

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter - Autumn 1 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 4! We hope you had a wonderful summer holiday. We are looking forward to a busy and fun-filled year of learning ahead!

Below is some information about what we will be covering in Year 4 this half term:

RE - 'In the Beginning'

The children will be learning about the story of Creation, by reading Genesis 2:4b-25 (which you can find here: [Genesis 2:4-25 ICB - The First People - This is the story of - Bible Gateway](#)). We will then analyse the scripture in order to explain the nature of God.

The children will learn about the Laudato Si (a letter sent by Pope Francis) and will identify connections between the scripture and his letter.

We will also discover the Psalms of Creation and how Psalms are used as a ritual by both Jews and Christians today.

You might like to watch these clips with your child:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOgF2Kgel6k>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3Lz7dmn1eM>

Key vocabulary: etiology, Genesis, myth, adamah, ha 'adam, Yahweh, Yahwist, Priestly, Psalm, Liturgy, Prayer, Synagogue, Rabbi, narrative, hymn

English - 'The Green Ship' by Quentin Blake

We will be reading an exciting picture book in which the children will focus on descriptive settings, character profiles, writing in role (diary entries), poetry and persuasive writing. The children will end the topic by writing their own narrative - an innovated version of the story following an explorative session in the forest!

Spelling/Grammar/Punctuation

We will revise homophones (and near homophones), the possessive apostrophe and adding different suffixes and prefixes to words.

We will also look at the use of commas, speech marks, adjectives and prepositions. A list of spellings will be sent home weekly and your child should practise them in preparation for the following week's dictation.

Reading

We will be hearing the children read during Guided Reading sessions. We ask that you also hear your child read for ten minutes each day. Please sign their reading record so we know that they have read with you.

Maths

Place Value -

The children will be identifying and working with 4-digit numbers. They will:

- learn about the place value of numbers with up to 4-digits
- order and compare numbers to 1000 and beyond
- round numbers to the nearest 10 and 100
- count in 1000s - finding 1000 more or less of a given number
- read and write Roman numerals to 100.

Addition and Subtraction -

In this unit, we will be:

- adding and subtracting 1s, 10s, 100s and 1000s from any number
- adding 4-digit numbers using the column method. E.g.:

$\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 371 \\ + 485 \\ \hline 856 \\ 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 376 \\ + 485 \\ \hline 861 \\ 11 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{Th HTO} \\ 2388 \\ + 1124 \\ \hline 3512 \\ 11 \end{array}$
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- subtracting 4-digit numbers with and without exchanging. E.g.:

$\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ \overset{3}{\cancel{4}}37 \\ - 182 \\ \hline 255 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{H T O} \\ \overset{3}{\cancel{4}}\overset{12}{\cancel{2}}12 \\ - 187 \\ \hline 245 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{H T O} \\ \overset{5}{\cancel{6}}\overset{9}{\cancel{1}}14 \\ - 347 \\ \hline 257 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{Th H T O} \\ 8\overset{3}{\cancel{4}}\overset{11}{\cancel{2}}16 \\ - 2177 \\ \hline 6249 \end{array}$
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- estimating and checking answers.

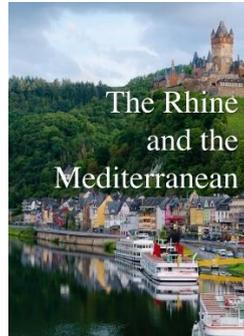
Times tables -

By the end of Year 4, the children are expected to know and use all of their times tables up to 12. Please ensure your child practises their times tables every day for ten minutes. They will be completing the National times tables assessment in the Summer term. Here are some useful websites to help them:

- [Times Tables Rock Stars: Play \(ttrockstars.com\)](http://ttrockstars.com)

- [Hit the Button - Quick fire maths practise for 6-11 year olds \(topmarks.co.uk\)](http://topmarks.co.uk)

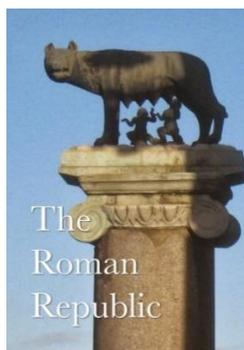
Geography: The Rhine and the Mediterranean (HEP Curriculum)



The children will be building upon their knowledge gained in Year 3 about 'Rivers'. In this unit, we will be learning about the River Rhine. We will be identifying the source and the mouth of the River Rhine, whilst also learning about how the River Rhine changes during its course (just like the River Indus). Our focus will then be on how cities built along the Rhine are affected by the river (exploring how these cities have adapted to make use of it).

The topic will conclude by us learning about how ships sail through the Suez Canal to the Mediterranean Sea.

History: Roman Republic (HEP Curriculum)



We will start this topic by learning about the legend of Romulus and Remus, exploring how Romulus became the first King of Rome. We will then progress to learning about how Rome became a Republic, led by consuls opposed to Kings. From this, we will learn about the desire of the Roman Empire to expand and control islands in the Mediterranean Sea. As a result, we will be studying the battles between Rome and Carthage. Finally, we will discover the culture in the Roman Republic.

Your child might like to do some of their own research about ancient Rome here:

[Introduction to Ancient Rome - BBC Bitesize](#)

Science 'States of matter/Solids, Liquids and gases'



In this topic, the children will be learning about different states of matter (e.g. how we turn solids into liquids, what the opposite of melting is, what evaporation is and how rain is formed).

PE

Our PE days are on Tuesday (outside) and Thursday. The children should come to school wearing their PE kits (green t-shirt, green shorts and/or green jumper and green tracksuit bottoms). Please ensure that they are wearing the correct school uniform and not their own clothes/football kit. We ask that you remove earrings on these days.

