

## Curriculum Newsletter — **Year 4** Spring

The information below is designed to tell you what your child will be learning this term in each curriculum area. We have complemented each subject with suggestions as to how you can support your child outside of school with their learning.



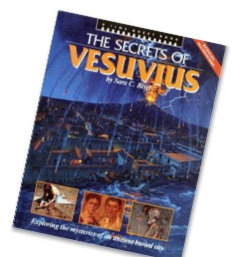
### Literacy

*This term we are learning:*

- Stories set in historical settings – Romans
- Novel study – *The Secrets of Vesuvius*
- Analysing song lyrics
- Newspaper writing
- Balanced arguments
- Play scripts
- Explanation texts
- Spelling rules
- Plural and possessives – using apostrophes accurately
- Modal verbs
- Articles
- Clauses
- Noun Phrases

*Suggested activities to support learning:*

- Learn weekly spellings: <http://www.churchfieldsjunior.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Spelling-overview-final-ppt.pdf>
- Spelling practice: <http://www.spellingcity.com>
- Play *Free Rice*, practise grammar and vocabulary while at the same time helping end world hunger. <http://www.freerice.com/#/english-vocabulary/1438/>
- Visit the local library and read a range of material (non-fiction and fiction). How is the text organized? What is the difference between the layout of different Non-Fiction texts? Why do you think they are organized like this?
- Read daily with your child and question them. E.g. What do you think the writer meant by... Explain why a character did something. Which words give you that impression? What is the main point in this paragraph? What is happening at this point in the text?
- Discuss and explore weekly spelling rules with your child
- Discuss different types of noun and review weekly grammar activities covered in class. What is the effect of this punctuation in this sentence?
- Read a range of first news newspapers and look at the structure and style of the writing.



## Mathematics

*This term we are learning:*

- Division word problems
- Decimal numbers
- Fractions
- Angles
- Numbers to 100,000
- Decimals
- Area and perimeter
- Time
- Money
- Properties of shape

*Suggested activities to support learning:*

- Practise Times Tables for the *Maths Challenge* Times Tables: <http://www.churchfieldsjunior.com/learning/maths/>
- Recognise fractions in real life – e.g. slices of pizza or sharing sweets
- Cooking using accurate measurement
- Telling the time
- Play games with your child that include money, banker, change needed, adding up
- Play *Free Rice*, practice your multiplication and at the same time help end hunger: <http://freerice.com/#/multiplication-table/17473/>
- Practise addition, subtraction, multiplication and division by visiting: <http://www.multiplication.com/games/all-games/>



## Humanities

*This term we are learning:*

- Romans – How did the Romans impact our modern lives?
- Easter – How do Christians remember and celebrate the events of the Easter Story?
- Normans – How did the Normans defend their land?

*Suggested activities to support learning:*

- Share the Christian Easter story <http://www.projectbritain.com/easter.html#story>
- Have a look at the websites below and explore what life was like in the Roman time period: What is similar to...? What is different to...?  
<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/romans/baths.html>  
<http://www.ngkids.co.uk/history/10-facts-about-the-ancient-Romans/>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/romans/>  
<http://www.everyschool.co.uk/history-key-stage-2-romans.html>
- How are the Normans different to the Romans? When would you have preferred to live? Why? What is similar between the two periods? Compare the Normans to modern England.

## PE / Dance / Gym

*This term we are learning:*

- Gym- Circuit Training
- Maypole dancing
- Hockey
- Badminton

*Suggested activities to support learning:*

- Practise throwing and catching skills
- Taster sessions available at *Redbridge & Ilford Hockey Club* Wednesday 6-7pm at *Redbridge Sports Centre*. Contact Di Berrill at [diberrill@gmail.com](mailto:diberrill@gmail.com)
- MOVE IT 10-12 March, Excel, London. Over 25,000 dancers - three days – performances, classes, career advice, celebrities, interviews and shopping! MOVE IT is your chance to celebrate all forms of dance and the performing arts. Watch breath-taking Main Stage performances, take part in dance classes, discover dance career opportunities in the MOVE IT PRO series, brush up on your acting and vocal skills in performing arts workshops and shop for all your dancewear needs. No matter what level you are – there is something for everyone and a glorious celebration of all things dance and performing arts at MOVE IT. [Gallery](#)

## Science

*This term we are learning:*

- Animals, including humans
- Teeth and digestive system – What happens to the food we eat?
- States of matter – How would we survive without water?

