



Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter **Autumn term 2026**

Dear Parents,

We hope that you all had a lovely summer break and you're ready back for an exciting term ahead. The first term back is a very busy one and we have had a great start!

English

This half term, we will be focussing on the picture book *Escape from Pompeii*. The pupils will work towards writing a detailed narrative, retelling the story in their own words. They will develop their writing by exploring setting descriptions, character descriptions and sequencing events. They will also learn how to improve and develop their writing by using fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and ambitious adjectives, as well as organising their ideas into appropriate paragraphs.



The pupils will also be developing their VIPERS skills, which help them to analyse and comprehend texts. VIPERS encourages children not only to read a text, but to think carefully about what it means, make connections and become critical thinkers. A range of comprehension skills are explored as a class during the lesson; the pupils are encouraged to explain their thinking and justify their answers.

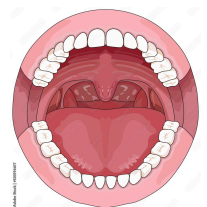
A variety of spelling rules will be introduced this year in our weekly spelling lessons, these should be practised at home regularly. The girls will build on their Year 3 statutory words and the Year 4 statutory words will be sent home for homework, as well as the spelling rule for that week.

Mathematics

This term, the pupils are focussing on developing their understanding of place value, before moving on to addition and subtraction. They have already begun to partition numbers up to 10,000, explored different ways of representing numbers and are beginning to use number lines to 10,000 to develop their understanding of numbers. We will continue our place value work by exploring rounding, ordering numbers up to 10,000 and Roman numerals. The children will be encouraged to explain their mathematical thinking and use a range of representations and practical resources to support their understanding.

The pupils also complete regular times table grids, which they respond to positively. They enjoy trying to improve on their previous week's score and seeing their progress over time. Regular times table practice is particularly important in Year 4, as secure recall supports so many areas of maths learning. At home, it would be fantastic to encourage regular times table practice wherever possible. Short, frequent practice sessions can help the girls to develop quick and confident recall and ensure that previously learned times tables are continually revisited.

Science



Our current science topic is 'Animals including humans'. Several of our science lessons this year will take place in the secondary science lab, giving the children exciting opportunities to carry out practical experiments and develop their scientific skills. The pupils will be encouraged to make predictions, observe carefully, record their findings and draw conclusions from their investigations. The children will be able to identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple function, carrying out an experiment exploring the effects of different liquids on our teeth. They will also be able to identify the simple functions of the human digestive system and identify a variety of food chains.

Physical Education

PE takes place on a Monday and Tuesday with Miss Inch. This term, the focus will be netball and team games. A gentle reminder that all jewellery, including earrings, must be removed for all PE lessons please.

History

The children will explore who the Romans were, where they came from and why they wanted to invade Britain, developing their understanding of chronology, maps and historical vocabulary. They will investigate how Britain was conquered, including the challenges faced by the Romans and the impact of Britain's physical geography. The children will then explore life in Roman Britain, including towns, settlements, roads, homes, work and entertainment, using a range of historical sources and artefacts. Finally, they will investigate the legacy of the Romans, considering how Roman ideas, buildings, roads, language and culture influenced Britain and answering the overarching question: *How did the Romans change Britain?*



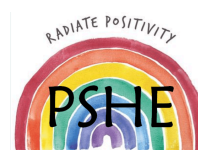
Art



This year, we are fortunate to have Mr Darwin, secondary school art teacher, joining us in our Art lessons. Our first topic is Roman Mosaics. The pupils will explore the key features of Roman mosaics, including their designs, colour palettes and the different people who would have had mosaics in their homes. They will create their own Roman-inspired designs, experimenting with contrasting colour backgrounds. The children will also use small mosaic tiles to recreate the *tesserae*—the small pieces of stone, glass or other materials traditionally used by the Romans to create their intricate mosaics.

PSHE

In PSHE, we have worked together to create our Class Charter, agreeing on the values, rights and responsibilities that will help make our classroom a safe, respectful and happy place to learn. The pupils are learning how to recognise and manage emotions using the Zones of Regulation, while developing practical Decider Skills to help them make positive choices and solve problems. We will explore the UNCRC Rights of the Child and discuss what these rights mean in our everyday lives.



ICT

In ICT with Ms Osment, the children will be focussing on keeping themselves safe online, their online relationships and online bullying, and they will also be looking into computer systems and networks.

French

In French with Madame Ferraby, the children will be revisiting the vocabulary they learnt in Year 3, ensuring they can recall it from their memory. They will be learning age, brothers and sisters, where they live, birthdays, animals and colours.



Music



In music with Mrs Trepant, the children will be looking at medieval music, exploring pieces and rhythmic patterns. They will also be learning to play the recorder, embedding G, A and B and reading notes. Furthermore, they will also be looking at 'Interesting Time Signatures' and embedding all foundational elements of music.

Drama

This term the girls will be working on Choral Speaking Rehearsal and creation for the Jersey Eisteddfod. They will be learning how to work as a group and will build confidence in performance.



I hope this gives you a flavour of what your daughter will be learning in Year 4 this term. If you have any questions please email me: taylormj@beaulieu.jersey.sch.uk

Many thanks,

Mrs Taylor