

# SPINFIELD SCHOOL

## Year 4 Spring Term 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the Spring Term and a Happy New Year to you all!

Please remember that we do have a class email address: [Year4@spinfieldschool.co.uk](mailto:Year4@spinfieldschool.co.uk)

Emails via the class email will be replied to within two working days. The times that teachers are able to respond are between 8.15 - 8.45am and 3.45 - 6.00pm. The class email address will not be monitored during the school day as teachers are teaching. If you have an urgent message that needs to be passed on to your child's class teacher, which will, in the main, be a change in pick up arrangements please email the school office by 3.00pm. If we have not received confirmation of changes to pick up, your child will remain in school until we are able to contact you.

Please use the email address for the following:

- ✓ Arranging an appointment with your child's class teacher. Appointments will be conducted at a mutually convenient time.
- ✓ Time to Talk/Creative Corner presentations
- ✓ Queries regarding homework or spellings

**Please note that information regarding absences must still be communicated via the school office or via a phone message. Changes to pick up should be sent to both the school office email and the year group email. Please ensure this is done by 12 noon so that messages can be passed on to teachers. If we have not received confirmation of changes to pick up, your child will remain in school until we are able to contact you.**

Our class topic for the first half term is 'Who Pays The Price?'

In this topic, children will investigate the water cycle, rivers and mountains and examine the problem of plastic pollution on our planet. They will learn about and apply the skills of persuasive writing to convince other year groups at Spinfield to become more sustainable.

Our class topic for the second half term is 'Untangling the Greeks!'

The stimulus for this topic are the Greek myths as learnt about through our class text, "Who Let The Gods Out" by Maz Evans. Children will investigate the features and themes of Greek myths and use this to create their own. Parents will also be invited to an assembly where the children will share their learning about the Greeks. There will be a Greek workshop towards the end of the term to supplement the children's learning.

Subject	1 <sup>st</sup> half term - <i>Who Pays The Price?</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> half term - <i>Untangling the Greeks!</i>
English	Children will begin the term by learning about different persuasive writing techniques. They will learn the features of a persuasive text and write their own persuasive style of writing, aiming to persuade Spinfield pupils to eliminate their single use plastic waste. They will learn how to write formal style letters. The children will identify the key features of a formal letter and learn new vocabulary that would typically be included in this style of letter. They will then write their own formal letter to	Children will begin the second half of the Spring term covering Y4 spelling, punctuation and grammar objectives as part of their English lessons.  Children will be learning about Greek myths and finding out about their features. They will compare and contrast a range of different myths before writing their own which tells the reader all about the Greeks! They will also be creating information

