



Year 4

Happy New Year! We hope you had a restful break and the children return to school ready to learn. As always, we are so excited to share what we have in store for your children this term and have lots of inspiring learning planned to capture their interest and imagination!

Our themes for the Spring terms we will be ‘Darkness and Light’ and ‘Taking Courage’ with many of the books we focus on for both Reading and Writing lessons following these ideas.

Our trip to Hampton Court Palace in March will link to our History topic ‘The Tudors’.

Both teachers in Year 4 welcome an open door policy and are happy to answer any questions and discuss any concerns.

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs Hinton and Mrs Swift

Curriculum Information

English

This term in English, we will be studying a range of wonderful texts around the themes of Darkness and Light & Taking Courage. The texts in Spring 1 will be Winter’s Child, The Firework Maker’s Daughter and Taramind and the star of Ishta. In Spring 2 we will look at Matchbox Diary and Viking Voyagers.



Maths

In Maths this term we are going to be continue focusing on Multiplication and Division before moving onto Length and Perimeter, Fractions and an introduction to decimals. Learning our times tables remain a priority!

In June 2026, your children will sit the government Multiplication Tables Check. In preparation for this we will continue to focus on learning our tables on a daily basis.



History/Geography

This term in Geography this term we are going to be exploring all things UK. This includes how the UK is divided into counties, food, wildlife and culture across UK.

In Spring 2, our History topic will be about The Tudors. Our learning will focus on the Battle of Bosworth, war of the roses, Tudor monarchs; daily life and crime and punishment.



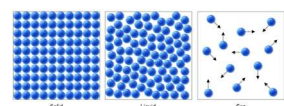
Computing

In Spring 1 we will be looking at repetition in shapes. We will create a code snippet; explain effect of changing the value of a command; test an algorithm.

In Spring 2, the children will modify a set of code to give a certain outcome; predict an outcome; use existing code and use repetition in a project.


Science

In science, we will continue our learning on Living Things with a focus on conservation - children will recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.



In Spring 2, our topic is States of Matter where we will compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases; observe that some materials change state.





<p style="text-align: center;">RE</p> <p>In RE we will be looking at a new religion: Humanism, and considering the key question ‘how do Humanists live good lives?’</p> <p>In Spring our focus turns to christianity where we will explore Easter and Holy week, communion, death and resurrection, God’s rescue plan and the role of confession and restitution.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PE/Outdoor Learning</p> <p>In Spring 1 we will focus on throwing, catching, passing, shooting, travelling in Handball, and in dance the focus will be on improvisation and life cycles.</p> <p>In Spring 2 we will be matching and contrasting balances in gymnastics and dribbling, passing, pivoting and applying skills In basketball.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PSHE</p> <p>This term in Jigsaw PSHE, we are focusing on Aspirations where pupils will consider how to achieve goals and understand the emotions that go with this.</p> <p>The second part of the term will consist of looking at how we can keep ourselves safe and healthy.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Art/DT</p> <p>In Spring 1, our topic is British Art with a focus on using a range of media to make portraits, abstract art and postcards. We will look at artists such as Gainsborough, Lucian Freud and Anish Kapoor.</p> <p>In Spring 2, we will be doing DT, Children will design and create a solid castle suitable for Henry VIII to live in.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Music</p> <p>In music the children will work together to compose a piece of music – learning along the way that there is a lot to remember!</p> <p>In the second half of the term the children will learn that music is used for many reasons and can help us express our feelings. They will learn that music can be loud or quiet.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Spanish</p> <p>This term in Spanish, we will learn 10 fruits and be introduced to the simple opinions ‘I like’ and ‘I do not like’.</p> <p>We will also learn 10 common vegetables in their plural form with their definite articles.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>

Home Learning

At Meadow Park Academy, we believe that home learning can provide valuable opportunities to consolidate and practice learning.

