



MERCHANT TAYLORS'

Prep

MTP Year 4 curriculum

ENGLISH

Autumn Term

This term's class reader is *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis, which we share together. Pupils are also expected to read for 30 minutes every day and record this in their Reading Record. We would like the pupils to read out loud and discuss what they have been reading with an adult at least twice a week. This will help to improve their use of expression and comprehension skills.

During English lessons we study descriptive writing, instructional texts, play scripts and poetry. The pupils focus on planning, structure and characterisation within their own composition.

This term the pupils will be learning to make greater use of the dictionary and thesaurus. We will continue with weekly formal spelling lessons with creative and engaging spelling homework. Fluency and consistency in handwriting will be further developed with regular handwriting sessions.

Spring Term

This term the pupils learn about describing characters and factual texts. We revisit poetry writing and develop our descriptive language. Our focus is on redrafting and editing our own work.

In reading, the pupils continue to develop their reading comprehension skills through in depth discussions and written exercises.

Summer Term

Our focus for the first half of this term is descriptive writing and comprehension and grammar skills in the lead up to the exams. For the second half of term, we focus on writing recounts and diary entries.

We do not set any new spellings to learn for the first half of term.



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MATHEMATICS

Autumn Term

During the term the pupils:

- Revise their knowledge of place value and rounding.
- Develop and refine their methods of multiplication and division using 3- and 4-digit numbers.
- Develop their understanding of fractions by finding equivalent fractions, subtracting and adding fractions, finding fractions of a set and converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers.
- Interpret information from bar graphs and tables.

There is a strong emphasis on developing mental calculation strategies.

Regular practice of number facts including multiplication tables, addition and subtraction facts should be completed as part of their homework. We also continue to use manipulative maths equipment to support the pupils' learning.

Spring Term

Pupils require a **protractor** and **set square**.

Our focus for this term is on fractions and using the bar model drawing to solve word problems relating to fractions. We also learn about angles. We continue to focus on mental maths skills to reinforce addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts.

Summer Term

In the first half of term, we learn about decimals and revise the topics we have covered so far this year in preparation for the examination. After half term we learn about shapes, area and perimeter.



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SCIENCE

Autumn Term

In the Autumn term, pupils complete units of work on The Variety of Living Things, Caring for the Environment and Food Chains. These units give pupils an opportunity to think about how scientists classify the living things around them, how the natural environment is impacted by naturally occurring change and the changes brought about by human activity, and how living things exist in close feeding relationships with each other.

Spring Term

In the Spring term, pupils learn about Teeth and Digestion and Sound and Hearing, learning how different teeth perform different functions and about the human digestive system. They also learn how sound waves travel through different media and about how we hear.

Summer Term

In the Summer term, pupils complete a unit of work on Electricity providing opportunities to learn about how electricity flows around a circuit and through some materials but not others. They then revise for and complete their summer examination before completing a biology project on habitats.

Throughout the year pupils are encouraged to ask scientific questions, make careful observations, gather results of observations and practical experiments, use those results to draw simple conclusions as well as carry out research. Homework activities are usually of a research nature referencing the Year 4 textbook issued to pupils to keep at home, and delivered via Seesaw.



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MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Autumn Term

Pupils begin the study of the Studio course, which starts in Year 4 with the Accès Studio textbook and continues to develop with a new textbook from the same series, until the end of Year 7. This term's topics include greetings, numbers, age, days of the week, months and school objects. Lessons consider new vocabulary and also build on previous knowledge. Furthermore, emphasis is placed on grammatical aspects such as French spellings, definite and indefinite articles and plurals.

Spring Term

The pupils study the topics of the birthdays, classroom and sport. We also find out about how the festivals of Mardi Gras (Pancake Tuesday) and Easter are celebrated in France.

Summer Term

We focus on the topics of sport, animals and family.

GEOGRAPHY

Autumn Term

Year 4 pupils study village life in India, comparing and contrasting culture, climate and geographical features.

Spring Term

We concentrate on developing mapping skills including learning how to use grid references, directions, scale and symbols.

Summer Term

The pupils continue to develop their map reading skills and their knowledge of the world through atlas work.



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HISTORY

Autumn Term

The pupils study the Vikings, their impact on Britain, and the stories about them. They develop the key historical skill of making inferences about evidence based on observations and are encouraged to form conclusions based on different sources. They also consider how much of what we know about the Vikings is really true. In the second half of term the pupils take part in an immersive *Viking Day* in School to consolidate their interest and understanding.

Spring Term

The pupils study life in ancient Greece. Aspects to be covered include gods and goddesses, architecture, the Olympic Games, wars and myths. In particular they consider the legacy of ancient cultures in our society today. Their key focus is on why Greek culture is (and deserves to be) widely remembered. Pupils are encouraged to compare and contrast inferences about different types of sources.

Summer Term

This term, the pupils focus on the history of the local area and the Manor of the More itself, as well as a brief introduction to the Tudors. They investigate what we can learn about the past from the places we visit, and how different types of people lived differently in the same place using their trip to Hampton Court Palace as a case study.



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LATIN

Autumn Term

Pupils continue the cartoon-based *Minimus* course. They study commands and adverbs in both Latin and English. The cultural content is a real Roman family who lived in Vindolanda Fort, near Hadrian's Wall.

Spring Term

The pupils continue to learn about Roman Britain and improve their understanding of the origin of English words through the Latin language course, *Minimus*.

Summer Term

The pupils continue to learn about Roman Britain and improve their English by using the Latin language course *Minimus*.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Autumn Term

As part of an understanding of world religions, this term's focus is on Sikhism.