	the Government outlining the problem of plastic pollution.	texts about the Greek Gods and inventing their own.
Maths	<p>Children will start the Spring term by recapping the times tables learnt so far up to x12, including learning how to multiply and divide by 1 and 0, as well as multiply three numbers together.</p> <p>They will then move onto the topic of written methods for multiplication and division. In this topic, children will learn about the factors of multiplications they know. Decimals will be introduced for the first time as the children will learn to multiply and divide by powers of 10. They will next learn formal ways of solving multiplication and division calculations and will apply these skills to problem solving and reasoning style questions.</p> <p>TT Rockstars will continue each day to ensure children learn their times tables up to 12 x 12.</p> <p>To conclude the first half of the Spring term, children will learn about measuring length in km and m which will lead on to finding the perimeter of rectilinear shapes.</p>	<p>To begin the second half of the spring term, children will become immersed in the topic of fractions. There will be a re-cap from year 3 on fractions which make a whole and then the children will begin to explore fractions greater than one through improper fractions and mixed numbers. They will learn to convert between them, find equivalent fractions and add and subtract from whole numbers.</p> <p>Children will also learn more about decimal numbers in this half of the spring term. They will focus on the place value of tenths and hundredths and will learn and practise how to divide 1 and 2 digit numbers by 10 and 100.</p>
Science	<p>Children will be continuing their learning around States of Matter by exploring the water cycle. After this, they will commence the spring term with a new science topic called Electricity.</p> <p>They will identify the common appliances that run on electricity and learn about some of the dangers and hazards of handling electricity.</p> <p>Children will then move on to learning about simple electrical circuits. They will identify an electrical circuit's basic parts (cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers) and investigate through a hands-on, practical session whether a light bulb will light (or not) in a simple series circuit if the light is in / not in a complete electrical circuit.</p> <p>After this, children will learn about electrical conductors and insulators and associate metals with being good conductors.</p>	<p>Children will become immersed in the topic of sound in the second half of the spring term. They will identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something that vibrates. They will find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it. Through scientific enquiries, children will also find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations.</p>
Computing	<p>Using the programs 2Calculate and Google Sheets, children will learn all about spreadsheets in this unit of computing. They will learn how to add formulae and explore formatting cells. In addition to this, they will learn how to use a spreadsheet for budgeting.</p>	<p>The children's second half term computing topic is all about writing for different audiences. They will learn how to use different font styles and colours and will use a simulated scenario to produce a news report for a specific audience.</p>
Humanities	<p>The first half term focus in humanities is Geography, more specifically, the water cycle and rivers. Children will begin by recapping the world's major oceans and thinking about where water comes from. They will then learn about each stage of the water cycle by looking at and interpreting diagrams. Children will then apply their knowledge of the water cycle to rivers. They will carry out an in-depth study of rivers and compare and contrast the different rivers that exist on our planet. Children will finish this topic by focusing on plastic pollution as an environmental issue that has affected oceans and rivers.</p>	<p>In the second half of the spring term, the humanities focus is History.</p> <p>Children will become immersed in the topic of the Ancient Greeks by learning about the influence and impact that this civilization had on Britain and the wider world.</p> <p>They will look at photos, books and artefacts to gain clues about the Ancient Greeks and will also recap chronology so far and place the Ancient Greek era on timeline.</p> <p>The term will conclude with a research project where children will select an area of the Ancient Greeks to research e.g. architecture, Olympics, religion, arts.</p> <p>The unit will be concluded by a visit from a Greek history workshop provider where children will be immersed in the life of the Ancient Greeks.</p>

Art & DT	<p>Children will be continuing parts of their Roman topic by designing and building Roman catapults.</p> <p>Then, to supplement their learning around rivers of the world, children will develop their painting skills in creating river perspective paintings. They will learn about brush thickness, colour choices and manipulation of paint to achieve a sense of distance in landscape painting. They will then further develop drawing and sketching skills with a range of pencils &amp; techniques to design and invent a product to reuse plastic. They will use their designs to build a product to repurpose water bottles and create a new invention that helps the environment.</p>	<p>Children will be learning about different sculpture techniques using clay. They will look at a variety of different pots and talk about how they were made. Finally they will learn techniques to make and decorate a coil pot. The children will be learning about how a variety of food ingredients are grown, reared, caught and processed and combining this knowledge to create a Greek mezze using authentic ingredients.</p>
PE	<p>For the first half term of PE, children will be practising their football skills with AJD Football. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Defending and stopping attacks by intercepting</li> <li>● Developing teamwork to pass and move and create attacks</li> <li>● Demonstrating and implementing the rules of football as well as leadership and teamwork.</li> </ul> <p>For the children's other PE lessons, they will be participating in Dance lessons. These will focus on exploring expressive movements and the key aspects of dance: body, action, time, space and energy.</p>	<p>For the second half term of PE, children will learn skills involved in team games with AJD Sport including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teamwork</li> <li>● Holding and creating space</li> <li>● Positioning</li> <li>● Controlling pace</li> <li>● Attack and defending</li> <li>● Applying pressure</li> </ul> <p>For their second PE lesson of the week, children will be learning tennis skills. Lessons will cover learning the "Ready" stance, forehand grip and shots, moving and hitting to space. It will then move on to introducing backhand shots and culminate in a mini inter-class festival.</p>
Music	<p>Instruments of the orchestra</p> <p>In this unit, children will be learning about the different musical families: strings, Brass, Woodwind and Percussion. They will be considering the importance of conductors and conducting each other in shared performances.</p>	<p>Instruments of the orchestra continued</p> <p>The children will be continuing their learning of the term and exploring the invention of the orchestra and how it differed in 1600. Through looking back at music from the time, children will be considering what music would have been heard around the time of the Gunpowder Plot and other significant events.</p>
RE	<p>Children will be starting the spring term by learning about the Hindu faith and what Hindus believe, comparing it to Christianity. They will focus also on Dharma rituals and the rules by which Hindus live their lives.</p>	<p>Children will spend the second half of the spring term learning about the religious concept of sacrifice including the crucifixion. They will conclude the term by learning about Shrove Tuesday and Lent, as well as the Christian festival of Easter.</p>
P.S.H.E.	<p>Diverse Britain - This unit is inspired by the idea that we live in a diverse, multicultural and democratic society and that this is important and brings many benefits. It aims to enable the children to identify that they should be respectful of difference. In this unit, children learn about British people, rules, the law, liberty and what living in a democracy means. They also learn about the importance of being tolerant of differences within their society.</p>	<p>Money Matters - This unit aims to encourage children to think about where money comes from and how it can be used. Children will discuss how we spend money, why people might need to borrow money and the consequences of this.</p>
French	<p>'Les Legumes' - In this unit pupils will learn 10 common vegetables in their plural form with their definite articles. They will learn the basic transactional language required to take part in a role-play activity based on buying different quantities of vegetables from a market stall.</p>	<p>'Les Glaces' - In this unit pupils will learn 10 flavours of ice-cream and the transactional language required to purchase an ice-cream. By the end of the unit pupils will have the knowledge and skills to take part in a role-play activity where they will order a cone or pot of ice-cream in the flavour(s) of their choice, specifying how many scoops of each they would like.</p>

