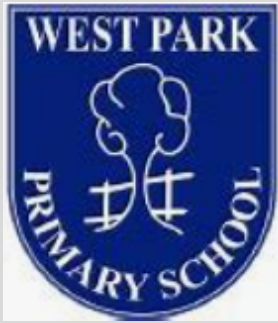


YEAR 3 & 4

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Welcome back to West Park! We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. We are looking forward to 2025 and would like to kick start the year by sharing the learning your child will be enjoying over the next term (please see the next page for a curriculum overview).

We will be updating our class dojo regularly so please keep a look out for updates on what we have been up to and for any news and information.

Upcoming Events

Parent Teacher Conferences:

Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for **Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th of February**. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to discuss your child's progress and goals. We will let you know when and how to book your time slot in the near future.

Reading Cafe

Reading is such an important part of learning, we'd love you to be part of it! We will be hosting our very own Key Stage 2 reading cafe on **Wednesday 5th February from 9.15am - 9.45am**. You/or a member of your family can enjoy reading with your child while enjoying some lovely refreshments.

Roman Showcase Day

At the end of our current topic, we will be showcasing some of the amazing work we have produced about the Romans. We would love to invite parents and carers into school to celebrate the writing, art and history work we have completed. We would like parents to learn something from their children during this event! We will send more information closer to the event. Please save the **afternoon of Tuesday 1st April** in your diaries!

Easter

You are invited to come into school at the beginning of the day (**9.00am - 10.30am**) on **10th April** to see the children's Easter egg entries for our Easter Egg competition. We will also be hosting and **Easter disco** that afternoon/evening. More details to follow.



This term we will be reading several non-fiction and fiction texts linked to our Roman topic. Our reading for pleasure class novel will be Varjak Paw.

Reminders

School timings: School gates open at 8.40am, school starts at 8.50am and finishes at 3.15pm (3.10pm for reception). Please inform the school office if your child is absent or late by 9.00am.

PE days:

Year 3: Friday

Year 3/4: Monday (and Wednesday for 1st half term of Spring term only)

Year 4: Tuesday (and Wednesday for 1st half term of Spring term only)

Please see our curriculum overview for Spring term below

(please note this is subject to change)

History:

The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain

Julius Caesar's attempted invasion in 55-54 BC

- the Roman Empire by AD 42 and the power of its army
- successful invasion by Claudius and conquest, including Hadrian's Wall
- British resistance, for example, Boudica
- 'Romanisation' of Britain: sites such as ~~Caerwent~~ and the impact of technology, culture and beliefs, including early Christianity

(Trip to ~~Vindolanda~~ and The Roman Army Museum)

Britain's settlement by Anglo-Saxons and Scots

This could include:

- Roman withdrawal from Britain in c. AD 410 and the fall of the western Roman Empire
- Scots invasions from Ireland to north Britain (now Scotland)
- Anglo-Saxon invasions, settlements and kingdoms: place names and village life
- Anglo-Saxon art and culture
- Christian conversion – Canterbury, Iona and Lindisfarne

(Explore Artefacts and Role Play)



TERM 2: Infamous Invaders!



Geography: Settlements and Land Use

- Describe and understand key aspects of human geography including types of settlements and land use, economic activity including trade links; and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.
(Explore different maps, looking at Viking/Roman/Anglo-Saxon language for names of towns and cities.)

Music: Musical Notation

- Use and understand staff and other musical notation.
(clapping rhythms, graphic scores and composing)

Art and Design: Designing and Making Roman Vases

- To improve their mastery of art and design techniques – sculpture.



Science / STEM

Forces and magnets

Pupils should be taught to:

- compare how things move on different surfaces
- notice that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance
- observe how magnets attract or repel each other and attract some materials and not others
- compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet, and identify some magnetic materials
- describe magnets as having two poles
- predict whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing.
- Science Week activities

Electricity

Pupils should be taught to:

- identify common appliances that run on electricity
- construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers
- identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery
- recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit
- recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.



Working Scientifically

- Setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests

Working Scientifically (see Progression Document for detail)

- Making systematic, careful observations
- Setting up simple, practical enquiries, comparative, fair tests
- Gathering, recording classifying
- Using straightforward scientific evidence
- Reporting findings

TERM 2: Non - Theme

DT / STEM:

Focus: Making Practical skills & techniques - I am able to use a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks with some accuracy. I am able to use a wider range of materials and components according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities.

Technical Aspect: Electrical Systems – I can understand & use electrical systems in my products.

RE

What do Christians believe about Jesus?

Developing knowledge about the significance of Jesus, key events in the life of Jesus, his teaching and ministry, impact of Jesus on the lives of Christians today. **Belief, Authority, Impact of Belief**

What do Christians remember on Palm Sunday?

Developing knowledge of Palm Sunday in context of Easter, Christian symbols and practices today. **Belief, Authority, Expressions of Belief**

PSHCE: Going for Goals

- Going for goals (SEAL)

Physical Education

1. Hockey/ Tennis
2. Gymnastics
3. Swimming according to timetable.

Pupils should be taught to:

- play competitive games, modified where appropriate [for example, hockey and tennis], and apply basic principles suitable for attacking and defending
- develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance through gymnastics
- compare their performances with previous ones and demonstrate improvement to achieve their personal best.
- swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres
- use a range of strokes effectively [for example, front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke]
- perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations.

French: Games and Songs

Jeux et chansons (Games and songs)

Focus

Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language.

Explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words

Computing: Create a maze style video game

Use sequence, selection, and repetition in programs; work with variables and various forms of input and output; use logical reasoning to explain how some simple algorithms work and to detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs.

(Scratch)