Welcome to Year 4

MEET THE TEAM

SEPTEMBER 2023

Meet the Team

4R Class Teacher & YGL
Miss Thompson

4M Class Teacher
Mr Tomlinson

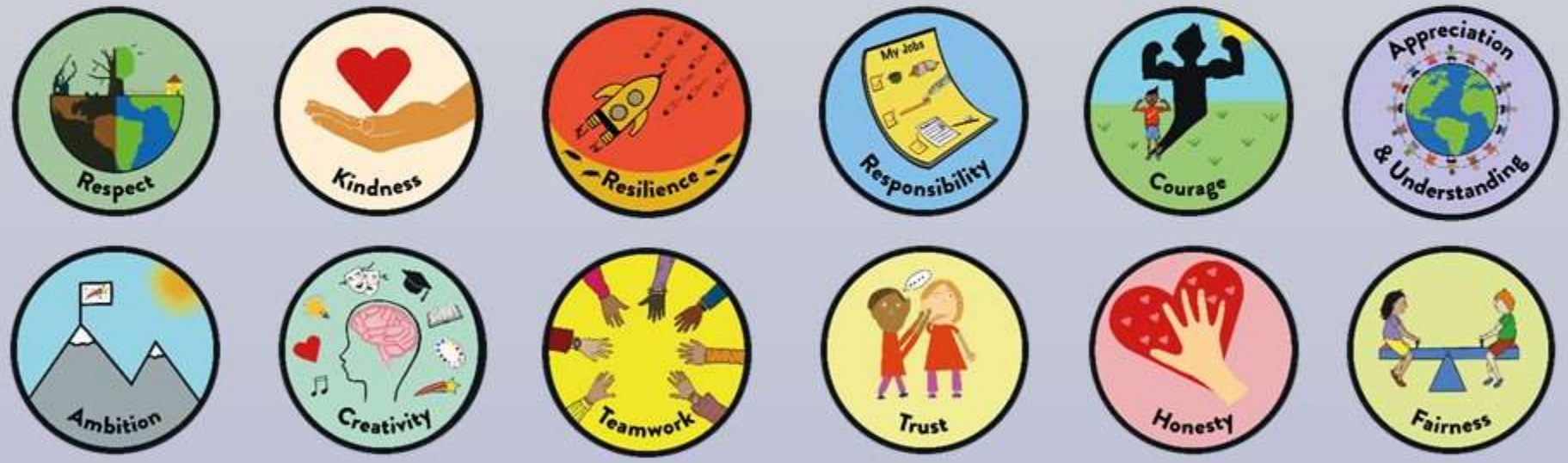
4O Class Teacher
Mr Mitchell

Support Staff
Mrs O (M-F)
Ms Patel (M-F am)
Mrs K (M-F pm)

Year 2, 3, 4 Phase Leader
Miss Powell

Our Vision and Values

At Hazelwood, we believe in nurturing responsible citizens to achieve educational excellence by inspiring awe and wonder through a real, relevant, immersive and purposeful curriculum.



Our shared values are at the heart of all we do.

Believe and Achieve

The School Day

Soft Start in the mornings – **between 8:45-8:55am** – Children come straight into class.

Our break and lunch times are:
Morning break 10:30am – 10.45am
Lunch 12.15pm-1.15pm

Our school day finishes at **3:15pm**
4O – dismissed from external classroom door
4M – dismissed from the wooden bench outside 4M
4R – dismissed from playground near the blue bench by the hub

Our Aims

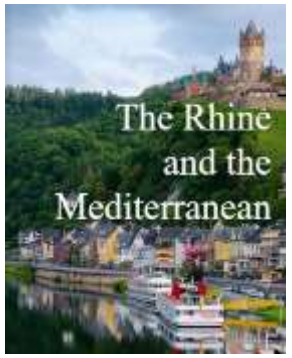
- To enable children to **achieve their best** by upholding **high expectations of all children – both in their learning and their behaviour**
- To enable a **smooth transition** from Year 3 to Year 4 – supporting well being
- To remove the lid on learning – **opportunities and challenges for all**
- To ensure that the Year 4 curriculum is **fun and engaging** but also extends the experiences that children have had already in Hazelwood
- To develop **independent learners** who know how they can improve
- To provide children with a **broad and well balanced curriculum** through a range of learning opportunities
- To encourage **responsibility** to ensure children are able to look after their own belongings
- To **prepare children for upper KS2 curriculum** (academically, emotionally & socially)
- To have **positive relationships with parents** to ensure success

