Year 4 Overview: Autumn 1 term 2026

Self-worth **Engagement** **Purpose**

English

Biographies
Thomas Edison



Thomas Edison grew up curious about the world around him, always asking questions and experimenting with ideas. But his life was far from easy — as a boy, he struggled at school and was often misunderstood. What could he do? He turned to books, experiments, and his own determination. With daring inventions and unstoppable energy, he went on to change the world!

This half term, we will be reading biographies about Thomas Edison and using them to inspire our own informative writing. We will be focusing on simple and compound sentences and the use of adjectives to describe clearly. We will also discuss how vocabulary and other language features can be used effectively to inform the reader.

Spelling
Each week, the children will be taught a specific spelling unit based on the Sounds & Syllables scheme.

These will be sent home each Friday for you to support your child at home. There will be a spelling test the following Friday for children to assess how well they have learnt the spellings from that unit.

Values

Introduction To Power Skills
We will be focusing as a whole school on the introduction to our 5 Power Skills.

Year Group Power Skill:
Critical Thinking & Problem Solving

Physical Education

This term, we will be working to develop our fundamental movement skills through small-sided invasion games, focusing teamwork, dodging and ball skills.

We will also be covering gymnastics, creating different shapes with our bodies and different floor movements while working on core strength.



Maths

In maths, we will focusing upon the following areas throughout the half term:

PLACE VALUE:
*Understand the place value of and partition 4 digit numbers
*Count in multiples of 1000.
*Order and compare numbers to 1,000
*Understand number lines to 10,000.
*Add and subtract 10, 100, 1000 from a number.
* Round numbers to the nearest 10.

Through daily sessions, we will be continuing to focus on;

ARITHMETIC: adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing quickly and efficiently and improving our mental maths fluency.

Creative

ART:
We will explore the work of artist Pablo Picasso*, with a particular focus on colour and emotion. We will use paint to create our own expressive pieces.

SPANISH:
This half term, we will revisit vocabulary from Year 3 as well as expand our vocabulary to learn about age and numbers to 20.

*Duo Lingo is a great free app to begin learning Spanish.

DT:
This term, the children will be focussing on food technology and learning to plan, make and evaluate a pizza product.

History

This half term, we will be learning about **THE IRON AGE.**
In this topic, we will:

- Recognise main materials used in the Iron Age.
- Recognise and understand the similarities and differences between the Stone, Bronze and Iron Age.
- Understand the importance of hill forts and farming on life in the Iron Age.



Science

Driving Question: How can we use our knowledge of electricity and circuits to solve a problem?
This half term, we will be learning about **ELECTRICITY.**
In this topic, we will:



- identify common appliances that run on electricity
- recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.
- identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit

Computing

E-Safety:
This term, we will learn about e-safety, understanding how and why it is important to stay safe online.

Google Slides:
We will also develop our skills using Google Slides to create presentations linked to our learning in geography. We will learn how to use simple formatting tools, text boxes, images and slide transitions effectively.



PSHE	SMSC & British Values	Times tables
Being Me in My World (*JIGSAW): This half term, we will focus on: understanding the roles we all play in society and how our choices affect others. We will also learn how working as a team can have a positive impact on everyone. 	**Autumn 1 Focus - Social** In Year 4, children's PSHE and wider curriculum learning focuses on building respect, responsibility, and confidence in working with others. They will help to create a **class charter** that sets out shared rights and responsibilities, practise **resolving conflict** through discussion and role-play, and take part in **applying and voting for leadership roles** to understand fairness, democracy, and community. Alongside this, pupils will celebrate **National Poetry Day**, developing their **oracy skills** by performing and sharing poems, helping them grow in confidence as expressive, respectful communicators.	As well as being critical for everyday life, knowledge of multiplication tables helps children to solve problems quickly and flexibly, and allows them to tackle more complex mathematics later on in school. In school, we continue to teach and practise times tables at every opportunity. Each child has their own *TT Rockstars login, which they can use at home, and you can support your child further through quick-fire questioning or using a flashcard approach.