*Suggested activities to support learning:*

- Have a look at the websites below to help your child learn about teeth, the digestive system and states of matter  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/physical\\_processes/sound/read/1/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/physical_processes/sound/read/1/)  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/materials/changing\\_states/read/1/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/materials/changing_states/read/1/)  
<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/gamesactivities/detectivescience/state-ofmatter.html>  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/living\\_things/teeth\\_eating/read/1/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/living_things/teeth_eating/read/1/)
- Make a fun song/poem/rap/poster to remember the names and order of the organs involved in the digestive system
- Talk to your child about the importance of brushing their teeth. Why not use disclosing tablets to show up plaque on the teeth and discuss what this is. You could even ask your dentist some questions!
- Investigate how much sugar there is in drinks and food and talk about how this affects our teeth
- Read the ingredients on the back of your toothpaste. Can you research why each of them are included? Why do we need those ingredients to keep our teeth clean?
- Research the history of toothpaste for some truly gruesome science! What did the Romans use to whiten their teeth?
- Cook with your child, discuss the changes that take place – can they be reversed?
- Investigate why we can see our breath on a cold day or why there might be condensation on a window

## Music

*This term we are learning:*

- Rhythm and percussion

*Suggested activities to support learning:*

- Clap along to music. Where are the stressed beats? How many beats are in the bar?
- Use house hold items to create a percussion instrument – e.g. how many different sounds and rhythms can be made from a simple sheet of newspaper?



## Art

*This term we are learning:*

- Roman mosaics

*Suggested activities to support learning:*

- Visit *Tate Modern* or a local art gallery
- Visit the *National Portrait Gallery*. Appreciate the impressive mosaic floor
- Explore <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/romans/mosaics.html>
- Create a mosaic of your family using squares of coloured paper

## PSHE / Philosophy

*This term we are learning:*

- Respecting others
- Creating and discussing philosophical questions
- Keeping healthy

*Suggested activities to support learning:*

- Discuss current affairs – *First News* is a child friendly website: <http://www.firstnews.co.uk>
- Explore <http://www.philosophy4children.co.uk/home/p4c/>
- Explore <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/omc/kidsphil/parents.html>
- Ask children what questions they discussed in the lesson
- Discuss children's role models. How did the role model earn respect?
- Discuss healthy foods and ways to keep ourselves healthy at home

## Computing / DT

*This term we are learning:*

- We are Website Designers
- We are Software Developers

*Suggested activities to support learning:*

- Practise a range of curriculum areas
- Explore current toy designs
- Evaluate the effectiveness of your toys at home
- Alter the code behind websites using *Mozilla Goggles*. Changes won't affect the original website! <https://goggles.mozilla.org/>
- Learn different coding languages via *Hour of Code* <https://code.org/learn>
- Install *Adobe Brackets* (it's free) and try creating your own webpages. This is the software we use in our lessons.
- Practise typing with *Dance Mat Typing* <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/>



## French

*This term we are learning:*

- French Breakfast
- Build simple sentences using pronouns
- Body parts
- Romans in France including the French cartoon characters Asterix and Obelix

*Suggested activities to support learning:*

- How to order food and drink in French
- Ask your child to teach you what they know and how to name their body parts
- Visit BBC schools website for French: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french/>
- Explore <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9dN4A0TvMSk>
- Discuss sentence structure in English. What is a noun? What is an adjective? What order do we say them in?
- Watch French cartoons

---

We hope you find this information useful, as well as interesting. Please let us know if you have any other suggested activities to support your child with their learning so that we can include additional information for other parents/carers in the future.