

SPINFIELD SCHOOL
Year 4 Autumn Term 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn term, I am so pleased to be working in partnership with you and I am looking forward to getting to know the children as we face the next step of their learning journey together.

Important information

The email address for Year 4 is: **Year4@spinfieldschool.co.uk**

Please use the email address for the following:

- ✓ Arranging an appointment with your child's class teacher. Appointments will be conducted by telephone calls at a mutually convenient time.
- ✓ Creative Corner presentations
- ✓ Queries regarding homework

Emails:

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 - 8.45 and 3.45 - 6.00. 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.

I have planned a careful balance of hard work and great fun this term and I am sure it will be enjoyable and rewarding for all of us. Below is an outline of what your child will be learning this term.

Our theme for the first half term is '**On Top of The World - Mountains**'.

For the second half term, our theme is '**Veni, Vidi, Vici - The Romans**'.

To further enrich our learning, a **Virtual Reality experience** will be held in school around the topic of mountains and the class will be visiting the **Verulamium Museum** in St Albans in November. More information on this will be shared in due course.

Subject	1 st half term	2 nd half term
English	<u>Fables</u> Children will begin the term learning about fables. They will read and explore a variety of different fables with different plots and characters, whilst learning and practising a range of ways to extend their writing. They will then plan and write their very own fable. <u>Diary Entries</u> Linked to our Geography topic of mountains and the book 'Everest - The Remarkable Story of Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay', children will practise diary writing language and learn about the features and writing tools required to write a detailed diary entry from the perspective of a mountaineer.	<u>Newspaper Reports</u> Linked to our History topic of 'The Romans' children will then move onto learning about newspaper reports. They will identify the key features of a newspaper report and learn a variety of important language features that are included. They will then plan, draft and publish their own newspaper report, detailing the famous assassination of Roman dictator Julius Caesar. <u>Formal Letters</u> Children will learn about the features of a formal letter. They will compare and discuss a range of different examples before planning and writing their own from the perspective of Boudicca (Queen of

		the Iceni Tribe), who led an uprising against the conquering forces of the Roman Empire.
	<u>Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar</u> Year 4 spelling, punctuation and grammar learning objectives are incorporated into children's daily English lessons. We will be using Headstart Grammar resources to practise past and current objectives. New spelling rules will be taught or consolidated each week and children are expected to learn a new set of words each week. This is linked to the Year 4 spelling objectives and will be taught over several mornings each week.	
Maths	<u>Place Value</u> Children will learn about the place value of 4 digit numbers in year 4 and will be taught the value of each digit in a 4-digit number. They will write 4-digit numbers in word form, compare 4-digit numbers and count in multiples of 1000. They will also learn how to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 with 4-digit numbers. In addition to this, children will learn more about negative numbers and their application to temperature and will also learn how to read Roman numerals up to the value of 100. <u>Addition and Subtraction</u> Children will add and subtract numbers with up to 4-digits using formal written methods of addition and subtraction as well as problem-solving approaches. They will also learn to use inverse operations and efficient methods of addition and subtraction.	<u>Multiplication and Division</u> Pupils will further develop their knowledge and understanding of multiplication and division using 4-digit numbers. They will learn to use inverse operations to double check their answers and begin to solve more complex multiplication and division word problems. <u>Measurement: Area</u> Pupils will learn how to find the area of a variety of different rectilinear shapes. <u>Consolidation</u> The autumn term will conclude with a consolidation of autumn term maths topics. This is to ensure that children are secure and confident in the areas we have covered and to address any misunderstandings or misconceptions before the spring term commences.
Science	<u>Food chains, teeth and digestion</u> Pupils will learn about the basic parts of the human digestive system and different types of teeth in humans. They will also learn about a variety of food chains and participate in scientific investigations in order to develop their scientific skills.	<u>States of matter</u> Pupils will learn about solids, liquids and gases by observing how some materials change state when they are heated or cooled. Pupils will measure and research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius. They will engage in scientific investigations to develop their scientific skills.
Computing	<u>Online Safety</u> By following the Purple Mash E-Safety unit of work, children will learn all about how to stay safe online. They will learn about the term 'phishing' and what it means and also learn about their digital footprint. Children will learn new vocabulary associated with internet safety such as malware and plagiarism and showcase all of their learning in this topic by producing an internet safety poster.	<u>Coding</u> Using the program 2Code on Purple Mash, children will learn how to: - Use the review design, code, test and debug process - If / Else statements - Repeat Until commands - Making a timer - Making a control simulation - Decomposition and Abstraction
Humanities	<u>Geography - Mountains</u> An exciting and interesting topic in which children will learn all about: - The physical features of mountains. - Identify the world's major mountain ranges. - Understand latitude and longitude in locating places. - Learn how fold mountains are formed.	<u>The Romans</u> Children will become immersed in the exciting topic of the ruthless Romans! They will learn all about: - The spread of the Roman empire. - Julius Caesar's attempted invasions of Britain. - The uniform of a Roman soldier. - Emperor Hadrian and the building of his wall.

