

# Year 4 Newsletter



Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success

## Summer 2

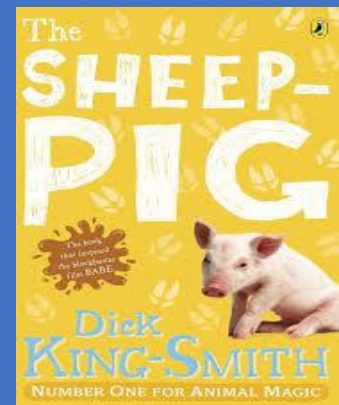
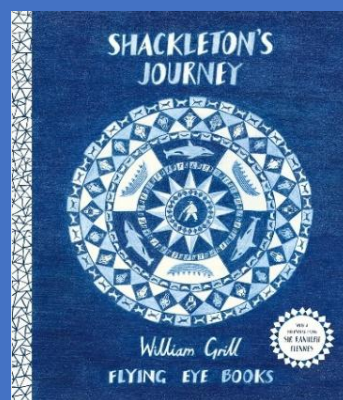
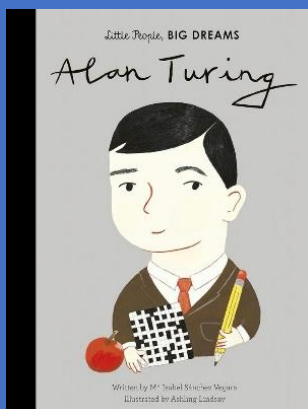
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
to  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2026

## Theme – The Incredible Journey!

**Welcome back to an exciting new term in Year 4!**

This term, our theme is The Incredible Journey. Across the curriculum, we will explore how journeys can shape people, places and ideas. In Science, we will investigate the path food takes through the digestive system. In History, we will learn about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and how their arrival transformed Britain. Through reading, pupils will be inspired by the stories of Ernest Shackleton and Alan Turing, whose courage, determination and innovation helped them overcome significant challenges. In Design and Technology, children will develop their own ideas from concept to creation as they design and build pavilions. We look forward to a term of curiosity, creativity and exciting discoveries.

What will we read this half term?

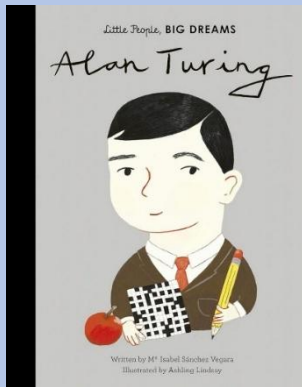


What will we be learning this half term?