The Year 4 Curriculum

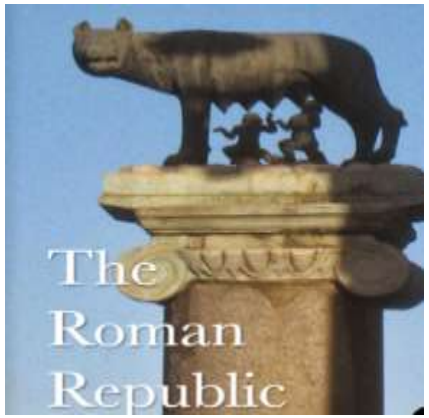
Over the year, the children will be working on different topics across the curriculum which will cover the key knowledge and skills outlined in the National Curriculum.

Link to overview from website

Science: Living things and their habitats



Geography: The Rhine and the Mediterranean



History: The Roman Republic

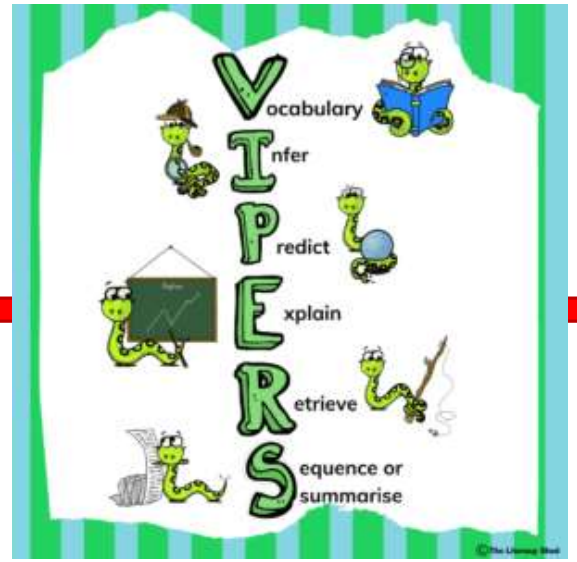
RE: Judaism

Computing: Coding

Art: Drawing and Sketchbooks

Reading

Accelerated Reader



In school:
Daily Whole Class Reading
Regular Opportunity for Story Time

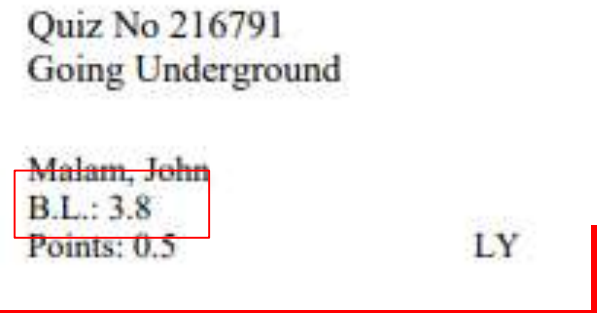
At home:
The children will take **a leveled reading** book home at least every week (depending on the length of the book) as well as opportunities to take books from our book corner for their enjoyment. We would really appreciate it if you could read with or encourage your child to read **everyday** and **record in your child's yellow reading record book**. They can do themselves but would also encourage you to keep an eye on their reading activity. The children's reading books will be changed at least weekly and they will be encouraged to select a new book independently within their given book level range.

Book bags need to be brought into school **everyday** please as there will be opportunities throughout the school day where adults in the classroom will read with the children.

Reading

As a school we are continually looking for ways to improve outcomes for children. We have a wonderful and freshly stocked library and we are changing the way we assess and manage children's independent reading. We will be using **accelerated reader**

- Star Reader quiz will be taken at the **start of each term. T**his is an online, adaptive, multiple choice assessment that will give teachers a **ZPD** (Zone of Proximal development) for your child. This will help teachers to monitor their reading comprehension.
- Your child will be given a **Book Level** which will indicate the level book they should choose from the library - they will add this to their reading record too
- This Book Level (B.L) will be monitored by teachers and will ensure that children are reading at a level which stretches and challenges them but does not cause frustration.
- Please now ignore any coloured banding stickers, we will no longer be using these
- Children will also be encouraged to take reading for pleasure books in addition to their levelled reading book.



English and Maths

- English and Mathematics are taught daily. In these lessons we focus on teaching the children key skills, through practical and problem solving activities.

- Our lessons are differentiated to meet the needs of all children and we provide different opportunities for independent, group and paired work.

