



## Curriculum Overview Year 4

At Westgate, we organise our curriculum themes on a two-year rolling programme so that consecutive year groups plan and learn together, while learning is made age-appropriate through differentiation, teacher expectation and challenge.

In addition to the National Curriculum, we also teach Philosophy for Children (P4C) across school. Our Foreign Language is Spanish and is taught from Reception upwards.

Our curriculum is designed to be relevant to the children we teach, to connect with the local and wider community, to promote enquiry and independence, to prepare them for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and above all to be exciting and engaging. We ensure this through a hands-on, practical approach, drawing on visits, visitors and themed events in order to inspire children as learners.

### Summary of curriculum content in this phase- year 4:

#### Year A

**English:** English is taught everyday with an additional guided reading, spelling and handwriting sessions each week. A range of genres are taught throughout the year, such as, non-fiction, fiction and poetry. **Fiction topics are:** stories from other cultures, play scripts, stories with historical settings, stories with imaginative settings and stories that contain dilemmas and issues. **Non-fiction texts:** persuasive writing, recounts, information texts, explanation texts and how to navigate around information books. **Poetry units:** pattern and rhyme, shape poems and different types of poems. As well as this there is also a daily spelling, grammar and punctuation session to develop key skills.

**Mathematics:** Maths is taught every day with a mental and oral starter. Throughout the Year, the children cover the following topics:

- 1. Number, place value, rounding-** children compare and order numbers to 10000, recognise the value of digits, estimate and round to the nearest 1000. They learn to partition larger numbers up to at least 1000 and count in 7s 25s 100s and 1000s. Finally they learn to position negative numbers on a number line.
- 2. Addition and subtraction**  
Children learn to develop mental strategies for addition and subtraction and progress onto more formal written methods throughout the year. They work with 3 and 4 digit numbers for addition and 1,2, and 3 digit numbers for subtraction, estimating their answers as they work. Through applying their skills and techniques they learn to solve problems involving addition and subtraction.

### **3. Multiplication and division**

In Year 4 we have regular practice of multiplication tables and associated division facts, this is reinforced through their times table challenges every week. We use number lines and arrays to help support the children with multiplication and division as well as other visual prompts. The children look at the relationship between the 2,4 and 8 times table as well as the 3,6 and 9.

### **4. Fractions**

Children look at fractions in the context of parts of a whole, numbers, measurements, a shape, and unit fractions as a division of a quantity. They also compare and order fractions moving on to adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator. They are taught to find fractions of amounts, relate fractions to division and connect fractions and decimals.

### **5. Geometry: shape**

Children draw 2D shapes in different orientations. They learn to name and recognise 2D and 3D shapes, identify horizontal, vertical, perpendicular and parallel lines. They also are encouraged to use a ruler to measure 2D shapes using decimals and rounding.

### **6. Measures and data**

Children learn to use a range of scales and different representations of data in many different contexts. They recognise 1m as 100cm and 50cm as  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. They are taught to measure accurately with a ruler and are shown how to measure to the nearest cm and m. They are also introduced to area and perimeter. Children are taught to compare add and subtract measurements of kg and g, to recognise 1kg as a 1000 g and 500g as  $\frac{1}{2}$  a kg. In capacity they are taught to compare amounts and to recognise that 1L is 1000ml as 500ml is  $\frac{1}{2}$  a L.

**Science:** The science topics this year are; forces, magnets and electricity. The children carry out experiments with materials, looking at the properties of materials and what makes a good insulator. Moving onto Electricity the children investigate electrical circuits and use this to design and make a torch. When learning about animals and humans the children explore skeletons and categorising living things. .

**PE:** Over the course of the year the children develop a range of skills, such as, coordination, team work, throwing and catching skills. These are all developed through a range of sports: athletics team games and, most importantly in year 4, swimming.

**Computing:** Throughout the course of the year the children in Year 4 develop their word processing skills through using word documents. They further their skills, from year 3, by using 'Scratch' to complete an animation, having to program movements of their own personally designed and drawn characters. They look at how authors get their work on the internet and have a go at creating their own information in this way. Throughout year 4 they are constantly consolidating their skills from further down the school, improving their ICT skills as they go.

**History:** The History topics this year are Romans and Invaders and Settlers. Children will look at positions of time and learn to place events into chronological order. They will learn about Roman life, what it was like to be a Roman, what the Romans did for us and they will also learn about the architecture. Through our Vikings topic the children will learn about Viking invasions and settlers.

**Geography: UK and Europe:** During this topic the children develop their mapping skills, look at countries, continents and cities. The children will also look the physical features of UK and Europe

and famous monuments. Throughout the topic the children will build up their knowledge of places in the UK and Europe and they will end the topic with a research project.

**Music :** Through singing and playing instruments, children actively develop musical skills in performing, composing, listening and reviewing. Children learn songs and create music across a range of styles, which are linked to other curriculum areas where appropriate.