Invasion games 'Controlling and receiving'

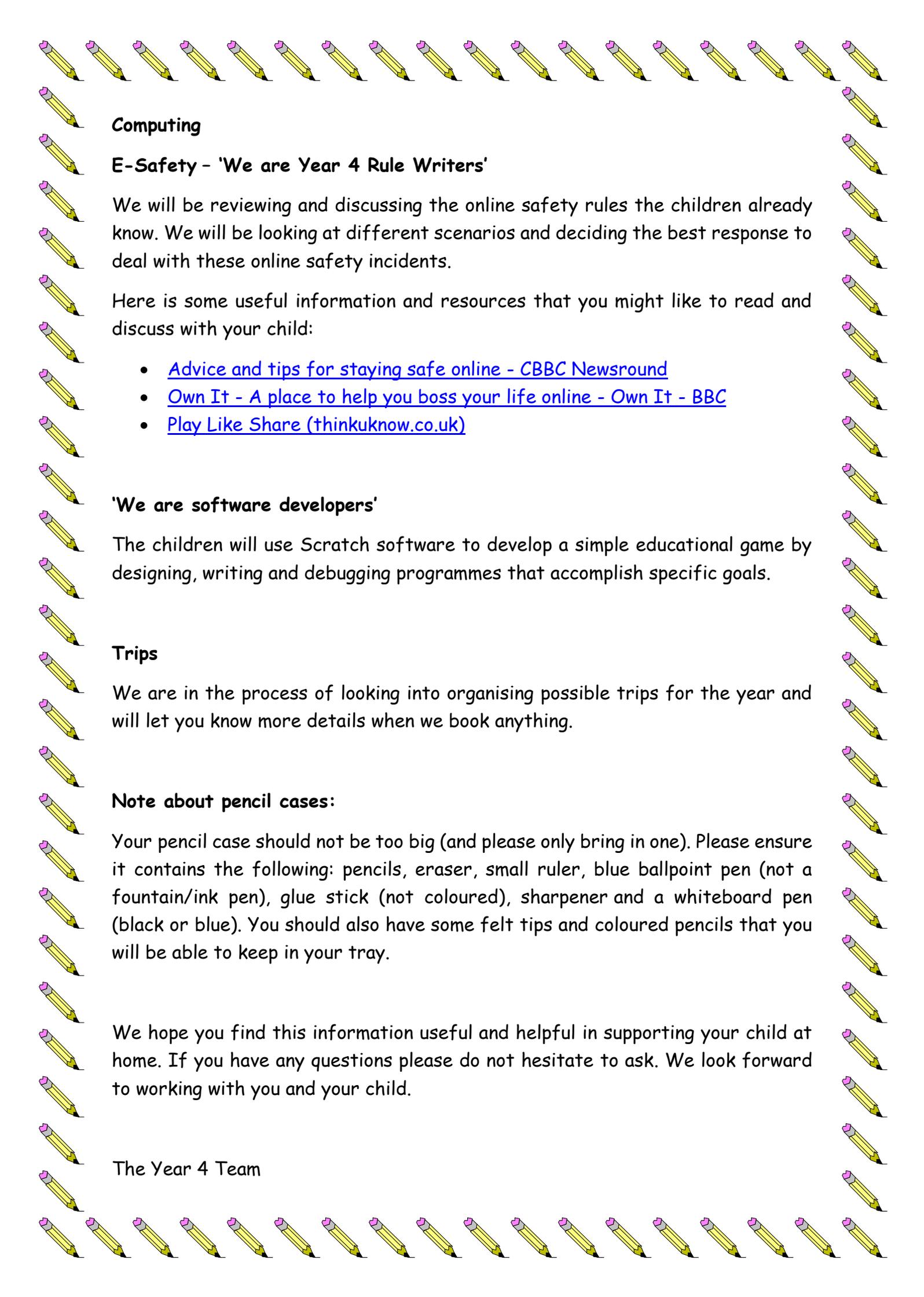
The children will be learning skills of attack and defence alongside teamwork through netball.

Gymnastics - 'Balance'

The children will be using equipment to create sequences exploring different balances and incorporating different ways of moving and travelling.

Art - Drawing

Our topic is called 'Power prints'. The children will develop an awareness of proportion, composition and pattern in drawing and combine media for effect when developing a drawing into a print.



Computing

E-Safety - 'We are Year 4 Rule Writers'

We will be reviewing and discussing the online safety rules the children already know. We will be looking at different scenarios and deciding the best response to deal with these online safety incidents.

Here is some useful information and resources that you might like to read and discuss with your child:

- [Advice and tips for staying safe online - CBBC Newsround](#)
- [Own It - A place to help you boss your life online - Own It - BBC](#)
- [Play Like Share \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](http://thinkuknow.co.uk)

'We are software developers'

The children will use Scratch software to develop a simple educational game by designing, writing and debugging programmes that accomplish specific goals.

Trips

We are in the process of looking into organising possible trips for the year and will let you know more details when we book anything.

Note about pencil cases:

Your pencil case should not be too big (and please only bring in one). Please ensure it contains the following: pencils, eraser, small ruler, blue ballpoint pen (not a fountain/ink pen), glue stick (not coloured), sharpener and a whiteboard pen (black or blue). You should also have some felt tips and coloured pencils that you will be able to keep in your tray.

We hope you find this information useful and helpful in supporting your child at home. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask. We look forward to working with you and your child.

The Year 4 Team