



2026-27 Curriculum newsletter Year 4 Term 1

Life in all its fullness
John 10:10

Our relevant, purposeful, enjoyable and creative curriculum is delivered through whole school topics on a two-year rolling programme. Science, history or geography are the key drivers for each topic and the subjects of art, design technology, music, computing and PSHE are added to enrich the topic. RE, PE and maths are taught as separate subjects. Every term, each class also tackle a "Big Question" and think of others through a "Social Action".

This term our whole school topic is entitled "**Changes**". All classes will have their own specific historical and scientific foci. The Year 4 children will be learning about the changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age and about changes in states of matter (solids, liquids and gases). This will include learning;

- Chronological order, Historical evidence, Lifestyle in these times: What homes and hunting/farming was like etc.
- In French - Je me presente and revising basic vocabulary
- In music - Pitch, singing in groups, with harmony and in rounds,, prehistoric percussion
- In art/design technology - Cave Paintings (charcoal and pastel) Tone work (painting) and Cooking in DT
- Science - changing materials by heating and cooling, revising water cycle: evaporation and condensation

The children will focus on the following **reading and writing** skills / knowledge;

- Speech punctuation, paragraphs, expanded noun phrases and adverbials to add detail,
- Comprehension skills
- Poetry and Story (narrative) writing

Our class book(s) of the term are ...

- Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura
- Stig Of The Dump by Clive King

PSHE (personal social health economic education)

From this academic year, we will be using a new resource called Pol-Ed to deliver the PSHE curriculum for all classes.

Pol-Ed is a resource created by West Yorkshire Police and specialist teachers to support schools in delivering Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education. It provides age-appropriate lessons that help children understand how to stay safe, make positive choices, and develop important life skills. **We will share more detail about these lessons in the following weeks.**



In **maths**, the children will be focusing on;

- Place Value
- Addition and subtraction

It is essential that they continue to practise their addition and subtraction / multiplication and division times tables every week at home.

All children have **TTROCKSTARS** logins

We will be continuing to use the themes from Heartsmart in our class worships and children / staff will still be able to nominate others for demonstrating Our People Rule / for being Heartsmart.



Our **RE work** will focus on;
CREATION - What Do Christians Learn From The Creation Story?

In **Computing**, the children will learn;
Touch typing
E-Safety

In **PE**, children will participate and focus on

- Basketball
- Healthy Hearts

Children should wear PE kit on the following days;
Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



Social Action

As a church school, we believe it is important to provide all children with the opportunity to be part of some 'social action'. Releasing the possibility of the pupils in our school to **serve the common good**. This may be in the form of **supporting a charity**, learning & sharing information about **issues of injustice**. Each class has a different focus watch this space!

A "Big Question" will be discussed every term.
Our "Big Question" for Term 1 is
Should we learn from history, or are we able to make our own mistakes?



PTAFA Fete - Saturday 12th Sept, 12-3pm
Harvest service at Hernhill church - Tues 6th Oct, 9:30am
Individual & sibling photos - Mon 12th Oct
Last day of term 1 - Wed 21st Oct
Inset days (school closed) - Thurs 22nd & Fri 23rd Oct



SCIENCE

- Know the three states of matter and how some materials can change state when they are heated or cooled.
- Temperature can be measured in Celsius – children can measure the temperature of a liquid using a thermometer..
- Know the terms evaporation and condensation and how temperature can affect the water cycle.
- Find out about bronze and iron, comparing their properties
- Some changes to materials are reversible whilst other changes are irreversible. Irreversible changes usually result in the formation of new materials.

HISTORY

- Know the terms BC and AD.
- Know the time periods Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age, and the development of tools from stone and metal within these time periods.
- What homes and farming/hunting was like and where evidence of settlements within the UK can be found
- Enquiry about Stonehenge – what we know today from what has been left behind.

KEY VOCABULARY FOR THE TOPIC

Scientific vocabulary: Solid, liquid, gas, matter, temperature, Celsius, thermometer, water cycle, evaporation, condensation, melting, freezing, water vapour, steam, heating, cooling,

Geographical vocabulary: archaeologist, artefact, solstice, tribe, flint, settlement, Homo Sapiens, hill fort, agriculture



*Our school community is rooted in
Jesus' promise of life in all its fullness;
where all are truly welcome.*

A key aspect of being a Church school is the importance of senior leaders and governors regularly reflecting on our Christian vision and considering how it is having a positive impact on pupils, staff and families.

Our school's Christian vision is rooted in John's Gospel, chapter 10, where Jesus speaks to the Pharisees using the metaphor of the shepherd and the sheep. In this passage, Jesus explains that he has come so

that all may have life in all its fullness: a life that is rich, meaningful and grounded in love.

Life in all its fullness – a state of being and an act of doing. It means more than simply existing or achieving; it is about becoming the person God created you to be. It is about nurturing curiosity, resilience and joy, discovering and developing individual gifts, and having the confidence to use them to serve others. It is a life shaped by hope, compassion and purpose – where each person knows they are uniquely valued and deeply loved.

Life in all its fullness is the WHY behind everything we do. It underpins our curriculum design, our policies, our enrichment and extra-curricular offer, our commitment to inclusive SEN provision, and our belief in the power of high-quality OPAL play. Every decision is rooted in a desire to widen horizons and enable all to thrive – academically, socially and spiritually.

Our Gospel-based People Rule (Luke 6:31) is the HOW we live out this vision at Hernhill. Jesus calls us to “treat others as you would like to be treated,” and this principle shapes a culture of kindness, respect and responsibility. It is easily understood by our children, staff and families, and acts as a golden thread running through daily life at Hernhill.