

Literacy

This encompasses a range of **speaking & listening skills, writing techniques, grammar, punctuation & spelling rules** plus regular **handwriting**

Fiction/Narrative units:

Stories which raise issues or dilemmas: study, plan & produce a complete story in which moral issues are raised and resolved accordingly. To include study of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar

Poetry: Unit on Creating Images: explore poetic conventions of imagery, vocabulary & other special effects.

Non fiction/non narrative: (linked to topic work) Units on Information writing, Explanation writing and Instructional writing

Dictionary and Thesaurus skills

Spelling: An investigative approach to learning spelling rules and patterns will be followed using a multi-sensory approach in recognition of children's individual learning styles. Fortnightly units will include homework activity sheets and key words for learning. Assessment will be through fortnightly dictation passages and bi-termly tests to support the objectives learnt throughout the year.

Handwriting: Regular practice in school with extra worksheets for less fluent writers to practise at home.

Maths

Daily mental maths activities to secure & develop knowledge, skills, understanding & confidence. Models & images will be used to support learning. There will also be an emphasis on using correct mathematical vocabulary

Number: to include place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication & division with a strong emphasis on ability to manipulate numbers mentally & to have instant recall of multiplication and inverse division facts up to at least 10 x 10 (Y4) and at least 6x6 (Y3)

A mixture of songs & raps will be used on a regular basis to reinforce key concepts of multiplication tables & other mathematical topics e.g. place value, rounding etc.

Written calculation methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division

Understanding Shape: visualising & classifying shapes

Measures (length, telling the time) & **Data Handling** (both linked to topic work where appropriate).

Ability to **use & apply** mathematical knowledge through solving 'real life problems' including money and measures

The weekly **Maths Games** will provide good opportunities for this important aspect of the Maths curriculum.

Science

Unit on **Friction**

- Compare friction on different surfaces
- Identify where forces are acting on moving objects
- Identify friction as a force trying to stop things from moving
- Identify the direction of friction on different moving things
- Identify resistance in air
- Identify resistance in water

Experimental and investigative work for this unit focuses on: fair testing, making measurements using a forcemeter, looking for patterns, interpreting these & suggesting explanations

Information & Communications Technology

ICT will be used to research & record topic work. Skills such as combining text & graphics, researching the internet etc. will be incorporated.

A unit on databases will also be undertaken, linking to work in Maths.

An Art program will be used to create topic related images (e.g. Roman Mosaics)

Children will be introduced to the School Portal on Merlin to experience avatars, writing blogs and holding class discussions

Personal, Social, Health Education including the SEAL Project

Unit on **New Beginnings** (T1)

- Belonging
- Making others feel welcome
- Overcoming feelings of fearfulness

Unit on **Getting On & Falling Out** (T2)

- Solving a problem
- Calming down/helping others to calm down

Say NO to Bullying - link to National Anti-bullying week

Religious Education

Unit on Religious Writings: Evidence in Roman writings for Jesus; Evidence of the Romans in the Bible; How did the Bible & Christianity reach England? Why is the Bible important for Christians?

Unit on Celebrations: Christmas Journeys

Music

Create, perform & analyse short descriptive compositions that combine sounds, movements & words through vocal, instrumental & listening activities. Learn & perform songs related to the Romans & aspects of the Maths curriculum

French

Learn numbers 1- 10 & beyond; simple greetings; simple commands for classroom use.

L L'école des singes (Monkey School)

Physical Education

- Gymnastics
- Skills & small sided invasion games
- Dance (visiting coach T1)
- Swimming at Bath Leisure Centre (T2)

Geography

Skills Unit linked to French School to include learning to use an atlas, weather and climate in that region, transport, geographical features of the area.

Settlements How towns develop (link to Roman Topic)

Art/DT

Design and make images & artifacts relating to aspects of life in Roman Britain – clay lamps, jewellery, mosaics, wall paintings, building designs & soldiers' shields & standards.

Cookery – Roman recipes

History

Invaders: The Romans in Ancient Britain

Looking at evidence to find out what we know about the Romans

The Roman Invasion

What the Romans changed in Britain

The Romans in Bath

How the Romans lived in Britain including aspects of home life, work & leisure, trade, health

Special Visits/Occasions

Roman Museum at Cirencester - Workshop on Everyday Roman Life (T1)

The Roman Baths in Bath Workshop on Roman bathing rituals (T2)

Roman Meal one lunch time in School (T2)

Roman Assembly to School & Parents (T2)