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

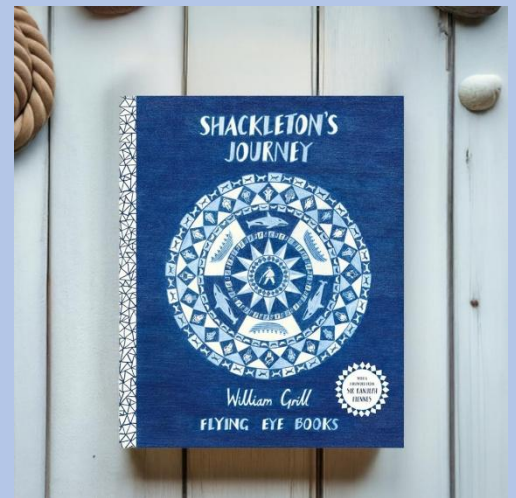
Achieve Care Value Listen Help



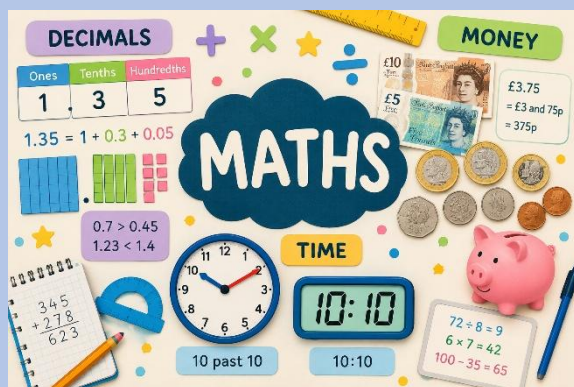
As part of our reading curriculum, Year 4 will explore *Alan Turing* from the *Little People Big Dreams* series. Children will learn about the life of the pioneering mathematician and codebreaker and how his determination, resilience and innovative thinking helped shape the modern world. This text links closely with our English unit based on *Shackleton's Journey*, as both stories celebrate individuals who overcame challenges, showed perseverance and used their skills to achieve extraordinary things. Pupils will reflect on these important character traits and consider how they can apply them in their own learning.

### English

This term in English, Year 4 pupils will be using the inspiring book *Shackleton's Journey* to explore the remarkable Antarctic expedition led by Ernest Shackleton. Through reading and discussing the text, children will develop their comprehension skills by making predictions, retrieving information and explaining the meaning of vocabulary in context. As part of the unit, pupils will plan and write a newspaper report about the expedition, learning how to organise information into paragraphs and use features such as headlines, subheadings and direct quotes. They will also focus on Year 4 writing objectives, including using a wider range of conjunctions, fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and accurate punctuation to create engaging and informative writing.



### Maths



In Maths, pupils will develop their understanding of decimals, learning to recognise and represent tenths and hundredths, compare and order decimal numbers, and make links between decimals and fractions. Children will also apply their knowledge to solve a range of reasoning and problem-solving questions.

Alongside this, they will learn about money, including converting between pounds and pence and solving real-life money problems.

Pupils will also build their confidence in telling the time, reading analogue and digital clocks, converting between different units of time, and solving problems involving timetables and durations. Throughout the term, children will be encouraged to explain their mathematical thinking and use efficient methods to solve problems.

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.

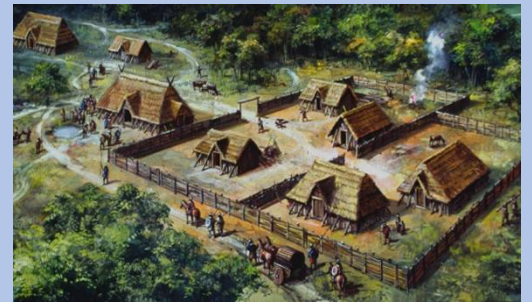
## Science

In Science this term, Year 4 will be studying animals, including humans, with a focus on the digestive system. The children will learn about the different parts of the human digestive system and their functions, following the journey food takes through the body. They will also investigate the role of teeth in digestion, identifying the functions of incisors, canines and molars. Through practical enquiries and observations, pupils will make connections between diet, digestion and overall health, developing their scientific knowledge and vocabulary throughout the unit.

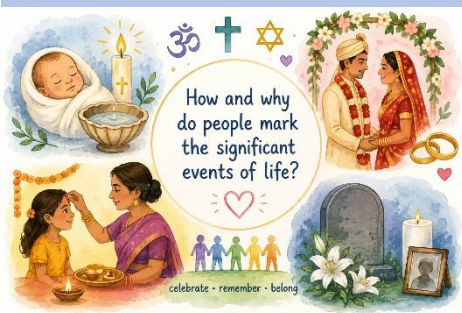


## History

This term in History, we will learn about life in Britain after the Romans left. We will explore why the Anglo-Saxons came to Britain and discover what Anglo-Saxon settlements were like. Children will compare these settlements with those from prehistoric Britain and use artefacts to learn about the past. They will also find out how Anglo-Saxon beliefs changed as Christianity spread across the country. Later in the term, pupils will learn about the Vikings and the threat they posed to the Anglo-Saxons, before exploring who became king in 1066 and the qualities needed to be a good monarch.



