

Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn 1—2025/2026

Reading

KS2 has moved to a new reading approach where children take part in daily whole class reading lessons. During these lessons, children will be read to, they will read aloud and they will read independently to themselves. Children will explore vocabulary, build on their reading fluency and discuss key themes to further develop a love for reading. We are still committed to ensuring every child reads with an adult at least once a week. Your child's reading record will be stamped to show when they have read to an adult. This half-term, Year 4 are reading *War Game* by Michael Foreman. This poignant and beautifully illustrated children's book introduces children to the realities of World War I through the eyes of four teenage boys. Followed by *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo, a novel that follows young soldier he reflects on his childhood, family, and the harsh realities of World War I on the battlefield.

Writing

This half-term, Year 4 are writing a Warning Tale with a focus on setting, inspired by a dramatic model text, in which two brothers disregard a warning and land themselves in trouble. Building on their skillset from Year 3, children will be exploring literary techniques such as sentences of three, prepositions to create detailed and descriptive pieces. Our Talk for Writing approach helps children develop their writing skills by first learning to speak and rehearse stories or texts aloud. Through storytelling, drama and oral language activities, children internalise language patterns, vocabulary and structure—making it easier for them to write creatively and confidently.

Maths

This half term in maths, the children are starting by looking at place value of numbers to 10,000. They will learn to partition their numbers into ones, tens, hundreds and thousands as well as learning to flexibly partition their numbers. They will use number lines to count and estimate numbers and will be able to find 1, 10, 100 and 1000 more and less than a number. They will finish the topic by learning to round to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. They will then begin to look at addition and subtraction of four-digit numbers, with and without exchange, at the end of the half term.

Key Dates

Meet the teacher—Thursday 18th September

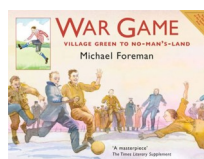
Art Week Showcase for parents: 10th October

2025 Crossbill Church Visit—Tuesday 9th December

Linnet Church Visit—Wednesday 10th December 2025

Whole Class

Reading Book



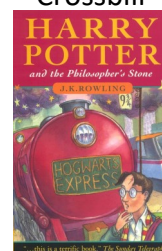
War Game — Michael Foreman



Private Peaceful — Michael Morpurgo

Class Read

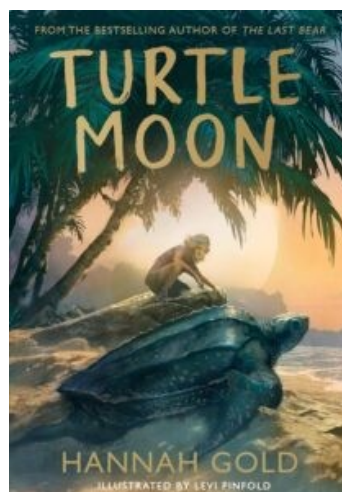
Crossbill



Linnet



Suggested Books for Reading



Science

This half-term, Year 4 pupils will be diving into the fascinating world of living organisms and their habitats. The unit encourages children to explore how living things are grouped, how they interact with their environments and how changes—natural or human-made—can affect them. Key learning highlights include: *Classification, Habitats and Adaptation, Environmental Impact and Working Scientifically*. This unit helps children build a deeper understanding of biodiversity and the importance of caring for the natural world.

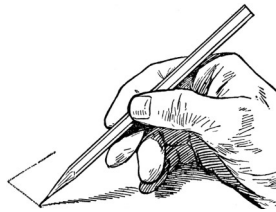


Geography/History

In History this half term, the children are beginning their long study of the topic Invaders and Settlers, focusing on Ancient Rome. They will learn about Rome as a monarchy, republic and empire and they will discuss the importance of legends such as Romulus and Remus to help understand how Rome was founded. They will look at how society was divided and the importance of the citizens assembly in electing consuls during the Roman Republic. Towards the end of half term, they will start to look in more detail at the Roman Empire and some of the significant inventions and advancements that helped the empire to grow.

Art/DT

This half-term, Year 4 will be developing their sketching techniques, use of perspective and drawing of 3D shapes. They will explore the work of Claude Monet's, learning about his impressionist style and use of colours and perspectives in his artwork. The unit ends with a fun caricature project, where pupils exaggerate and distort facial features while still retaining a likeness, applying their new skills in observation and creativity.



PE

In their indoor PE sessions this half-term, Year 4 pupils have been working through Core Unit 1 of the Real PE programme. In this unit, the children will develop and apply their footwork and one leg balance through focused skill development sessions, healthy competition, cooperative games and group Personal Best challenges. In their outdoor sessions, they will be taking part in a variety of athletics events. This covers, jumping (for distance, height and speed) how to measure and recorded their own and others scores, various activities to improve speed and strength as well as racing techniques.

RE

This half-term, Year 4 pupils have been learning about the Amrit Sanskar, a special Sikh initiation ceremony. It marks a Sikh's commitment to joining the Khalsa, a community dedicated to living by Sikh values such as honesty, equality, and service. Through this learning, they have explored: The Amrit Ceremony, the giving of new names and faith and commitment. This unit encourages respect for different beliefs and helps children reflect on personal values and belonging.



Music/Computing



This half-term, Year 4 are being introduced to the ukulele as part of whole-class instrumentation lessons. Mr Clarke will be leading the lessons which will begin by learning correct posture and how to change pitch by holding down different notes in order to produce chords through strumming as well as plucking individual strings to produce single notes. The children will develop these skills by taking part in ensemble rehearsals of popular songs which will provide opportunities to vary tone and texture through changes of volume, timbre and tempo.

French

This half-term, Year 4 will be exploring the theme 'Je me presente' (presenting myself) This unit helps children learn how to introduce themselves in French. It's designed to build confidence in speaking and understanding basic personal information. This unit covers:

Greeting others, asking and answering (how are you?), sharing personal details (name, age, where they, nationality, with an understanding of gender agreement - e.g., how words change depending on whether they are a boy or girl).



PSHE

This half-term, Year 4 children will explore the "Being Me in My World" unit from the Jigsaw PSHE curriculum. The focus is on helping pupils understand their place within the school community and how their actions and attitudes can positively impact others. This unit lays the foundation for confident, respectful, and responsible learners who understand the importance of community and personal contribution.

