

Year 4 Newsletter



Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success

Spring Term 1

Monday 5th January 2026
to
Thursday 12th February 2026

Theme – ‘I Can Hear You!’

Welcome back! We hope you and your children have had a lovely time over the Christmas holidays and are ready for the exciting term ahead. Our theme for this half term is called ‘I can hear you.’ This science-based theme provides opportunities to explore sound, hearing and parts of the ear and their functions.

To continue with promoting the love of reading throughout our school we will again be visiting Droylsden library. Again, this is a great opportunity for your child to learn about the fantastic free resources available to them and to read and enjoy a wide range of books. The library is also a great place to go to study or do homework, to use a computer or attend free activities during school holidays.

Please continue to read to your child and encourage them to read to you. Your child will receive a reading book and can change it as soon as they have read it. Please support your child to record reading sessions in their reading record. Regularly reading for pleasure can benefit your child’s education, social and cognitive development, their wellbeing, and their mental health. Reading allows us to be transported from our own world to another. Between the pages of a book, we can become immersed in the lives of fictional characters and learn about a culture entirely different from our own. We can also learn new words and phrases (that we can use in our own writing), experience a range of emotions, and acquire new skills and knowledge.

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” Dr Seuss

What will we be learning this half term?

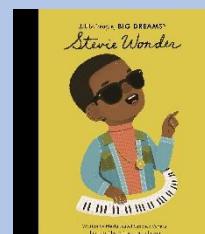
Please note that all the Curriculum Overviews for each subject can be found on the school website. These contain detailed outlines of the coverage for learning. Please take time to read them.

Our School Values

Achieve Care Value Listen Help

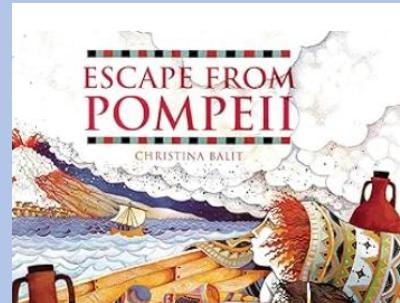


This term, Year 4 will be exploring the inspiring story of *Elizabeth II* from the *Little People, BIG DREAMS* series. Children will learn about how Queen Elizabeth II showed dedication, resilience, and a strong sense of duty throughout her life, making a difference to people all over the world. Through reading her story, pupils will be encouraged to think about their own dreams, the importance of perseverance, and how even small actions can have a big impact.



We will also be discovering the inspiring story of *Stevie Wonder*. Children will learn how Stevie overcame challenges, including losing his sight, to become one of the world's most famous and talented musicians. Through his story, pupils will be encouraged to follow their passions, believe in themselves, and see how determination and creativity can help achieve amazing things.

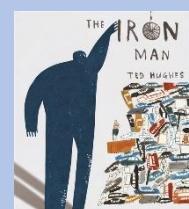
English



Year 4 students are about to embark on an unforgettable adventure as they dive into the thrilling story of *Escape from Pompeii*. As Mount Vesuvius erupts, our young writers will step into the shoes of the people of Pompeii writing powerful diary entries, imagining what it would have been like to live through the disaster, and sharing their experiences in the heat of the moment! We will be using the text to develop pupils' oracy skills through engaging activities such as hot seating, where children take on the role of characters and answer questions in role. These activities will help pupils practise speaking clearly and confidently, listen carefully to others, and use ambitious vocabulary as they explain thoughts, feelings, and ideas. By exploring the story through talk, children will deepen their understanding of the text while building confidence in expressing themselves.

But the adventure doesn't stop there! Students will also play the role of journalists, interviewing survivors and writing dramatic newspaper articles to report the chaos of the eruption. With history, creativity, and empathy at the heart of these activities, Year 4 are going to bring Pompeii back to life in the most exciting way possible.

Guided Reading



We will also be reading the thrilling story *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes. Children will follow the adventures of a mysterious giant who appears out of nowhere, and discover how courage, friendship, and clever thinking help the humans and the Iron Man overcome challenges. Through exploring the story, pupils will develop their reading comprehension and imagination, while enjoying an exciting tale full of suspense and adventure!

Maths

Our focus within maths this term will be multiplication and division. We will work on the following:

- Factor pairs
- Using factor pairs
- Multiplying by 10 /100
- Divide by 10 /100
- Related facts – multiplication and division
- Informal written methods for multiplication
- Multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number
- Multiply a 3-digit number by a 1-digit number
- Divide a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number
- Divide a 3-digit number by a 1-digit number
- Corresponding problems
- Efficient multiplication

Throughout this unit pupils will develop their understanding of times tables, efficient written methods, and the relationship between multiplication and division, helping them to solve problems with increasing

confidence. We will also be applying these skills to real-life and reasoning questions, encouraging children to explain their thinking clearly and choose appropriate strategies. Regular practice of times tables at home will greatly support children's progress and confidence in this area.

It is now compulsory that all children in Year 4 take part in the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) in the Summer term. For more information about this please visit:

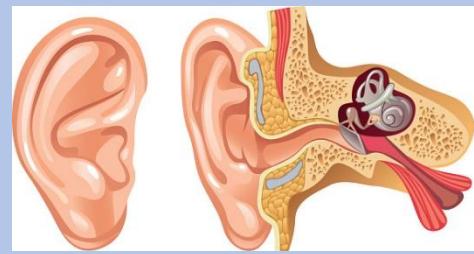
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>

In preparation for the MTC, this year we will be doing lots of times tables practise and we will be using the website called TT Rock Stars. We strongly advise that you allow your child to use this website as much as possible at home, as the more practise they get, the more confident and quicker they will become at their times tables.