## General Organisation:

### Absence:

Please ring school every day if your child is absent, unless you have previously notified us of a return date. If you have not contacted school by **9.20am** a member of staff will contact you. You are not required to supply a note if you have contacted the school.

### Homework:

We value the support of parents in providing the time, encouragement and suitable environment for the children in which to complete their homework. In setting homework for children, we aim to provide a relevant activity for them to do in which parents may be involved, and which can aid their general educational progress. Homework will be set on a Wednesday and will need to be returned to school on a Monday morning.

Homework is outlined below:

Year 4 will be asked to complete their homework and submit it via Google Classroom or Purple Mash.

### **Year 4 homework is outlined below:**

- Daily reading and a minimum of 3 entries per week in the reading record
- English or reading comprehension
- Mathematics, usually on Doodle Maths.

### Additional homework tasks include:

- Regular practice of times tables.

Parent volunteers: We will hold our **group reading sessions on a Friday morning from 11.00 – 11.40**. Any parent or carer who would like to help should notify the teacher via the class reps.

### DBS checks

When we are able to invite volunteers into school, please note that the school requires all volunteers to hold a current DBS certificate and you will need to sign our confidentiality agreement. Volunteers are also required to attend safeguarding training (which will need to be refreshed every 3 years). Training dates will be published in our monthly newsletter. If you have not yet filled out the DBS form and the confidentiality agreement, please collect them from the office. There will be a voluntary contribution of £15.00 to cover costs incurred to process the DBS application.

### Daily organisation:

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school every day, as well as a snack of fruit or vegetables for the mid-morning break.

It is essential that children have a warm coat to wear during the morning break and lunch hour.

It is imperative that all items of clothing and PE kit are clearly labelled (preferably sewn-on labels).

Your child will wear their PE kit on the days that they have PE. Please ensure your child has black tracksuit bottoms, either a school PE hoody or school sweatshirt, their PE t-shirt and trainers.

We hope that children were able to replenish their pencil cases over the Christmas break in order that they have the required resources needed for their daily lessons.

### Timetable Information:

PE lessons are on a **Tuesday (AJD Football)** and a **Monday (Dance/Tennis)**. If for any reason your child is unable to take part in a PE or games lesson, please provide a note/email.

Library books will be changed on a **Thursday**. All library books will be collected during the penultimate week of term.

Forgotten Items:

Please be aware that if your child forgets something for school, you will only be contacted if it is absolutely necessary, as we are trying to encourage the children's independence.

Medicines:

Children must not bring medicines of any kind into school without prior agreement with Miss Spreadbury. A health care form must be completed for any required administration of medication.

Holidays:

The staff and governing body appreciate the decision made by parents not to take children out of school during term time. Where exceptional circumstances occur, a leave of absence form can be collected from Miss Spreadbury who will submit your application to the Governing Body for consideration.

If you wish to discuss the content of this letter or have any other concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Year4@spinfieldschool.co.uk using the class email address.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Smith and the Year 4 team.