



ABINGDON
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Curriculum Overview
Year 4 Spring Term
January - March, 2026

Form/ Year Group / Section Events (See calendar on school website for more details)		Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE)/Relationships Education
<p>Term begins: Tuesday 6th January</p> <p>Tudor Visit to Ufton Court: Thursday 29th January</p> <p>Parent Workshare: Friday 23rd January (08:15 -09:00)</p> <p>Year 4 Parents Evening: Tuesday 3rd February</p> <p>Half-term begins: Friday 13th February (16.10)</p> <p>Half-term ends: Sunday 22nd February.</p> <p>Trip to Hazard Alley: Wednesday 25th February</p> <p>RSE Parent Webinar: Wednesday 25th February (18:00-19:00)</p> <p>Term ends: Friday 27th March (12.00).</p>		<p>The pupils will be able to identify what a growth mindset looks like and compare this to a fixed mindset. They will be able to set themselves targets based on this.</p> <p>They will consider what it means to be part of a community, thinking about where they belong and how to value different contributions.</p> <p>They will look at body language as well as developing strategies to deal with anger and how to respond to bullying.</p> <p>They will also look at the topic of water, thinking about scarcity around the world and ways we can conserve water.</p>
English	Mathematics	Science
<p>Reading and writing: This term the pupils will read 'How to Train your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell. They will use this as a basis for writing in a range of styles including writing setting descriptions, non-chronological reports and adventure stories.</p> <p>During the term, the pupils will also investigate adverts with the purpose to persuade and letters.</p> <p>Spelling and grammar (SPAG), Comprehension & Speaking & Listening: There will be a continued focus on reading comprehension, formal grammar, learning spelling patterns, and speaking and listening. We will be placing a particular focus on apostrophes used for possession, speech punctuation and continued revision of word classes and content taught in Term 1.</p>	<p>Pupils in Year 4 will study Mathematics through a variety of strategies, including mental maths, written work, problem solving activities and speaking and listening tasks.</p> <p>The topics covered this term are as follows:</p> <p>Number: Division - using repeated subtraction with remainders and informal written methods, halving; Multiplication - formal written method of multiplication, doubling, times tables; Fractions - compare and order; recognise equivalence; locate on a number line, converting between mixed and improper fractions, finding fractions of amounts and relating fractions to decimals; Negative numbers in context; Comparing and ordering numbers; Introduce decimals and money.</p> <p>Shape: The pupils will recap properties of 2D shapes, before moving on to studying 3D shapes and nets. They will then measure area and perimeter.</p> <p>Measurement: They will estimate and use scales to accurately measure capacity and read simple timetables.</p> <p>Problem solving: They will use the four operations of number to solve word problems.</p> <p>The pupils will also have weekly mental arithmetic tests.</p>	<p>The pupils in Year 4 will study the following topics:</p> <p>Sound: The pupils will learn how sounds are made and that vibrations travel through a medium to the ear, the difference between pitch and volume and how these are drawn as sound waves, patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it and that distance can impact volume. They will investigate various materials to discover which can aid and decrease sound travel. The use of data loggers will allow the investigation of sound levels in different environments.</p> <p>Properties and changes in materials: Pupils will explore the properties of different materials and relate these properties to why they are used for specific objects. Thermal and non-thermal conductors will be tested through various investigations, making scientific observations and relating their uses to everyday life.</p>
Geography	History	Religious Education (RE)
<p>The pupils will study a locality which contrasts with their own. We will begin by locating India and the key geographical features across the country before studying the climate.</p> <p>The pupils will then consider how the physical geographical features of a country impacts the population and settlements of people. They will understand the effect of these features on farming, economic development and the landscape while comparing it to their own locality.</p>	<p>At the beginning of the Spring term, pupils will be finishing and further exploring their topic on Tudor life from the previous term. These ideas will be consolidated further on our trip to Ufton Court.</p> <p>The pupils will be studying Pre-History, looking at the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age, considering how we know about these historical periods without written records.</p>	<p>Pupils in Year 4 will study religious and personal journeys.</p> <p>They will explore the journeys of various Old Testament people, before reflecting on their own journey of life. The course encourages pupils to reflect on their own lives and to relate modern day emotions with older stories.</p> <p>Pupils will go on to study and understand the Easter Story.</p>
French	Computing	Drama

<p>The focus will continue to be on understanding what pupils hear and read as well as speaking with as authentic a French accent as possible. Pupils will also continue to write French words. Pupils will review and consolidate the topics from the Autumn term and, in addition, will focus on where they live, body parts and classroom items as they begin to combine what they know to understand and create short phrases. They will extend their understanding through a range of games, activities and written tasks. They will also develop their understanding of French culture by learning about Easter celebrations in France and comparing these to key celebrations in their own cultures.</p>	<p>The pupils in Year 4 will study the following topics:</p> <p>Programming - Repetition in shapes</p> <p>Pupils will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language.</p> <p>Data logging</p> <p>Pupils will consider how and why data is collected over time. They will consider the senses that humans use to experience the environment and how computers can use special input devices called sensors to monitor the environment. Pupils will collect data as well as access data captured over periods of time. They will look at data points, data sets, and logging intervals. Pupils will spend time using a computer to review and analyse data.</p>	<p>Year 3&4 Production: In the first half of the term pupils will explore the skills necessary for being part of a production, including auditioning, learning lines, voice projection and characterisation. At the end of term, pupils will participate in a performance of, 'The Bee Musical'</p>
<p>Art</p> <p>In Year 4 the pupils will enter the Young Art Oxford competition. They will develop their own unique entry based upon the given title.</p> <p>The term's topic will be Art around the world</p> <p>Sketchbook work: They will explore mark making, using a wide range of drawing and painting materials.</p> <p>History through art: In this unit they will respond to traditional art and crafts produced in India, Africa and Europe.</p> <p>Traditional craft: In the final unit they will create a mixed media piece depicting their favorite destination from around the world.</p>	<p>Design and Technology (DT)</p> <p>In DT this term Year 4 students will be working on 3 different projects, each focusing on different skills using a variety of materials and processes.</p> <p>Siege Towers: Pupils will be developing their woodworking skills by designing and making their own moving siege towers.</p> <p>Easter egg plaques: Pupils will be using a combination of wood and plastic to create an Easter masterpiece!</p> <p>Balsa boats: Pupils will be working on their modelling skills making model boats from balsa wood which can float.</p>	<p>Music</p> <p>Singing: The pupils will learn to sing songs for their musical production. They will practise singing with clear diction, sustaining phrases, maintaining a vocal ostinato and singing in two parts. There will be opportunities for solo singing.</p> <p>Class instruments: Pupils will further develop their confidence in reading notation and rhythm patterns on the stave through whole class recorder lessons.</p>
<p>Games</p> <p>The major team sports this term will be hockey and rugby. The pupils will develop their skills through 7-a-side games and practice sessions. They will improve their passing, shooting and tackling. They will develop their understanding of positional play and tactics. They will participate in inter-school and house matches. All pupils will follow the RFU and EH guidelines.</p>	<p>Physical Education (PE)</p> <p>The pupils will develop their skills in the following areas:</p> <p>Racquet sports: Short tennis skills including; forehand, backhand and volley.</p> <p>Hockey: They will gain familiarity with the hockey stick and how to control a moving ball and develop their passing and shooting skills.</p>	<p>Swimming</p> <p>Pupils in Year 4 will learn or develop the following skills: front crawl; back crawl; relay racing; types of supine floating; breathing and timing when doing breaststroke. They will also improve their stamina through sustained swimming and their shallow dives into breaststroke.</p>