We expect all children in Year 4 to complete the following weekly:

<p style="text-align: center;">Reading</p> <p>The children will be sent home with a reading book matching their phonological knowledge so they can continue to practice their learning at home or a free choice book for those who can decode.</p> <p>They are expected to read 5 times per week.</p> <p>A note of this should be put in their lovely new planners!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Spelling Shed</p> <p>As a school, we have subscribed to Spelling Shed, an incredible app that allows children to practice their spellings in a fun and interactive way.</p> <p>In Year 4, they are expected to complete 20 minutes per week.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Logins will be stuck in children’s planners.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Times Table Rockstars</p> <p>Times Table Rockstars is a wonderful program which allows children to battle and play games to win tokens. All they have to do, is answer their times tables!</p> <p>In Year 4, they are expected to complete 20 minutes per week.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Logins will be stuck in children’s planners.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://trockstars.com/</p>
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If you are struggling to access any of this homework, please speak to your child’s class teacher about alternative arrangements.



Other information

School Uniform

All children should come to school in the correct school uniform, which is:

- Meadow Park sweatshirt
- Plain white polo shirt
- Plain grey or white socks
- Grey trousers
- Grey skirt
- Black, sensible shoes (no heels)



PE Kit

Children must come to school wearing their PE kits on their PE days. Our PE day is:

Friday

Our PE uniform is:

- Meadow Park black shorts
- Meadow Park emerald green T shirt
- Plimsolls, trainers or bare feet (for indoor PE)
- Trainers with good grip and support for outside sport (different to indoor trainers)
- Plain grey or black tracksuit bottoms and top (optional)
- Hairband to tie long hair back

Any issues?

In the first instance, please speak with the class teacher at the end of the day. If you are unable to be there at collection, please contact the school office to arrange a time to meet with the teacher.

If you are still unsatisfied, please arrange a meeting with the phase leader.

Acorns, Cherry, Apple, Maple – **Mrs Pack**
Beech, Sycamore, Elm, Chestnut, Ash, Holly,
Hazel, Oak – **Ms Geary**

If after that meeting, you continue to be unhappy with the resolution, please contact the school office to make an appointment with **Ms Holehouse, Ms Voisey or Ms Drysdale.**

If you need to discuss a specific SEND concern, please speak to our SENDCo, **Mrs Mughal.**

Lunchtime

Our delicious lunches are provided by Educatering, formally known as Crumbs.



Lunches must be ordered by **midnight on Tuesday**, to ensure that your child has lunches for the **following** week. As the lunches are cooked to order, there are usually no spare lunches.

You can place your lunch orders through MCAS.



Snacks and Water Bottles

Please make sure your child has a clearly labelled water bottle in school, so that they can stay hydrated.

We also welcome the children to bring in a healthy, nut free snack to enjoy at playtime.



Key Dates for your diary

Monday 5th January 2026 – Staff INSET day

Tuesday 6th January 2026 – Children return to school

Thursday 8th January 2026 – Reception Open Morning

Thursday 15th January 2026 – Winter Safety Assembly

Wednesday 28th January 2026 – Breakfast Workshops for Year 5

Thursday 29th January 2026 – Breakfast Workshops for Year 5

Wednesday 4th February 2026 – Year 5 Fire Safety Session

Tuesday 10th February 2026 – Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 10th February 2026 – Parents Evening

Wednesday 11th February 2026 – Online Safety Workshops

Wednesday 11th February 2026 – Parents Evening

Friday 13th February 2026 – Last Day of Half Term

HALF TERM – Monday 16th February 2026 – Friday 20th February 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026 – Children return to school

Tuesday 24th February 2026 – Year 2 to Oxford Ashmolean Museum

Thursday 5th March 2026 – World Book Day

Thursday 13th March 2026 – Year 3 to RHS Wisley

Wednesday 18th March 2026 – Year 4 to Hampton Court Palace

Thursday 19th March 2026 – International ‘Read to Me’ Day

Friday 20th March 2026 – Red Nose Day

Friday 20th March 2026 – Year 1 to Winsor Castle

Tuesday 24th March 2026 – Acorns to Brooklands Museum

Tuesday 24th March 2026 & Wednesday 25th March 2026 – Year 3 & 4 performances

Thursday 26th March 2026 – Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday 26th March 2026 – Clubs end

Friday 27th March 2026 – End of Spring Term – Finish at 1:30pm

A reminder that in the Summer Term, on Thursday 7th May 2026, Meadow Park Academy will be closed for all children, apart from Year 6, as we are being used as a Polling Station.