General Points

- **It is important to be punctual in the mornings. School starts from 8:40 am and all children are expected to be settled in the classroom, ready to start work by 8:50am. Arrival after this time can result in a late mark in the register. It also disrupts the education of the child concerned and that of other children in the class.**
- **The children use the downstairs cloakrooms and are encouraged to come in independently up the front stairs.**
- **If you have issues to discuss, please come in to see one of us at the end of the day, or send a letter in with your child.**
- **If your child is unable to participate in PE activities please send in a note otherwise we will assume that your child is able to participate.**
- **If your child has to be withdrawn from school for a medical appointment, music exam etc. please inform the office staff in writing so that the correct code can be entered into the register and also in case of an evacuation emergency.**

Homework Guidelines

- Ten/fifteen minutes of shared or independent reading **at least twice a week**. Advanced literacy skills are essential for making progress across the curriculum in addition to being lifelong skills. Children may take home books from the class library or read their own books. Please either comment in the Yellow Reading Diary or encourage your child to comment on what they have read. This will help to monitor your child's reading progress. **Paired reading** with an adult is an enjoyable way of introducing and tackling more challenging texts. **If your child is a more fluent reader, please encourage him/her to make inferences & deductions from what they have read by encouraging them to 'read between the lines'.**
- Familiarisation of spellings with common letter strings. Fortnightly activity sheets will be sent home (usually on a Monday for completion by the following Monday). **Please remember to focus on helping your child to learn the spelling rules as well as the specified words.**
- Weekly Maths Games. These will be distributed on a Thursday for return the following Thursday
- Familiarisation of multiplication and inverse division facts. Multiplication facts will be constantly revisited in a range of guises to enable children to use & apply their knowledge to different scenarios. All children should be aware of their 'Milestone' table targets; these should be practised on a regular basis to embed facts for life! Use of websites such as **Tutpup** and **BBC Revise Wise** are encouraged to help enhance rapid recall of multiplication facts.
- For additional practice in Maths skills the following are recommended: **CGP Homework books** (available for each year group from www.cpgbooks.co.uk); **Mental Maths** (Bks 1,2 & 3) by Anita Straker & activities on the BBC websites bbc.co.uk/schools and The Grid Club www.gridclub.com *User Name: bat0219, Password BA26TQ*),
- **Merlin** provides the opportunity for children to create their own blog entries and to contribute to class discussions through the Merlin portal. Optional supplementary topic-based homework opportunities are available (these can also be provided in paper format if preferred – please liaise with Mrs. Flint if this is required).
- Regular practice of keyboard typing skills – an essential skill! Go to: bbc.co.uk/schools. Click on 4 – 11 then other subjects, then Dance Mat Typing.

Children will be encouraged to record any homework tasks in their purple Homework Books.

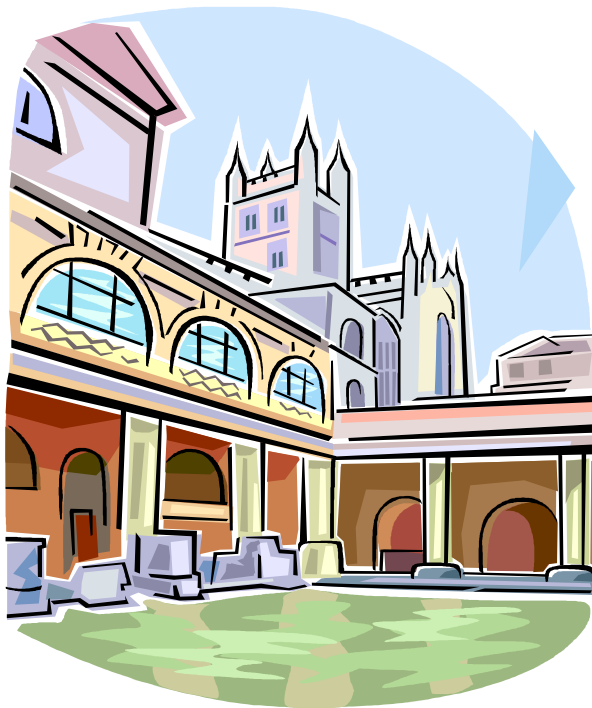
Additional tasks

- Regular handwriting practice for less fluent writers.
- Children can either research in-depth one aspect of the topic that particularly interests them, or look at a series of mini-aspects. They could use topic books from the local library or the Internet, or may even be able to talk to people they know who have some personal experience of the topic. They may like to show their learning in the form of a written booklet, a word document or PowerPoint presentation, or may prefer to talk about their learning in class towards the end of the topic. To make a worthwhile presentation takes time; we would encourage children to create something that they will feel proud of, although the major benefit is in setting out to learn about something independently and for pleasure.

Curriculum Guidelines

Class Four Terms 1 & 2 – Autumn 2011

Invaders – The Romans



This information booklet is designed to give details of the curriculum and classroom routines and to enable you to support your child in their learning.

Class Four Teachers: Ms Johnson & Mrs Flint