preparation for the Year 4 Multiplication Check in June. Please see the information attached to this email. Here are links to sites which can be used at home:

<https://trockstars.com/>

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Science/D&T

In the first half term, Class 4 will finish the topic on States of Matter and then move on to electricity. This will lead into design and technology in the second half term where the children will be making their own torches. After half term the science topic will be 'living things and their habitats' which will be supported by a class trip to Paignton Zoo on Wednesday 1st July (details to follow).

Vocabulary for science - electricity, electrical appliance/device, mains, plug, electrical circuit, complete circuit, component, cell, battery, positive, negative, connect/connections, loose connection, short circuit, crocodile clip, bulb, switch, buzzer, motor, conductor, insulator, metal, non-metal, symbol.

PE

In the first half term, the class will be doing athletics and gymnastics and in the second half term, we will be focusing on striking and fielding games. With the weather hopefully improving, we will aim to be outside for our summer term PE sessions. Please ensure your child's PE kit (including trainers) is in school every day so we can get out when the weather is on our side. We will be taking part in the afternoon Athletics Festival at King's on Tuesday 12th May.

History/geography

We will continue our history topic of the Romans, looking at the impact that they had on Britain. This will be supported by our Roman day on Wednesday 6th May where the children are invited to come to school dressed in Roman attire! In geography there will be a focus on settlements and villages including how certain areas got their names, why areas were chosen as settlements and how reading maps help us to identify different hamlets, villages, towns and cities.

Art

This term, we will be creating abstract artwork in the style of Robert and Sonia Delaunay using a variety of media. We will also be fitting in some Roman artwork on our Roman day.

Computing

In the lead up to the Year 4 Multiplication Check, we will be making use of our computing time to practise our times tables. We continue to use technology to support us across the curriculum developing our use of Purple Mash to research, use databases and classification keys.

Music

In music, we will be focusing on two songs. First, we will be listening to 'Blackbird', a song about civil rights, by The Beatles and getting to know the music of The Fab Four. Our lessons will include a mixture of singing, instrument playing, listening and appraising, improvising and performing.

Then, the second unit of Work consolidates the learning that has occurred during the year. All the learning is focused around revisiting songs and musical activities, a context for the History of Music and the beginnings of the Language of Music.

RE

Our focus questions for this term are firstly, 'What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?' We will build on our understanding of Brahman and examine Puja at home, worship in the mandir, the festival of Diwali and the idea of dharma. Secondly, we will look at 'How and why do people mark the significant events in life?' We will learn about beliefs of people from different worldviews, the importance of ceremonies of commitment and rites of passage to mark milestones and see life as a journey.

Languages

This term in French, Mrs Donnithorne will be teaching '*En classe*' and '*Au salon de thé*'. In these lessons, children will learn a selection of the key phonemes to facilitate accurate and authentic pronunciation as part of their language learning experience.

PSHE

In PSHE this term, we will be starting our lessons using the Jigsaw scheme (as communicated previously). We will begin by focusing on 'Healthy Me' in the first half term, followed by 'Changing Me' in the second half term. Please see the attached 'Knowledge Organisers' for further information on the knowledge and social and emotional skills which will be focused on in each unit, as well as useful vocabulary. If you would like access to the resources which will be used by your child's class teacher during lessons, please email the school office, who will provide you with a 'Parent Access Code'. This will enable you to view the resources on the Jigsaw website, which is password protected.

Homework

There is no change to homework this term – Busy Ants maths homework books will be sent home on a Friday and returned the following Thursday for marking. The purpose of the maths homework is to consolidate learning. The spelling homework focus is on Year 3/4 statutory words and spelling rules.

In the build-up to the Year 4 Multiplication Check, it would be fantastic if your child could be using Times Tables Rock Stars at home. They have a login for this in their maths homework book as well as the new emoji login. If your child is encountering any issues regarding homework, please let me know so I can support.

If you have any questions or queries then please drop an e-mail to admin@west-west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk or catch me after school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Sampson