Year 4 Multiplication Check

- Taken by all children in June 2024
- Online check that includes 25 questions
- Children will be prepared throughout the year - part of teaching
- Interventions to support children who we identify as needing additional support
- Regular Times Table Rockstars Practice - battles
- Parent Meeting will be held in school nearer the time
- Not a test to worry children about - just a measure of progress

Things to look forward to

- Visit to Local Synagogue - TBC
- Visit to LEGOLAND – Spring term
- Visit to Trafalgar Square- TBC
- States of matter workshop – TBC
- Year 4 Sleepover – Summer term
- Multiplication Check - June 2023
- Class Assemblies:
  - 4R - 8th November
  - 4O – 7th November
  - 4M – 9th November

PE

- PE days are:
  - 4R – Tuesday and Wednesday
  - 4M – Wednesday and Friday
  - 4O – Tuesday and Wednesday

- Children should come to school in their PE kit on PE Days
- Indoor PE kit should consist of: shorts, t-shirt and trainers.
- Outdoor PE kit should consist of the same as the indoor kit, plus trainers, tracksuit bottoms and a long-sleeve top for cold weather
- Long hair should be tied back.
- No jewellery. For Health and Safety reasons, staff are **not** allowed to remove a child's earrings. This must be done either by the child or their carer beforehand.

Music

- In the Autumn and Spring terms, whole class **flute** is taught as part of the Hazelwood Music Curriculum. Children will be given the opportunity to take an EMS flute home to practise at the end of the Autumn term.
- Children in Year 4 can take part in the **Juniors Choir**, **Beginner Violin Club** and **String Group**. *(Children must have had two terms of lessons before joining String Group.)*
- If you have signed your child up for **group or individual instrumental lessons**, these will take place during the school day. You will be told the day your child has their lessons so that they can bring in their instrument and/ or music.

Homework

At Hazelwood Schools, we believe that homework should provide opportunities to:

· reinforce learning that has taken place in the classroom
· provide opportunities for parents to become more familiar with their child's learning and enjoy a shared learning experience with their child
· prepare children for the next academic stage of their school life
· develop valuable life skills and good work habits such as organisation and time management
· foster independence, confidence and resilience
· inspire creativity and curiosity outside of the classroom

In addition, homework at Hazelwood should be:

· enjoyable and accessible
· consistent across all classes in a year group as well as show consistency across the school
· pitched at the right level for the child's attainment
· manageable for busy family lifestyles

Homework

- **Reading**: Children will be allocated home reading books based on reading and comprehension assessments in class. Once a week, children will be given the opportunity to exchange this book if they have finished it.
- **Expected Weekly Homework – Maths and Spelling**: Expected weekly homework will be found on Google Classroom and will usually require online completion. Homework will be set on a Thursday and be expected to be completed by the following Tuesday.
- **Optional Homework Grids:** These will be set every half term for children to complete as they wish. The work compelted will be celebrated in class an
- **Maths:** Maths homework - based on the child's level of understanding - will be set each week to support children with prior and/or upcoming learning. Children are also expected to practice their times tables regularly!
- **Spelling**: At the beginning of each half term, a list will go out with the half-termly spellings. Children will be tested on these spellings at the end of the half term. Each week, children will be taught explicit spelling rules in class and this will be supported by weekly homework to reinforce these rules.

Homework

Autumn 1 - Half term Homework

Autumn 1 - Half term Creative Projects (Opt...	Due Oct 20, 3:00 PM
Autumn 1 - Half term Spelling	Due Oct 20, 3:00 PM

Autumn 1 - Week 1 - Expected Homework

Autumn 1 - Week 1 - Maths Homework - To u...	Due Sep 13, 8:00 PM
Autumn 1 - Week 1 - Spelling Homework - To...	Due Sep 13, 8:00 AM

School Uniform

- Children should always be smart
- School jumper (worn or held, not tied around the waist)
- White or red polo shirt – always tucked in
- Black / grey trousers / skirt
- Black shoes (no coloured laces etc…)
- Hair should be tied back if long
- No nail varnish and stud earrings only
- No other jewellery unless for religious reasons (all jewellery must be removed for PE)

Attendance and Punctuality

- Please make sure your child is in school and on time.
- Being late has an impact on your child's attendance record.
- Attendance is important. Research shows that a 1% increase in attendance can lead to a 5% increase in attainment.
- However, please do not send your child to school if they are sick!
- To report an absence, please visit our website and click on 'Report an Absence'