**Art & Design:** This year the children explore pattern, shape, mosaic designs, painting and drawing and sketching. During the topic on Monet, they explore painting and combining pastels and chalk. When studying the Vikings the children learn about patterns and shapes by exploring Viking Runes on clay carving and working in 3D form. Linked to their work on the Romans they explore mosaic designs and the children create their own.

**Design & Technology:** Within our UK and Europe topic the children develop their textile skills through designing and sewing their own travel pillow. In the summer term the children investigate structures and architecture, looking at how to reinforce and make a stable structure. The children test and evaluate their designs suggesting ways to improve their structures. They also design and make a type of bread, linked to our Roman topic.

**Languages (Spanish):** Every other half term the children have a language specialist teacher who teaches Spanish. They will reinforce vocabulary learned in previous years as well as learning new language such as how to describe themselves, parts of the body and classroom objects. They will learn about which countries speak Spanish and make some comparisons about these countries and their own.

## **PSHE**

We will learn about Britain as a democratic society, about how laws are made and learn about the local council. In our drugs topic we will learn that there are drugs (other than medicines) that are common in everyday life, and why people choose to use them. We will also learn about the effects and risks of drinking alcohol and about different patterns of behaviour that are related to drug use. During our keeping safe topic we will learn how to be safe on computers and other gaming habits, about keeping safe near roads, rail, water, building sites and around fireworks. We will also learn what to do in an emergency and basic emergency first aid procedures. Our Sex and relationship topic will look at the way we grow and change throughout the human lifecycle, look at the physical changes associated with puberty, physical hygiene and how puberty affects emotions and behaviour and strategies for dealing with the changes.

## **Year B**

**English:** English is taught everyday with an additional guided reading, spelling and handwriting session each week. A range of genres are taught throughout the year, such as, non-fiction, fiction and poetry. **Fiction topics are:** stories from other cultures, play scripts, stories with historical settings, stories with imaginative settings and stories that contain dilemmas and issues. **Non-fiction texts:** persuasive writing, recounts, information texts, explanation texts and how to navigate around information books. **Poetry units:** pattern and rhyme, shape poems and different types of poems. As well as this there is also a daily spelling, grammar and punctuation session to develop key skills.

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**Science:** The science topics this year are: **Sound, light, All living things, Plants and Rocks.**

The children carry out experiments with sounds, looking at how sounds are made, how they travel and how they can be measured. When learning about living things and plants the children explore the local area and learn about habitats and how plants grow well. Linked to our topic 'Stone Age' we explore different rock types looking at their properties and their uses.

**PE:** Over the course of the year the children develop a range of skills, such as, coordination, team work, throwing and catching skills. These are all developed through a range of sports: athletics team games and most importantly in year 4 swimming.

**Computing:** Throughout the course of the year the children in Year 4 develop their word processing skills through using word documents. They further their skills, from year 3, by using 'Scratch' to complete an animation, having to program movements of their own personally designed and drawn characters. They look at how authors get their work on the internet and have a go at creating their own information in this way. Throughout year 4 they are constantly consolidating their skills from further down the school, improving their ICT skills as they go.

**History:** The historical topics are: '**Ancient Egypt**' and '**Stone Age/Iron Age**'. During the Ancient Egypt topic the children explore what life in Ancient Egypt was like, why and how they built the pyramids and examine the significance of the Tutankhamen discovery. In the Stone Age and Iron Age topic the children focus on prehistoric Britain, looking at timelines and how humans first came to Britain, how they lived and what developments were made in each era.

**Geography:** INDIA: During this unit children develop mapping skills, learn about the physical and human features of India and explore what it is like to be a child living in India. Further into this topic the children explore Nepal and learn about mountains.

**Music:** Through singing and playing instruments, children actively develop musical skills in performing, composing, listening and reviewing. Children learn songs and create music across a range of styles, which are linked to other curriculum areas where appropriate.

**Art & Design:** Linked to the India topic the children explore patterns, shapes and symmetry through Indian art work. They develop their artistic skills and imagery about Journey's in real life and in their own imaginations using stimulus from the many inspiring images from India. Linked to the Egyptian topic children explore working in 3D form by using clay and collage to create Egyptian canopic jars, gods and sarcophagus'. Working in 3D form is developed further into our Stone Age topic where the children look at sculptures and explore these with a visit to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

**Design & Technology:** This year the children develop their food technology skills and their understanding of a balanced varied diet through designing and making a healthy snack. When looking at books for a range of audiences the children get to investigate mechanisms and levers. They plan and design and moving book

**Languages (Spanish):** Every other half term the children have a language specialist teacher who teaches Spanish. They will reinforce vocabulary learned in previous years as well as learning new language such as how to describe themselves, parts of the body and classroom objects. They will learn about which countries speak Spanish and make some comparisons about these countries and their own.

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