## RE



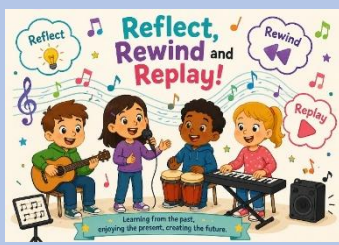
In RE we will be exploring the question, "How and why do people mark the significant events of life?" Through studying Christianity, Hinduism and non-religious worldviews, the children will learn about ceremonies and celebrations that mark important stages in life, including birth, growing up, marriage and death. We will consider how these events help people express beliefs, strengthen community bonds and reflect on what matters most. Pupils will enjoy comparing different traditions and thinking about the special occasions and milestones that are important in their own lives.

## Computing

In computing, we will be developing their digital creativity through a unit on photo editing. Children will learn how images can be changed and enhanced using a range of editing tools, including cropping, resizing, adjusting colours and adding effects. They will explore both traditional photo-editing techniques and modern AI-powered tools, comparing how each can be used to create different outcomes. Along the way, pupils will develop their understanding of how digital images are created and edited, while also discussing the importance of using technology responsibly and recognising when images have been altered.



## Music



In Music, pupils will be reflecting, rewinding and replaying. Children will revisit and build upon the musical knowledge and skills they have developed throughout the year, listening to and appraising a range of music from different styles and periods. They will sing, play instruments and perform both individually and as part of a group, developing their confidence, rhythm and musical expression. The unit encourages children to reflect on their learning, celebrate their progress and apply their skills through enjoyable and creative musical activities.

## PE

This term in PE, the children will develop their striking and fielding skills through cricket and rounders. Children will learn and apply the key skills of batting, bowling, throwing, catching and fielding, while developing their teamwork and communication skills. They will have opportunities to take part in small-sided games, learn the rules of each sport and use tactics to improve their performance. Throughout the unit, pupils will be encouraged to demonstrate good sportsmanship, resilience and respect for others whilst also having lots of fun!



## French

In our French topic this term, we will be learning about traditions and cultures. Pupils will explore French-speaking countries and discover different celebrations, customs, and ways of life. They will also learn key vocabulary linked to culture, such as food, festivals, and family traditions. Through speaking, listening, and simple activities, children will begin to understand how culture is an important part of language learning and how it can be both similar and different across countries.



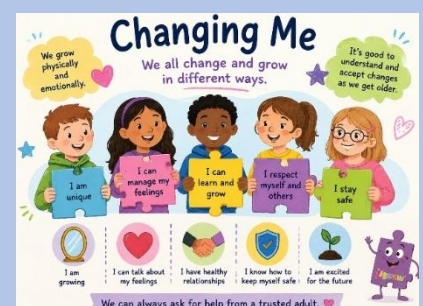
## Design and Technology



In Design and Technology, the children will be learning how to design and build their own pavilions using free-standing frame structures. They will explore different shapes and sizes, and develop their understanding of how to make structures strong and stable. Pupils will select appropriate materials and construction techniques to create their frames, before adding cladding to improve both the appearance and function of their designs. Throughout the project the children will evaluate their work to ensure their finished pavilion is both practical and aesthetically pleasing.

## PSHE

In PSHE, Year 4 will be exploring the topic "Changing Me". The children will learn about how we grow and change as we get older, including physical and emotional changes. They will think about what makes them unique and how to manage different feelings in a positive way. Pupils will also learn about healthy relationships, respecting themselves and others, and understanding the importance of personal safety.



Each Friday, your child will receive a times table to learn for the next Friday where they will be assessed. Please encourage and support your child to regularly practise their times tables. They will also be given homework every Friday developing the learning they have been doing in class, which will be due in every Wednesday.

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 diary. It is important that your child regularly reads their reading book.

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

Please make sure your child always has their P.E. kit in school - plain black shorts (no names or labels) and plain white t-shirt (no names and labels). Trainers or black pumps.

Our Key stage 2 sports day will take place on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July.**

We are looking forward to an exciting and successful term ahead. There are lots of engaging learning opportunities planned, and we are excited to see the progress the children make. Thank you as always for your continued support, we value the partnership between home and school and look forward to working together to help all of our children achieve their best

Kind regards the Year 4 Team