	- Learn how tourism affects mountain ranges. - Investigate the climate of a mountainous environment. - Take part in an in-school mountain adventure, which will be used to inspire writing.	- Roman slavery. - The Roman baths. - Boudicca's rebellion against the Romans
Art / DT	Willow Pattern Plates (linked to fables) Mountain landscape art	Roman Mosaics and Roman Art Roman Catapults
PE	Dance around our class text, The Clockwork Crow	Basketball
Music	Music will be taught by Blue Mic Music This Unit of Work focuses on the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments.	Music will be taught by Blue Mic Music This Unit of Work focuses on the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments.
RE	<u>Rites of Passage</u> Children will learn what a rite of passage is and how different religions (Christianity and Islam) mark their rites of passages. We will be delving into traditional Christian marriage ceremonies and funerals as we explore rites of passage, as well as traditional Islamic marriages and funerals. Children will compare the rites of passage from the perspectives of both religions.	<u>Worship</u> Children will learn about the various ways of worshipping God in the Christian religion. <u>Christmas Journeys</u> Children will learn about the journeys of Mary at the time of the birth of Jesus.
PSHE	<u>Digital Wellbeing</u> Children will learn about the positives and negatives of being online, understand how to be kind online to make the internet world a safer place and also understand how to stay safe when communicating online. They will decide how reliable online information is and identify things that they shouldn't share online, giving reasons why we shouldn't share them. They will conclude the first half term by understanding how technology can affect people's wellbeing in different ways.	<u>Relationships: TEAM</u> This unit is inspired by the idea that if a class team works well together, it has a positive impact on all of its members and what they can achieve. Children will talk about changes and how change makes them feel, they will explain how and why working as a team is beneficial and they will learn how their actions and behaviour affect a team. As well as this, children will learn how disputes happen and strategies to resolve them.
French	All lessons will be taught using Language Angels resources. <u>Phonics</u> - Phonics: Revising vowels and other common sounds in French including silent letters. <u>The Weather</u> - Describe the weather and present a weather forecast in the foreign language.	<u>The Date</u> - Days of the week, months of the year and numbers 1-31 will be introduced, revised and consolidated. <u>'In the classroom'</u> - A recap of learnt grammar. Describing what we bring to school and what is in the classroom.

General Organisation:

Absence:

Please ring school on the first day of absence if your child is away. 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 online in most cases. You will be emailed details on a Wednesday and it will need to be completed by Monday morning. Year Four will be asked to complete their homework and submit it via Google Classroom or Purple Mash (more details to follow).

Spellings:

In Key Stage Two, we have invested in a new spelling scheme so that appropriate time is given to practise spelling patterns. Studies suggest that children do not learn spellings by rote memory, rather it is dependent on their understanding of word and written structure. Studies also suggest that young readers need to see a word between ten and fifteen times before they learn it. Your child will bring lists of words each week to learn in order to strengthen the understanding of current spelling patterns we are exploring in school. An overview of the spelling pattern lists can be found on the class section of the school website.

Year 4 homework is outlined below:

Daily reading: reading books to be selected by your child and then returned once finished. Children will log their reading progress once they finish a book in their reading record.

English

Mathematics (on Doodle)

Parent volunteers:

We will let you know about arrangements for volunteers in due course.

Help is required for Shared reading and Swimming.

Swimming will be in the Spring Term.

Shared Reading is on Tuesdays between 2.45 and 3.25.

DBS checks

Please note that the school requires parent helpers to hold a current DBS certificate and you will need to sign our confidentiality policy. Volunteers are also required to attend safeguarding training (which will need to be refreshed every 3 years). Training dates will be published in an email and in our newsletter. If you have not yet filled out the DBS form and the confidentiality policy, please collect them from the office. There will be a voluntary contribution for us to process the DBS form. You need to be aware that mobile phones may not be used inside the school building.

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. Please ensure that your child has the correct clothing for the weather, we do try to take the children out at break and lunchtimes so that they can have some fresh air so coats are essential. Please make sure that your child has a suitable pair of school shoes, which they will wear on the days that they do not have PE.

Your child will wear their PE kit on the days that they have PE. Please ensure your child has black tracksuit bottoms/shorts, either a school PE hoody or school sweatshirt, their PE t-shirt and trainers. If your child has earrings, you will need to tape over them at home on PE days in order to prevent accidents.

Please make sure your child has the correct resources for the classroom to include; a small pencil (which fits in their trays), pencils, a rubber, ruler, pencil sharpener, glue stick and coloured pencils. They will not need highlighters.

Timetable Information:

PE lessons are on a Thursday afternoon and Friday afternoon (forest school) this term. If for any reason your child is unable to take part in a PE or games lesson, please provide a note.

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. Any calls home will incur a 50 pence charge.

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 email the class email address.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Woods and the Year 4 team