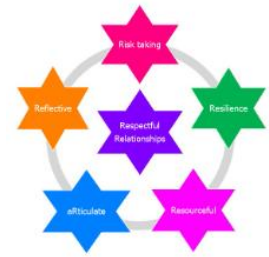




# Year 4 Curriculum Update Spring 2026



4MM Mrs Talia Bywater  
4AF Miss Cat Andrews

4CC Mrs Sarah Wheeler and Mrs Jo Cooper

## Themes

Our theme this term is 'Go with the flow.' This focuses on the geography topic of rivers, mountains and the water cycle. The children also have their residential trip to Burwell house.

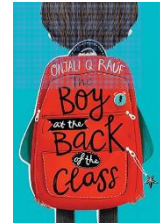
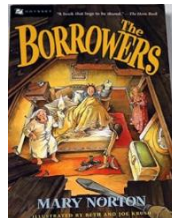
## English

In these lessons the children will learn about story writing and will write a tale based on 'Ocean Meets the Sky'. They will learn about explanation texts and write about the water cycle. In addition to this, the children will use their skills learnt during the Might Oak project to write and prepare speeches for the Moktar cup public speaking competition. Towards the end of the term, they will also learn about play scripts and prepare for their school play in the summer term. Lessons will be linked together to build up to a piece of writing that demonstrates their understanding of sentence structures and organisational features of these particular text types.

They will have a set of spellings, following a particular spelling pattern, to learn and practise using in their own sentences. Handwriting fluency is also important as the children continue to develop their spelling and punctuation accuracy. More information about how English is taught can be found in the curriculum section of the school website.

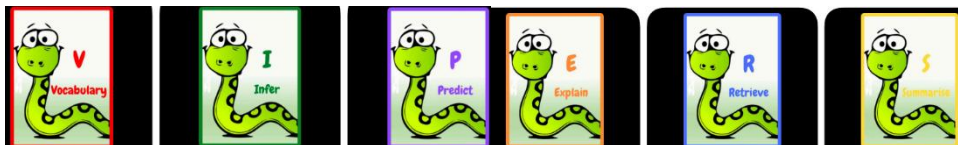
## Guided reading and class novels

The Borrowers by Mary Norton  
Ocean meets the sky by the Fan Brothers  
Boy at the back of the class by Onjali Rauf



The children will have four sessions of guided reading per week. Two of these will be linked to these class novels and two will be based on a linked text. The children will explore different question types and explore why authors choose particular words in their stories and texts.

The children will also have opportunities to read aloud to the class, both as individuals, in small groups and as a whole class.



Our question VIPERS

## **Mathematics**

The focus for the term is initially on multiplication and division practise, then the children will move onto work about length and perimeter and fractions. The fractions unit will include work on converting improper fractions and the addition and subtraction of these.

Each lesson includes practical learning, encouraging the children to develop a range of strategies to solve problems and apply these skills in different situations. They will also continue to develop their confidence with their times tables, practising their times tables daily and associated division facts. More information can be found by looking at our calculation policy on the school website. We are also developing a new times table fluency program, with the children practising quick recall of number facts every day.

## **Science**

In Science this term the children will continue their work about 'States of Matter' and link this with their geography work about the water cycle.

'Sound' is the second science topic for this term. The children will explore how we hear, how sound travels and pitch.

## **History/Geography**

The geography theme of rivers is the main focus for this term. The children will learn about the water cycle, flooding, and the impact of pollution on rivers.

## **Design Technology & Art**

In DT the children will follow a food technology unit, designing, making, and testing their own savoury pastry snack. During their visit to Burwell house, the children will enjoy a wide variety of arts and crafts activities from batik to enamelling. During the second half term they will study the work of Gustav Klimt and develop their painting and printing skills.

## **Music**

The children will have a weekly music lesson either with their class teacher or our specialist music teacher Mrs Brown. The focus this term is on writing their own rap on an anti-bullying theme. In addition to this they will also have a weekly singing assembly as a whole KS2.





## **PE**

The children will have two PE lessons per week. These lessons will either be taught by our PE coaches Mrs Joubert or Mr Moss or by the class teacher. The focus for this term will be hockey and then football. Indoor sessions will be based on the gymnastic skills of balancing and partner work. Swimming will also take place on alternate Fridays afternoons at our local pool – Lord Butler.

## **PSHE**

In these weekly lessons the children will learn about financial capability and 'friends and family.' We will also regularly refer to the 'Zones of regulation' as a way of explaining how we are feeling.

### The **ZONES** of Regulation®

			
<b>BLUE ZONE</b> Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	<b>GREEN ZONE</b> Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	<b>YELLOW ZONE</b> Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	<b>RED ZONE</b> Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control

## **French**

The children will have a weekly French lesson taught by their class teacher. This is based on our new scheme and focusses on the seasons and weather and then on to classroom objects.

## **Religious Education**

This term's first unit explores how different religious groups have contributed to society and culture in the past and how this has continued into the present day. This human and social sciences unit particularly focusses on Christianity and Hinduism. In the second half of the term the children will explore why there is so much diversity within individual religions, with a focus on Christianity.

## **Computing**

The children will explore how to build their own computer games, fix errors, and develop simple algorithms. To support their computer literacy the children will also be encouraged to use technology across foundation subjects.

## **Supporting your child's learning**

In order to support your child's learning there are a range of things you can do at home, making it fun and relevant for them.

- Read with and to your child regularly – whilst we believe it is important for the children to practising reading aloud to an adult daily, they also need to listen to good quality books being read to them as an opportunity to be exposed to texts that are currently beyond their own reading capability. The children are welcome to bring and share a book during our 'Fun reading Friday' sessions.
- Do have a look on the school website for more information about how we teach maths, especially our calculation policy.
- Regularly log into spelling shed and practise a range of the games.
- Practise times tables using TT rockstars or 'Hit the Button.' Initially focus on x2 x4 x8 and then onto x3 x6 x9 x12 this really helps the children to see the links between the sets of numbers in these groups.
- Engage your children to discussions about topical issues the world around them. There are specially produced newspapers for children as well as TV programmes such as 'Newsround' and Blue Peter.
- Visit our wonderful Saffron Walden town museum to find out more about our local area.