



# The Latham School

## Year 4 Curriculum Outline

Term 1 2017 - 2018

### Literacy

The topics we are covering in literacy this term are: *Fiction:: Stories in familiar settings, Non-fiction : Information Texts and Poetry: Similes*

We will start the term reading a number of the Horrid Henry books by Francesca Simon. These are hugely popular stories which provide a platform for considering plot and character. Children will analyse the different characters and will write an episode for one of the books in the style of the author from their own imaginations.

Within the fiction element of the work of the class this term we will read a story about three children Ravi, Chandra and Taj that has a dilemma central to the story. Pupils will learn about the story arc and the place of a dilemma in creating interest and shape to a story. Pupils will write their dialogue and plot details for the story that the class has examined. To develop their writing skills pupils will learn about the punctuation of dialogue using inverted commas as well as how to change verbs from the present tense into the past tense.

We will then turn to identifying the structural features of a magazine. Pupils will learn about aspects of layout: titles, headings, sub-headings, text boxes, use of colour, fonts and illustrations. Pupils will create their own magazine page with advice about how to keep mobile phones safe.

Poetry will be the last literary study for the half term. Pupils will learn what distinguishes prose from poetry and will read a range of poems to explore figurative language, particularly similes, and verse and rhyme patterns. Pupils will be encouraged to develop their own tastes in which poems they like and to be able to articulate why they like them.

#### **Spelling:**

Pupils are given weekly spelling words from the phonics list for Year 4 and are tested every Friday on these words.

## Mathematics

To start this term, pupils will develop their understanding of place value. They will recognise the place value of each digit in a four digit number (thousands, hundreds, tens and ones), will order and compare numbers beyond 1000 and learn to round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000.

This is the year in which pupils learn to read Roman numerals. They will learn to read the Roman numerals to 100 (I to C) and know that over time, the numeral system changed to include the concept of zero and place value.

Pupils will learn to add and subtract numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction where appropriate. They will be taught to estimate and use inverse operations to check answers to a calculation.

Pupils will develop their skills in solving addition and subtraction two step problems in contexts, and will have to decide which operations and methods to use and why.

In the second half of the term pupils will be introduced to negative numbers by counting backwards through zero.

Our geometry topic will involve measuring and calculating the perimeter of rectilinear figure (including squares) in centimetres and metres. Pupils will learn to convert between different units of measure [for example, kilometre to metre]

The number work we will study will require pupils to recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to  $12 \times 12$ . Pupils will practise counting in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1000. They will use their knowledge of place value, as well as known and derived facts to multiply and divide mentally, including: multiplying by 0 and 1; dividing by 1 and multiplying together three numbers. In solving problems involving multiplying and adding, they will use the distributive law to multiply two digit numbers by one digit, integer scaling problems and harder correspondence problems such as  $n$  objects are connected to  $m$  objects.

## Science

### **States of matter**

During the first part of term, pupils will be taught about the 3 states of matter solids, liquids and gases. They will compare and group materials together, according to states of matter.

They will learn that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and will learn the temperature at which this happens is measured in degrees Celsius (°C). Pupils will identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

Pupils will gain an understanding that materials have different properties and that knowing about the properties of materials is important for manufacturers and builders. They will also understand that the same material is used to make different objects and how to carry out investigations.

During the second half of the term we will cover a unit on **Animals, including humans**. In this unit pupils will be taught to describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans. They will study a model of the mouth and will identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions. As part of this topic pupils will learn about the importance of cleaning their teeth twice a day and what dental hygiene involves.

Finally this term pupils will extend their knowledge of food chains and will construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.

## Topic

**Weather** During this topic pupils will develop ideas about weather conditions around the world. One focus is the relationship between weather and tourism, another is the difference between weather and climate. Pupils will keep a weather diary for part of the unit.

**Ancient Egyptians:** During our Egypt topic pupils will explore Egypt's location and discuss why a civilization was built there. They will learn the importance of the Nile river, will learn about pharaohs and pyramids. They will learn about the fascinating story of the discovery and opening of Tutankhamen's tomb and will reconstruct this event in a role play. When learning about the gods of the Ancient Egyptians they will craft their own mummies and sarcophagi. When learning about ancient Egyptian writing of hieroglyphics pupils will try their hand at writing messages for themselves.

## Physical Education

In the first half term, pupils will build on the soccer skills they developed the previous year such as dribbling, passing and trapping, controlling the ball, throw-ins, goalkeeping, shooting, and the positions and rules of defence and offense.

In the second half term pupils will extend their skills in tag rugby. They will learn dodging skills, catching and holding a rugby ball as well as attacking and defending skills.

## Swahili

In the first half of the term Year 4 will practice the Swahili vocabulary they learned during Year 3. They will learn to talk and write about daily routines and use appropriate verb forms.

In the second part of term, we will consider how to form comparative and superlative adjectives and how to use them in sentences. Pupils will also practice how to form the negative in a sentence.

## Music

This term pupils will be introduced to a new tuned instrument, boomwhackers. They will create rhythmic compositions with the instruments.

The second unit will focus on the development of the singing voice and other essential musical skills (listening skills, aural memory and physical skills) that will be a regular part of classroom work week-by-week.

## PSHE

In the first half term pupils will learn about fire safety. They will also explore what bullying is and how to build a supportive team in the class.

There is a focus on discussion, teamwork and expressing personal opinions behind the content of all PSHE lessons.