

# OVERVIEW OF THE CURRICULUM FOR TERMS 1 AND 2 2017

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## Year 4

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Welcome back year 4 to the new school year and a big welcome to our new member of the team at Phoenix, Miss Ali, who will be teaching Jade class. We have lots of exciting things in store this year! Roald Dahl, Egyptian day and many Science experiments on the digestive system and that is just Term 1!

### Numeracy

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- In Term 1, we will be working on recognising place value in a four digit number, being able to find 1000 more or less than a given number as well as ordering numbers beyond 1000. Students will also be able to round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000. They will be learning how to identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations as well as counting backwards through zero to include negative numbers. Students will also be able to read Roman numerals to 100 (I to C) and know that over time, the numeral system changed to include the concept of zero and place value. This term, we will be consolidating our knowledge on how to add and subtract numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction where appropriate. They will also estimate and use inverse operations to check answers to a calculation. In Term 2 we will be looking at measurement with particular focus on length and perimeter. Students will also be developing their skills in multiplication and division.

### Literacy

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- In Term 1 the focus will be on Roald Dahl's *The BFG*. We will be working on our use of adjectives, similes and accurate punctuation to develop our descriptive writing of the setting and main characters. We will also use instructional writing to write our own set of instructions on how to make a dream just like the BFG! In Term 2 we will be looking at collected poems written by Michael Rosen and comparing them with *Revolting Rhymes* by Roald Dahl.

- In Term 1, we will be learning about the digestive system. Students will be able to name and describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans. We will be conducting a variety of experiments to help our understanding and students will be expected to predict and record the results of our findings. They will be able to identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions as well as comparing them with other types of animals. Students will also learn how to interpret a variety of food chains and identify producers, predators and prey. In Term 2, students will be looking at Sound and will be able to identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating. They will recognise that vibrations from a sound travel through a medium to the ear. They will find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it as well as the volume and strength of a sound. Students will learn to recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.

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History 

- In Term 1, we will be learning about Ancient Egypt and exploring suitable questions to think about how an artefact may have been used in the past. We will learn about how the River Nile was important for their survival and compare the Ancient Egyptian Gods. Students will be able to understand and explain the ritual of mummification as well as learning how to compare Hieroglyphs with our own writing. On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September students will be taking part in our Egyptian day thanks to Portals to the Past where we will learn more about what life was like for the Egyptians through a variety of tasks and activities. In Term 2, we will be looking at rivers around the world including the River Nile.

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RE 

- In Term 1 we will be looking at the life of a Buddha asking if it is possible for everyone to be happy. Students will reflect on what makes them happy and have empathy for others who may not feel this way. They will consider what they would do with a million pounds, how they would spend their money and if they would donate money to charity. Students will discover the story of the Buddha and what he needed to do to lead a good life which helps other people be happy. In Term 2 we will be looking at what is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians today.

## Art



- In Term 1 we will be looking at landscapes with a particular focus on rivers. They will be building on their sketching and shading skills by using a range of mixed media like pencil, pastels, wool and tissue paper to add colour and texture to our work. Students will plan how they will use different textures and colours to produce their final piece. In Term 2 we will be looking at Mediterranean Art where students will develop their collage skills with a focus on Antonio Gaudi work.

## Spanish



- In Spanish, they will use simple greetings and be able to understand classroom instructions. They will learn numbers 1 to 31 along with months of the year and seasons to be able to identify dates, ask for and say when their birthday is as well as some more Christmas vocabulary. Students will use the new language to understand songs, videos about birthdays and to create invitations.

## PE



- PE is taught by qualified coaches. This term the children will be taught invasion games: Tag Rugby - Develop receiving and sending, moving in to space, ball control, staying with opponent, moving away from opponent, move away and be ready to receive. Hockey - Develop receiving and sending, moving in to space, ball control, staying with opponent, moving away from opponent, move away and be ready to receive.
- Please ensure that children have dark shorts and a plain white t-shirt ready for PE. They will also have dark jogging bottoms/tracksuit and a sweatshirt to wear as they will be doing PE outside throughout the winter months.
- Ruby, Pearl and Jade classes have their PE lesson on Thursdays (swimming will be starting again after the October half term on Mondays). Please ensure they have their kit on a Monday ready for the week and any club they're a member of. Letters have been sent home regarding clubs. They should also have their plimsoles/trainers to change into if they want to play sports or go on the play equipment during break and lunchtimes.

## Music



- For Music, children will learn and develop their Ukulele skills. They will be exploring different chords to accompany songs for instance Calypso. They will also be singing, learning various songs especially for the Young Voices concert at the O2 in February.



## Homework

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- Homework is set every Monday and due on Fridays. They will have a piece of Literacy or Numeracy work to complete. Spellings and times table tests are also on Fridays.

To help your child at home you can...

- Encourage them to read for 15 minutes, 5 times a week and complete their reading record with their progress. Discuss their reading books and retell the stories.
- Encourage them to practice their spellings and times tables ready for the test on Fridays.