



Term 1

KEY DATES

Thursday 19th Sep-
tember and Thurs-
day 26th September,
9am and 3.30pm

**Parent workshops:
How to give your
child a major gram-
mar boost at home
(with Miss Nash) -
PLEASE ATTEND!**

Wednesday 11th
September, 9am and
5pm

**Parent workshop:
How to give your
child an educational
advantage equiva-
lent to just over a
year's schooling**

Wednesday 18th
September, 9am and
5pm

**Maths workshop:
Learn how to inter-
act with our new
homework resource**

York Class Curriculum Newsletter

Welcome to Year Four! I hope you all had a wonderful summer and have come back to school feeling re-energised. The entire class made superb progress during Year Three, and I will be striving for a similar pace of progress in Year Four.

English

This term, the class will be reading *Matilda* by Roald Dahl. *Matilda* won the Children's Book Award shortly after it was published in 1988, and it has continued to delight audiences ever since. Reading *Matilda* will help students add to their ever-growing vocabulary, which they will then use in their writing throughout the term. The class will complete a number of pieces of long writing, describing the characters in the book and discussing the morals of the story. We will also learn how to use writing techniques such as **onomatopoeia**, **alliteration**, **personification** and **similes** to make our writing more interesting and engaging for the reader.

Key vocab: onomatopoeia, alliteration, personification, simile

Activities at home: reading as much as possible, both independently and with an adult. Using new vocabulary learned in lessons in writing as much as possible.

Maths

We begin the year with a focus on number sense and reasoning with 4-digit numbers. This means recognising the place value of each digit (thousands, hundreds, tens and ones) and being able to solve number and practical problems that involve addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be revising identifying, representing and estimating numbers using different representations. In addition, we will be learning to round 4-digit numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. Furthermore, children will be practising counting in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1000. It would be extremely beneficial to revise this with children at home as part of their daily fluency practise.

Key vocab: digit, ones, tens, hundreds, thousands, group of ten, value place, equal to, greater than, more than, less, fewer, factor, multiple, compare, order, is equal to, inverse, partition

Activities at home: talking about definitions of key words, role-playing practical Maths problems such as with money or cooking, practising Learn Its and number bonds, playing Mathletics



Term 1

KEY DATES

Monday 30th September, 9am

Year 4 York Open Class: Maths

Wednesday 9th October, 9am and 5pm

Parent workshop: Fluency in Maths

Wednesday 9th October and thereafter every Wednesday for 6 weeks, 9am

Parent Gym taster session

Ancient History

This year, the class will be studying the civilisation of ancient Greece, which flourished for almost 2,000 years, from c.2,000 BC to 146 BC, when the civilisation was conquered by the Romans. We shall be learning about some of the Greeks' most important and enduring inventions, such as democracy, drama and philosophy. We shall also be learning about the extensive pantheon of Greek deities and some of the most popular Greek myths, including the stories of the Trojan War and Odysseus. We shall conclude the year with a detailed study of Alexander the Great, one of the most successful generals from antiquity, who conquered most of the known world by the age of 32.

Key vocab: civilisation, antiquity, democracy, drama, philosophy, deity, pantheon, mythology, myth

Activities at home: reading as much as possible, discussing History with an adult

British History

The class will begin Year 4 by learning about the life of King John I, brother of Richard the Lionheart, and how his actions resulted in the signing of Magna Carta. Magna Carta has been central to government and the justice system in Britain and America, making learning about its beginning invaluable. The children will be encouraged to develop their analytical thinking and writing skills, through discussion, and both creative and essay writing.

Key words and concepts: taxes, barons, Magna Carta, interdict, charter, Pope, Archbishop of Canterbury

Key people: King John, Stephen Langton

Activities at home: discussing the historical narrative with an adult, learning and practising the spelling of key vocab and reading as much as possible



Term 1

REMINDERS

P.E. Kit

Children must bring their P.E. kit in on Mondays and Thursdays. On Mondays, they must come into school in their school uniform, but on Thursdays, they should come into school in their P.E. kit.

Homework

Grammar homework to do every evening and every weekend, with spellings to learn every weekend for a weekly spelling test.

Learn Its

Keep practising
Learn Its every day!

Latin

This year, the class will be consolidating their understanding of the five noun cases. We use the nominative case when the noun is the subject of the sentence, and the accusative case when the noun is the object of the sentence. We use the genitive case to show possession, the dative case when the noun is the indirect object of the sentence ('to' or 'for'), and the ablative case with the prepositions 'by', 'with' or 'from'. Any testing by adults at home will greatly benefit children, as a new language needs to be repeated little and often.

Activities at home: vocab and grammar (especially the verb person endings: -o, -s, -t, -mus, -tis, -nt) testing by an adult at home

Geography

This term, the class will be studying various topics with a UK focus: map skills, seasons and the United Kingdom. Throughout the term, the class will be consolidating their understanding supported via a range of map-working tasks. The class will also be learning to use a range of new geographical vocabulary. Any testing of keywords/concepts and current examples of UK affairs by adults at home will greatly benefit the children.

Key vocab: continent, geography, ocean, vegetation, border, map, compass, prime meridian, southern hemisphere, latitude, longitude, spring, summer, autumn, winter

Science

This term, the class will be studying the following two biology topics: the variety of living things and caring for the environment. Throughout the term, the class will be using a range of explorative techniques aided by scientific experiments to understand how animals and plants are classified into groups based on their characteristics, as well as ways to protect environments. The class will also be learning to use a range of new scientific vocabulary. Any testing of key words/concepts and examples of types of animal characteristics by adults at home will greatly benefit the children.

Key vocab: characteristics, vertebrates, mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, exoskeletons, insects, crustaceans, myriapods, flowering plants, non-flowering plants, environment, habitat, nutrition, seasons, pollution, acid rain, atmosphere, endangered, extinct, species



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Art

The class will begin the year by adding to their knowledge of colour theory. They will use water-colour and acrylic paints to create their own 'Room with a view', inspired by two of Matisse's paintings.

Key vocab: Tertiary, Warm, Cool, Shades, Tints, Complimentary, Contrast, Interior, Exterior

Key images: Henri Matisse, The Blue Window 1913 and The desert: Harmony in red, 1908

Music

This year, the children will be having their music lessons at Pimlico Academy. The children will be learning to sing this term, and are working towards a concert, with some of the Academy choirs, before Christmas. One student from each class will receive a 'Music Star of the Week' certificate to take home.