

## CURRICULUM OUTLINE

Salisbury: Year 4 Spring Term 2024

'Making Connections!'

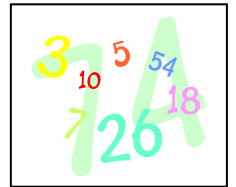
The spring term topic theme in year 4 is **Making Connections**. This topic is a science based one and will be focusing on light, electricity and sound: **this** will enable the class to develop their scientific enquiry skills, make observations, predictions and conclusions. We will be using the theme of fairgrounds as the background to learning.

**English:** The class will start the term by reading and analysing Michael Rosen's 'Chocolate Cake' poem, before watching the poet perform it. They'll be challenged to use what they have learnt to then plan, write and perform their own chocolate-themed narrative poem. The children will read *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl to then focus on one part of the story. They'll develop their skills in writing a piece of narrative to then apply to a piece of independent writing linked to the original plot. In addition, the class will research and write a biography on a world renowned figure firstly exploring the life story of Nikola Tesla as the basis of learning the key features of writing a biographical piece of text. Throughout the term, the English lessons will be interspersed with grammar lessons.

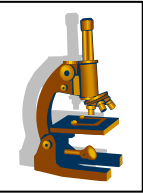


**Mathematics:** During the term the class will continue to explore place value linked to the following areas of maths:

- Multiplication and division using written methods; • Statistics;
- Fractions, Decimals & Percentages - *Fractions*; • Measurement - Time;
- Fractions, Decimals & Percentages - *Decimals*; • Measurement - Money.



Each week the children will practise their times table knowledge Through **TT Rock Stars** and challenge themselves to recall and complete all the questions set in the allotted time. The class will be focusing on the 3, 4 & 8 times table.



**Science:** We will investigate light, electricity and sound. The class will learn: what light is and how we see; how circuits work; the differences between mains and battery-powered electricity; how to make a switch using knowledge of which materials are conductors, and which are insulators all of which will provide the class with many opportunities for investigations and experiments. During the unit on sound, the class will explore what sound is, how it is made and how the human ear works before having the chance to investigate how sound travels, how it can be blocked and how different pitches can be attained. The class will be able to apply this learning by designing and making a light box sign which will also utilise their design and technology skills.

**Computing:** During the course of the term, the class will extend their understanding and knowledge of: **Information Technology** by creating simple and more complex animations using 2Animate software plus utilizing the 'Making Music' program, the class will explore harmony and build up musical scores. Focusing on **Computer Science**, the children will have the opportunity to use text-based coding language to control an on-screen object using a range of commands plus thinking about **Digital Literacy**, reinforce the importance of being safe whilst online.



**Art / Design Technology:** In Art this term, we will be learning about the artist L.S Lowry examining and reviewing one of his famous paintings, "**The Fair at Daisy Nook**". We will be studying the media of watercolours with the aim of recreating a Lowry style fairground painting using watercolours. The DT focus will be textiles. The children will be challenged to make their very own purses or wallets. They will explore different types of money containers and their features, and practise their sewing skills, before designing making and evaluating their own money containers for a particular purpose.



**Physical Education (P.E):** Our P.E days are **Monday and Wednesday**. In term 3, the class will be swimming on a **Monday afternoon**. The sessions will look to teach basic swimming strokes, water safety as well as develop the skills of those who are more confident in the water. The second session, which is indoors and continue throughout the spring term will

be Net & Wall games. By playing these games, the children will learn the key skills and tactics used in games such as Volleyball, Tennis, Badminton, Squash with the aim of sending an object over a net or against a wall so that it lands in an area that an opponent is defending with the intent of making it difficult for the opponent to return the object. Additionally, in term 4, the P.E focus will be dance themed based on electricity. Please ensure your child has suitable kit and footwear for each of these activities.



**Religious Education (RE):** In term 3, the focus will be Buddhism in which the class will explore the key question of 'Could the Buddha's teachings make the world a better place?' In term 4, the focus will be on Christianity and the theme of Easter with the Key Question, 'Is forgiveness always possible for Christians?'

**Personal Social & Health Education (JIGSAW):** In the first half of the term, the theme is 'Dreams & Goals' in which the class will share some of their hopes and dreams and Understand that sometimes hopes and dreams do not come true and that this can hurt. Moving forward the children learn to reflect and how to make a new plan, set new goals and consider the steps needed to achieve a goal. The theme changes to 'Healthy Me' in term 4. This theme looks at making healthy choices in terms of diet but also understanding the facts surrounding smoking and alcohol and the affects they have on our health.

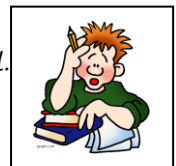


**French:** The topic theme this term is: 'La Famille'. During the term the children will learn how to: tell somebody the members, names and various ages of either their own or a fictional family in French, continue to count in French enabling them to say the age of various family members. Plus, understand the concept of the possessive adjectives 'mon', 'ma' and 'mes' in French and Move from 1st person singular to 3rd person singular of the two high frequency verbs used in this unit: s'appeler (to be called) and avoir (to have).



**Knowledge Organiser:** The children will be provided with a 'Knowledge Organiser' for each of the two science foci – *sound & electricity*. The knowledge organiser contains all the key learning and vocabulary that Y4 pupils will learn about and then need, to support their on-going learning. I suggest the children read through these during the course of the term to support their understanding and learning. They could be used as an alternative to reading a book, (and recorded as homework-signed by an adult) as this would promote reading for a purpose.

**Homework:** Homework will be provided to support the maths and literacy in class to ensure consolidation of knowledge plus regular, recorded, reading and times table practice will be included. Although reading homework will be set, we would always encourage children to read for a minimum of 10 minutes per day outside of school, whether independently or to an adult. This can be their school reading book or a text of their choice (newspaper, age-appropriate magazines). In addition, a piece of research may be requested to support the topic theme. Homework will be provided on a weekly basis; handed out on a Thursday, to be completed by the following Tuesday. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.



**Social Media:** To keep up to date with events both in school and the classroom, visit the school website and the class page where there are regular updates on the various activities and learning the children in Year 4 are experiencing. Alternatively, follow us on Twitter.



Mr M Harrison

January 2024