Spring Term

As part of an understanding of world religions, this term's focus is on Hinduism.

Summer Term

We complete our studies of major world religions with a focus on Buddhism.



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ART & DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Autumn Term

This term the pupils explore the art and culture of classical civilisations. We investigate the world the people of these ancient cultures inhabited and produce artwork inspired by the artefacts, buildings and earthenware which survive from the period. Pupils develop patterns and designs leading to an engraved and decorated clay slab or coil pot.

Spring Term

This term we conclude our pottery project by glazing our slab pots. After this, we begin on our design and technology project, using work working tools and skills to construct a working clock.

Summer Term

This term the pupils use woodwork skills to build a working desk clock before moving on to a project to create a moving model using levers.

DRAMA

Autumn Term

This term the pupils audition and rehearse for the Year 4 production to be performed in The Lalani New Barn Theatre in February.

Spring Term

This term the pupils continue to rehearse for, and perform, the school production. After half-term, we explore the physical life of characters in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

Summer Term

This term the pupils will be focusing on character and exploring the central relationships and dilemmas in their class reader, *Friend or Foe* by Michael Morpurgo.



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COMPUTING

Autumn Term

The pupils learn about e-safety and how to be safe when using the internet. They practise touch typing. They study factual accuracy in online data. The pupils continue to learn about different programs. They also take part in the Hour of Code and experiment with desktop publishing.

Spring Term

This term the pupils use comic strip software to design and create a comic book. They also use photo editing software to edit images creatively.

Summer Term

The pupils start with a touch-typing course for 4 weeks and then use the app Book Creator to create an eBook. They use the data loggers to collect data (sound) and use Excel to create graphs.



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MUSIC

Autumn Term

Pupils spend the first half of term learning the songs for the Year 4 Production.

Pupils spend the second half of term learning to sing traditional Christmas carols in preparation for the School Carol Service.

Spring Term

During the first half of term, pupils continue learning the songs for the Year 4 Production.

After half-term, pupils explore music that has been inspired by space. They develop their understanding of programme music and how to tell stories through sound. They study the history and context of works by great composers (e.g. Holst's The Planets Suite). They also compose and improvise with greater attention to structure and contrast.

Summer Term

Pupils spend the first half of the summer term singing partner songs and rounds. This unit allows them to explore singing songs in multiple parts, in different time signatures and with a greater range of expression. They are introduced to further aspects of pitch notation and further terminology relating to the above.

During the second half of term, pupils explore Calypso music. Pupils revisit performing melodies from simple staff notation within this stylistic context, and are introduced to rhythmic scores, which they perform as an ensemble. They also explore the origins, stories, traditions and historical/social context of music from the Caribbean.



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PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION and RSE

Autumn Term

The pupils begin the year by discussing positive friendships including those online. We then move onto how to respond to hurtful behaviour and recognising the risks online and end this term by learning about how to make decisions concerning money including keeping it safe.

Spring Term

We start this term by thinking about respecting differences and similarities and learning what a community is and the shared responsibilities there are within communities. We move on to thinking about digital resilience and how data is shared and used.

Summer Term

In the Summer Term the pupils learn about maintaining a balanced lifestyle and the importance of dental and oral hygiene before moving on to growing and changing when we will look at changes that can occur in our lives including the emotional changes. We end the year by thinking about keeping safe in relation to medicines and household products, and drugs that are common to everyday life.



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E.) AND GAMES

Important Note (all terms):

Pupils will need **football boots** (Autumn/Spring) AND **astro-trainers** as well as having their **indoor footwear** available in their P.E. bag. P.E. bags should always be brought into school on Monday morning and taken home to wash on Friday afternoon. This ensures that pupils always have correct kit whatever the weather.

Autumn Term

In P.E. the pupils will again be swimming at Bushey Grove pool for their final term of the year. They will focus on improving their technique in both prone and supine strokes. An additional lane is used to further develop the more able swimmers with a focus on breathing and stamina.

Pupils require **swimming trunks** (NOT swim shorts) and a **towel** each week plus a **waterproof bag for wet kit**. Goggles are optional, but your son must be able to put them on and resize them himself. Full details can be found in the Parent Handbook.

Spring Term

In P.E. the pupils re-visit hockey with renewed development of both basic and more advanced skills. Small-sided games and tactics are developed continually with a focus on the rules of the game.

In Games pupils play rugby and take part in cross country. There is an emphasis on the further development of the principles of rugby and gameplay with an ongoing focus on physical fitness, core strength development and aerobic endurance. Low level contact rugby is introduced.

All pupils require a **gumshield** for Games.

Summer Term

In P.E. the pupils prepare for Sports Day acquiring skills associated with both track and field event athletics (throwing, jumping, sprint, middle distance running).

In Games the pupils develop their cricket skills in relation to bowling, batting and fielding, with an emphasis on tactics and playing as a team.

After Sports Day pupils take part in summer sports such as rounders and ultimate frisbee.



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FURTHER INFORMATION

EXAMINATIONS

Year 4 pupils have formal examinations in English, Mathematics and Science in late May. Revision guidance will be provided in the first week of the Summer Term.

PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS

You will have the opportunity to meet your son's form teacher in person in October and in March. In the meantime, should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your son's form teach via the office - either email or telephone them.

HOMEWORK

Homework will be set on Seesaw.

Document changelog

Date	Note
2024-09-09	Wellbeing changed to PSHE and updated; Science, Music
2023-09-10	Science and Music updated
2023-06-13	Wellbeing updated
2022-09-10	Science updated
2022-09-01	Created