



CURRICULUM NOTES – 2017 / 2018

YEAR 4

Welcome to Year 4. We hope that you are feeling refreshed and relaxed after the Summer break and are now looking forward to supporting your son or daughter during the coming year. We hope that you will find this guide brief, informative and useful, but should you require any further guidance, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Langley, Miss Furness or Mr Collier.

Homework

Children are encouraged to practice their times tables each night to support their classwork; we also have a Maths homework book which will be sent home to support what is being taught in class. Occasionally incomplete class work may also be sent home. We would also strongly encourage the children to read each night with parent supervision. Spelling will predominantly be learned at school during English lessons. High-frequency words for spelling can be found at the back of this document, the aim being that these are practiced at home. Any homework given to your children will be noted in their school diary.

Timetable

This is a guideline only, and staff reserve the right to rearrange lessons as the curriculum or circumstances require. Instrumental lessons often take place during designated lesson times and it is the child's responsibility to make up missed work from the appropriate teacher or one of his/her peers. We expect the children to take note of the timetable and ensure that they are suitably equipped for all lessons.

Personal Belongings

We would like each child to bring to school the following items, which should be named.

- A pencil case containing HB pencils (no more than 4), an eraser, a sharpener, and a set of colouring pencils
- A glue stick
- A standard length ruler (30 cm)
- A Berol Handwriting Pen

Summer Term Trip to Battsborough House

Parents will be invited to a meeting to discuss the forthcoming residential trip which will take place in May.

Curriculum

Year 4 finds the children building on the foundations laid down in Year 3. Skills and concepts in each subject are consolidated and new ones are introduced and developed mainly in accordance with the new National Curriculum requirements for Key Stage 2.

As the year progresses, the children should be aiming to concentrate their efforts more fully on the task in hand so that they develop a sense of pride in their work, as well as a determination to achieve their personal best. These skills combine to help them develop a more independent approach.

Year 4 aims to encourage the development of a cohesive and supportive year group, and the field trip contributes to this team building theme through shared experiences as they live and work together away from home for the first time.

English

Grammar:	Nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions and prefixes
Punctuation:	Capital letters, full stops, apostrophes of contraction and possession, commas, question marks and exclamation marks
Creative Writing:	Descriptive, imaginative, personal, letters, poetry, informative, explanatory texts and persuasive writing
Spelling:	Common/high-frequency words, spelling patterns and their rules
Speaking:	Talking about a hobby or presenting on independent learning topics, assembly presentations, poetry recitation, and reading aloud
Research Skills:	Ongoing development of skills in reading, handwriting, book reviews and drafting of written work

Mathematics

Revision and extension of ***addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, tables and place value***

Time: analogue, digital, 12 hour + 24 hour clock

Fractions: equivalents, mixed and improper

Shape: 2D, 3D, angles and triangles

Measurement: length, weight, capacity and volume

Symmetry

Money

Decimals

Graphs

Co-Ordinates and Position

Perimeter and Area

Roman Numerals

Mental Maths

Science

- Moving and Growing
- Circuits and Conductors
- Keeping Warm
- Solids, Liquids and Mixtures
- Habitats
- Forces and Friction

Computer Science & ICT

The children will cover a range of activities using different forms of technology, including PCs and iPads. At Hall Grove we have a range of software programs, which are not only enjoyable, but ensure safe development of their Computer Science and ICT skills. The children will have many opportunities to practice their skills in a variety of contexts across the curriculum, will be provided with guidance to ensure e-safety when using the Internet and develop confidence in their computing ability.

History

- The Victorians
- The Vikings
- The Egyptians

Geography

- Volcanoes and Earthquakes
- Understanding Maps
- Improving the environment
- World Geography
- Battsborough and Coastlines
- India - Landscape and Culture

Religious Studies

- Learning about the Bible
- The Creation Story
- Noah
- The seasonal stories of Christmas and Easter
- Some miracles of Jesus
- Introduction to Hinduism

French

In Year 4, the emphasis is very much on hearing and speaking the language. Children will hear French spoken by the teacher and by native speakers on CD. They will learn to give information in French, such as their name and how to spell it, where they live, how old they are, as well as to ask questions to others and to respond to instructions. There will be a variety of activities, songs and games to encourage them to use French and to enjoy the challenge of operating in a different language.

PSHE

Personal, Social and Health Education, with Citizenship, will be taught as a discrete lesson. This 'subject' may be best described as 'Life Skills', where the children will have opportunities to give views and opinions on themes that relate to their lives at their age. Various issues will be discussed and explored (e.g. in role-play) in the safe environment of the classroom under the careful supervision of the teacher.

Music

The emphasis of the music lessons for Year 4 is upon practical music making and full participation. The students will work within a series of topics such as Myths and Legends, Space and Time with a view to making their musical work relevant to other areas of interest that they may have.

All of the projects that Year 4 pupils are involved in focus on one or more areas of study - Performance, Composing and Listening. The study of music notation will be developed continuously throughout the year, ensuring a good basic level of understanding for all.

The teaching will be shared between Mr Heffer and Miss Post.

Dance and Drama

Dance and Drama at Hall Grove offers pupils an exciting opportunity to be physically creative and expressive within fun and challenging lessons. Whether it be learning a new style of dance such as Jazz, Contemporary or Street, or addressing social or political issues in Drama, pupils will have the chance to explore and develop their own ideas through material designed to promote personal, social and cultural development. Last year's Year 4 performed a Christmas show and The Jungle Book. We are sure the current cohort will have plenty to look forward to!

Art - Ceramics

In Art, children will build upon basic skills. Studies will include: observational drawing techniques, painting, printing, exploring pattern and design using a range of media, creating models of Viking Longships and taking a closer look at the art of the Egyptians.

In Ceramics, the children are taught two techniques of making: pinching and soft slabs. Observational drawings of peppers, squash and pumpkins introduce the pinched project, and the children are taught to translate line drawings into a three dimensional form and then later two pinched forms joined. Year 4's link the Egyptian curriculum to a soft slab death mask, with joining and glazing skills to explore surface texture.

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

Mrs Paula Leech co-ordinates special needs teaching and is the key point of contact for parents who wish to enquire about learning support for dyslexia or other related issues. Some children have specific individual targets known as Personal Targets which Mrs Leech helps to write and oversees. Other children are involved in Catch Up Literacy which allows them to build confidence in their reading. Mrs Leech is available at school on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and may be contacted on p.leech@hallgrove.co.uk Mrs Leech is supported by Mrs Laws on a Monday and Thursday morning.

Reporting to Parents

Autumn Term – there will be Parent Interviews, and you will receive two sets of assessment grades which details your child's progress.

Spring Term – you will receive one set of assessment grades at End of Term and there will be Parent Interviews.

Summer Term – you will receive one set of exam results and a full End of Term Report on all subjects.

We are always happy to see you regarding any worries or concerns. We would like to feel that we are all working together and if queries are dealt with at an early stage then crises can be kept to a minimum and your children can look forward to a happy and productive year.

Mrs Langley, Miss Furness and Mr Collier