



Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter- Autumn 1 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Highwood and we hope you have had a good summer break! We are delighted to share with you the content of the Year 4 curriculum for this half term. We hope that this gives you a window into your child's learning and enables you to have conversations with your child about what is happening in school.

We hope that you find this newsletter helpful. If you require further detail about what skills and knowledge will be taught in each subject, please have a look at the curriculum page on our school website.

If you have any questions about our curriculum, or any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

On Wednesday 17th September 08:55am-09:25am there will be a Welcome to Year 4 meeting, where further information will be given about Year 4. We look forward to seeing you then.

Many thanks,

Reminders

PE lessons



Hawthorn: Friday
Hazel: Tuesday & Friday (swimming).
Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE Kit. Also, long hair must be tied back, and no earrings should be worn on PE day.

Forest School

Hawthorn: Monday



Library –

Hawthorn: Monday
Hazel: Wednesday
Reading records hand in on Monday to be checked by the class teacher.

TT Rockstars: Daily
Spelling Shed: Daily
Reading: Daily

Home Learning



Home Learning book hand in – Monday – (returned on Wednesday).

Please see home learning grid for further details.

Daily Home Learning

Daily reading/sharing stories and complete reading records.

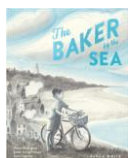
Learn spellings using Spelling Shed.

Times Tables Rock stars online: Multiplication tables (learn up to x12 by the end of Year 4).

English



This half term the children will be reading these key texts:



- Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth by Oliver Jeffers
- The Baker by the Sea – Paula White

They will be producing the following pieces of written work linked to the key texts:
An information text and a tourism brochure.



The children will continue to use Spelling Shed this term to learn to spell the following:

- Words ending 'le'
- Words ending 'el'
- Words ending 'al'
- -es added to words ending in y
- -ed added to words ending in y
- -ing added to words ending in e

Complete the activities using the link below-
www.spellingshed.com

Maths

1000000000

- Place value: order and compare numbers beyond 1,000
- Rounding, estimation and magnitude
- Securing addition and subtraction mental fluency
- Securing formal written addition and subtraction fluency
- Counting in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1,000
- Multiplication and division facts: times tables

Science: Living Things and their habitats (Biology).

The children will be taught the following key knowledge and skills:

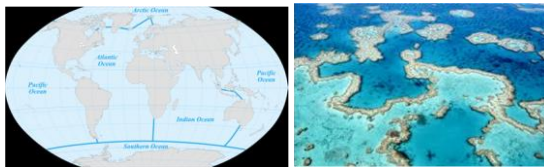
- To explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.
- To recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways.
- To recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

Geography- Oceans

This half term, children will explore the fascinating world of oceans through geography. They will:

- Use maps to find continents, oceans, and the equator.
- Name and locate the five oceans.
- Learn about Captain Cook and his sea voyages.
- Explore the Great Barrier Reef and discover why it is important.
- Discuss ocean problems such as pollution and climate change.
- Discover ocean layers and what oceanographers do.

Children will use atlases, iPads, facts, and creative activities to support their learning.



Art

Big piece: To paint our own interpretation of a landscape by David Hockney.

This half term in art, we will be using pastels and focusing on our sketching, mark-making and blending skills. We will be using different mixes of colours, tones, and patterns to create our own versions of a landscape inspired by David Hockney.



This term, pupils will take part in a range of activities that explore and develop different areas of their health and fitness. Pupils will be given opportunities to work at their maximum and improve their fitness levels, recognising how the activities make them feel. They will need to persevere when they get tired or when they find a challenge hard and are encouraged to support others to do the same. Pupils are asked to recognise areas for improvement and suggest activities that they could do to improve these. Pupils will be encouraged to work safely and with control.

RE

The children will be learning about Christianity, Sikhism, Sanatani Hinduism and Islam this year.

This half term children will be focusing on Christianity and whether Christians need to attend church to show they are a Christian.



P.S.H.E- 'Being me in my world'



This half term, the children will explore the rights and responsibilities that come with being a citizen. They will discuss the importance of democracy, relating this practically to our School Council.

The children will think about how they can use their own voice positively, whilst also participating in group decision making.

Computing



We will be developing presentation skills in PowerPoint by creating an interactive quiz, focusing on the use of hyperlinks.

As part of our e-safety learning we will be focusing on what personal information we can and should not share online and cyberbullying.

Spanish



We're excited to be introducing Spanish at Highwood. We will start with simple greetings and introducing ourselves in Spanish. We will also be describing ourselves and others using a range of adjectives and the verb *estar*. We will be looking at simple vowel sounds in Spanish to aid our understanding of how Spanish is a phonetic language. All this will be done using songs, games and rhymes. Hasta pronto!

Music



In music, children will be receiving ukelele lessons from a teacher from Herts Music Service.