Please encourage and support your child to practise their weekly times tables. It is very important that your child learns their times tables up to x12 (and their associated division facts) as it supports their mathematical learning and understanding. When children know their times tables and have quick recall, mental arithmetic becomes easier. Practising times tables also helps children to understand number and number relationships and to see patterns in numbers. These skills will help them to master key concepts and move quickly through more complex maths problems with confidence.

Science

Within science, we will be exploring the fascinating topic of sound. The children will investigate how vibrations cause sound and how sound travels, as well as how sound can change in pitch and volume. We will investigate how we hear things and how sound travels through the air, solids and liquids to reach our ears. We will then learn about the different parts of the ear and their functions in order for us to hear.



This exciting topic encourages curiosity, careful observation, and scientific questioning, helping children to develop a deeper understanding of the world around them.

Research



This term, our students are diving into the fascinating world of the Romans and their incredible journey to Britain! The National Curriculum encourages a hands-on, enquiry-based approach to history, and what better way to bring the past to life than by exploring how and why the Romans settled in Britain? To support our learning, and to develop a true insight into what the daily life of a Roman felt like, we will be travelling back in time and immersing ourselves in their culture when we will take part in a Roman experience whilst visiting 'Park in the Past' in Wrexham. During our visit, we will explore a full-scale fort where the children will learn about the Roman life through interactive activities with costumed guides.

The Romans left a lasting impact on our landscape, architecture, and way of life. Our young historians will be discovering the Roman army's strategic brilliance, the construction of Hadrian's Wall, and the creation of towns and roads that still shape our world today.

Get ready for an exciting adventure through time, where we'll uncover ancient artifacts, learn about Roman gods and legends, and explore what life was like for the people living in Roman Britain!

It's a journey that's both fun and educational, sparking curiosity and critical thinking in all of our budding historians! Stay tuned for updates on their discoveries, we can't wait to share the excitement with you.

Computing

This term with Mr Goodier, Year 4 will be exploring the exciting world of coding using the BBC Microbit. We will create programs by planning, modifying and testing commands using the programming language MakeCode. Children will learn about hardware and software, understand how algorithms work, and explore how inputs and outputs control a device. They will put their learning into practice by designing and programming their very own digital Tamagotchis, developing both their computing skills and creativity in a fun, hands-on way.



Music

This term, our learning is focused around the song *Stop!* By Joanna Mangona. A rap/song about bullying. To begin with, we will clap back rhythms we can hear, copy and sing back, copy back with instruments (with and without notation). In small groups, we will use the song as inspiration to compose and perform our own songs about bullying. The song carries an important anti-bullying message, giving pupils the opportunity to discuss respect and kindness, and reflect on how music can be used to share positive messages.



PE

The focus of our learning within PE this term will be Dance, focusing on the musical *Cats*. We will explore movement through improvisation, teaching children how to move in unison and match their movements with others. We will learn how to move like dancers where we interpret the music, perform with good timing and musicality, show expression and creativity and be able to choreograph. Sustaining characters to add drama and emotion to the dance. These activities help pupils to build confidence, express themselves through dance, and enjoy working together as a team.



Foreign Languages

This term within French, we will create spoken and written sentences using a range of personal details including name, age and where we live. We will also learn how to greet someone and tell them how we are feeling. Through fun activities like songs, games, and conversations, children will continue to speak and develop their understanding of French, learning how to introduce themselves, talk about everyday topics, and explore new words. Early language learning also strengthens memory, problem-solving, and listening skills, making it an exciting and valuable part of their education!



RE

This term in RE, Year 4 will be exploring the question, *What do Hindus believe God is like?* Children will learn about the different forms and qualities of God in Hinduism, including how Hindus show their beliefs through stories, symbols, and daily practices. Through discussion, reflection, and activities, pupils will develop respect and understanding for different faiths, while thinking about their own ideas and values in a meaningful way.



Art

We will investigate different ways of applying paint. We will look at how adding black and white paint can change the shade and tint of a colour. We will then use this knowledge, to paint a picture giving it a three - dimensional effect.





The unit for this term is: 'Dreams and Goals.' We will fit together the six pieces of learning about my dreams and goals to create 'Our Garden of Dreams and Goals.'

We will look at our dreams and goals and understand that they might not always come true and that this can hurt. We will reflect on happy and positive experiences that can help us counteract disappointment, which will help us to make a new plan and set new dreams and goals. We will then reflect and understand what is needed to successfully achieve.

We look forward to an exciting and inspiring term ahead full of learning, creativity and fun! Thank you for your continued support at home, it makes a real difference to your child's confidence and progress. We can't wait to see all of the amazing work the children will achieve this term! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to come and speak to us.

Each Friday, your child will receive times tables to learn for the following Friday where they will be assessed. Please encourage and support your child to regularly practise their times tables.

Please make sure your child has their P.E. kit in school at all times - plain black shorts (no names or labels) and plain white t-shirt (no names and labels), black pumps or trainers. PE will take place every Wednesday morning.

Kind regards,

Year 4 Team