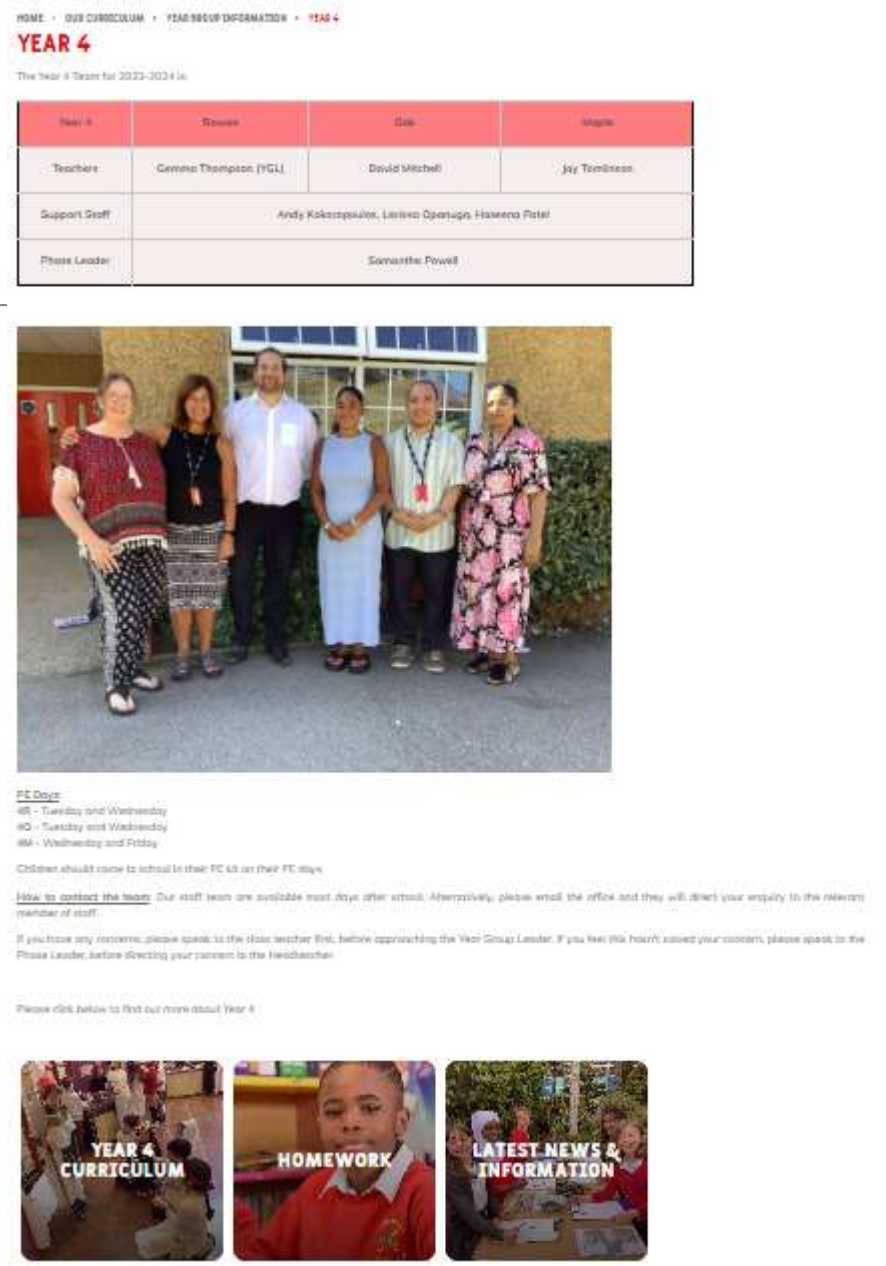
Attendance Matters
...every school day counts!

Other notes…

- **Healthy snacks please** – no crisps or chocolate
- **Water bottles** – should be labelled and brought into school every day
- **No Nuts** – please be aware we are a nut free school & there are children with severe nut allergies
- **Birthdays** – packaged items only, no items that may contain nuts (we have a number of vegetarian/halal children)
- **Speaking to us** – our relationship with parents/carers is really important. The best way is to communicate via email through the office with a reason why you need to speak to us and we will give you a call back as soon as we can! Or speak to SLT in the mornings or catch us at the end of the day.

Communication

- Website – Year 4 page
- Newsletters
- Weekly round-up
- End of the day
- Emails



School Website

www.hazelwoodschools.org.uk

Any Questions?