



Year 3 and 4 Autumn Term 1 Curriculum Newsletter



Our main topic: How have children's lives changed?

In History, the children will investigate how childhood has changed over time. They will compare children's experiences of family life, education, work and leisure, using historical sources to find out about the past.

They will consider what has changed, what has remained similar and whether life became better for all children.

Other Subjects

Religion — Are all religions equal?

French — This is me

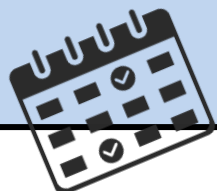
PE — Fundamentals and Outdoor Adventurous Activities

Music — Mountain melodies: steps and leaps

Computing — Programming with Scratch

PSHE — How can I make healthy choices?

Key Dates



English

Children will develop their reading and writing through high-quality texts.

In Reading, the children will study *Rise Up* by Amanda Li, exploring the achievements and life stories of inspirational people. In Writing, *Counting on Katherine* by Helaine Becker will inspire a non-fiction fact file. Children will retrieve and organise information, use headings and write clear, accurate sentences.

Year 3 spelling will include ou, y, -sure and -ture. Year 4 will focus on homophones and the prefixes in-, il-, im-, ir-, sub- and inter-.

Maths

Using the NCETM approach, children will develop secure mental strategies for adding and subtracting across 10 before applying this understanding to larger numbers. They will also begin work on numbers to 1,000, using practical equipment and visual representations to explain place value and mathematical relationships.

Regular times-table practice will continue through Times Tables Rock Stars.

Science

This half term children will focus on: Animals, including humans — Digestion and Food

Children will learn about the main organs in the human digestive system and describe their functions. They will investigate the different types and functions of teeth and consider how teeth can be kept healthy.

Children will also explore food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey and explaining how energy moves through a chain.

Art and Design / Design Technology

In Art, children will explore tone, texture and proportion, using shading and mark-making to create depth and detail. In Design Technology, they will investigate different fastenings before designing, making and evaluating a textile product for a chosen purpose.

Year 3 and 4 Home Learning Menu Autumn 1 Term

ENGLISH

Research an inspiring person and create a fact file. Include a title, headings, key facts and why the person is significant.

PSHE

Design a healthy-choice guide for children. Include ideas about food, exercise, sleep, feelings and looking after our minds and bodies.

Explain how each choice can help us stay healthy.

COMPUTING

Plan a simple Scratch project. Draw or describe the sprites, setting and instructions you would code to make something move or respond.

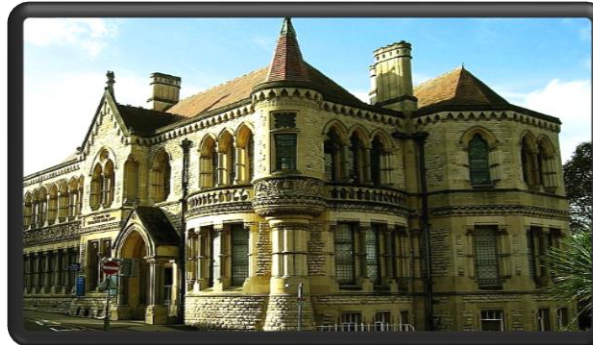
SCIENCE

Create a labelled diagram of the digestive system and explain the job of each main organ.

ART

Create a detailed observational drawing.

Use shading and different marks to show tone, texture and proportion.



In Years 3 and 4, children should read regularly: one Accelerated Reader book matched to their reading level and one more aspirational book to share with an adult.

Reading will be logged using the online reading record when this becomes available. They should also practise times tables on TTRS and complete weekly tasks on Spelling Shed.

Children should choose at least one project from the menu. Completed projects will be shared during Presentation Day in the final week.

Project deadline: Monday 19th October 2026

HISTORY / GEOGRAPHY

Create a comparison showing what childhood was like in two different periods. Include evidence about school, work, toys, family life and leisure.

PE

Design a warm-up game that develops balance, coordination and movement skills.

MUSIC

Create a mountain-themed rhythm or melody.

Show changes in pitch using steps and leaps.

MATHS

Create a place-value game using numbers up to 1,000. Write clear instructions so that someone at home or in class can play it.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Investigate fastenings around your home. Create a labelled collection using recycled materials or draw and evaluate each fastening.