



St. William of York Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Mayers **Admin Officer:** Mrs Joanne Roper

Deputy Headteacher: Ms Zoe Thorn

Friday 12th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to a new school year. I am so pleased to be working with your children and I am excited for the term ahead. We have lots of fantastic topics to explore and the children are already showing enthusiasm towards their learning and the goals they have for the upcoming year. Alongside myself, Mr Taylor will be the class teacher in 2025, and Miss Barber will be working in class to further support the children. Together, we aim to ensure the children feel fully supported and encouraged. More details about the curriculum for the Autumn term can be found on the curriculum map, accompanying this letter.

This term, Year 4's topic is called 'It's a Pharaoh Way to Go'. Throughout the term, the children will be learning about the Ancient Egyptians. Strong cross-curricular links will allow an opportunity to explore historical, literary and artistic perspectives on a fascinating time period. In the second half of the term we will focus on rivers around the world, familiarising ourselves with the geographical properties and making links to our Science and English lessons.

We will start the year by consolidating integral skills taught in previous years, working with the children to develop a deeper understanding of these curriculum areas. Small focus groups will be created where necessary and daily interventions will continue to support the children that require further attention.

As always, all children are expected to read every day and they will have the opportunity to change their reading books once a week. There will be a strong focus on times tables, with the aim for each child to know all of their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of the year. Daily practice in school and at home will help them achieve this goal. Weekly spellings will be set, as well as Mathematics tasks.

This term, Year 4 will have PE lessons on Monday and Thursday but we ask that children bring their PE kits in on a Monday, where it will remain on their peg until Friday, when they will take it home to be washed.

I am very excited to be working in Year 4 and have many exciting plans to help enrich the children's learning and fun. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office or directly at lperry@swoy.lewisham.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Laura Perry

Year 4 Class Teacher (Autumn term)

St William of York

English

In connection with our history topic, we will be reading 'Cinderella of the Nile'. This text will act as a stimulus for a range of writing styles and purposes. After half term, we will look at 'The Rhythm of the Rain', a non-fiction text. In Guided Reading, we will be exploring 'pyramid' (poem) and 'Varjak Paw' (narrative). These varying texts will give the opportunity for the children to respond using skills such as: retrieval, inference, prediction and explanation of vocabulary.

Maths

We will continue to approach maths with a mastery approach. To begin with we will spend time consolidating targets from Year 3 before moving on to place value and addition and subtraction. They will count and represent numbers to 10,000 and add and subtract four-digit numbers. They will review a range of calculation methods and consider the most efficient strategies. Later in the term, the children will learn about area, exploring different units of measurements, and finally move on to multiplication and division.

Art

Throughout the term, children will have many opportunities to respond to our topic, exploring a range of materials and artistic techniques. We will also develop our use of different mediums by exploring art using cloth, paint and thread.



Year 4

Topic:

Autumn 1: It's a Pharaoh Way to Go
Autumn 2: Go with the Flow

Teacher:

Laura Perry

History

This term, we will be learning about the Ancient Egyptians. Children will study the Egyptian hierarchical society and the specific roles within it, as well as learning about their daily rituals. They will explore Ancient Egyptian achievements and how they relate to the modern day.

Geography

After exploring Egypt's geographical make up; including the climate and other natural phenomena, the children will move onto locating the major rivers around the world. They will consider the physical geography as well as the water cycle and the impact of climate change and pollution on the environment.

Science

Our first science topic will grouping and classifying animals. Children will learn different ways to identify features of animals and identifying similarities and differences between the.

Later in the term, we will be investigating states of matter. The children will be comparing and grouping materials such as solids, liquids and gases. Throughout the term the children will carry out scientific experiments, using relevant techniques and scientific language.

There will be specific focus this year on developing enquiry skills and encouraging children to ask probing questions.

Computing

This year, Year 4 will be using laptops during their computing lessons. They will begin with a unit on coding. During this unit, they will use Purple Mash to learn to code sprites to complete simple actions; this will develop into making simple games. They will also explore debugging.

PE

This term, Year 4 will have indoor PE lessons on Monday and outdoor PE lessons on Thursday afternoon. The children will continue to explore their bodies using sequences of movement and develop key skills such as hand eye coordination, balance, flexibility and strength. We will apply these skills to a variety of different sports and physical activities. We will focus on fitness and basketball in this half term.

RE

In RE, the children will be learning about connection to family. They will explore the concept of a family tree and study Abraham the father Genesis 12: 1-8, 18 who put his trust in God.

Later in the term, they will explore the sacrament of Confirmation, defining the reasons behind the actions and symbols that we participate in at church.