



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn term at Newhall Junior School. We hope you had a restful summer and we are excited to welcome the children back. We look forward to hearing about your child's summer break.

Curriculum

This term, we will be learning about both North and South America in Geography. In Science, we will be Grouping Living Things, whilst in RE we will be studying Judaism, asking 'What is the best way for a Jew to lead a good life?'. In Writing, we will write a poem based on 'The Sound Collector' before writing a setting description and narrative based on The Midnight Fair. In Maths, we will cover place value, including representation and partition of numbers, addition and subtraction, using formal written methods. We are fortunate to be working with the South Derbyshire Music Centre this year and all children will begin a 30-week programme in learning to play the clarinet. These instruments will be provided as part of the programme.

A long-term plan and a curriculum map are available on the school website, under the 'curriculum' tab. These documents will provide more detail on the curriculum here at Newhall Junior School.

PE

PE lessons will be on a Tuesday and Friday this term. Children will complete Outdoor Adventurous Activities (OAA) and gymnastics sessions. These sessions will be outside, where possible, so please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately. Children should be wearing their PE kit – please refer to the uniform policy on the school website. Children will need to have their hair tied back and have either removed their earrings or be able to take them out themselves.

Communication

At Newhall Junior School, we believe that strong communication between home and school is essential to supporting your child's success. To help ensure that information is shared clearly and concerns are addressed promptly, we follow a structured communication plan.

This plan outlines the key channels through which parents and carers can connect with the school. Your child's class teacher is always your first point of contact. They know your child best and are well-placed to support their learning and well-being. We are committed to working in partnership with you to create the best possible experience for your child. The Communication Plan is attached.

Homework and Spellings

A reminder that children should be accessing Times Tables Rockstars and Spelling Shed (please see your child's reading diary for their login details) 4 times per week. This will continue to be monitored



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by your child's class teacher. Spelling Tests will be completed on a **Friday** afternoon, with new spellings given out afterwards.

Lost Property

To cut down on the amount of lost property each term, please could you ensure all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled. This includes uniform, coats, lunch boxes and water bottles.

Reading

Your child is encouraged to bring their reading book home each day, along with their reading diary. Please set aside time at home for your child to read quietly or to an adult. Reading at home, when it is a regular habit, has a remarkable impact on reading progress. We ask that children read at least 4 times per week at home and that this is evidenced in their reading diary by an adult.

If you have any issues, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully,

The Year 4 Team





Year 4 Unit One Curriculum Map



Maths

We will be building on our place value knowledge, including representing and partitioning numbers up to 10,000. We will learn to become fluent and efficient in addition and subtraction, including formal written methods and mental methods.

Vocabulary: rounding, accuracy, addition, subtraction, Roman Numeral, integer, representation, partition, estimation, sum, addend, subtrahend.

Writing

We will use 'The Lost Thing' by Shaun Tan as a stimulus to recap and build upon our grammar and punctuation knowledge. We will be learning to structure and write a poem, a setting description, a narrative and a non-chronological report based on Space Week. Our writing will be based around the poem 'The Sound Collector' by Roger McGough and 'The Midnight Fair' by Gideon Sterer.

Vocabulary: stanza, rhyming couplet, fronted adverbial, noun phrase, prepositional phrase, repetition, speech punctuation, inverted commas, compound sentence, complex sentence.

Reading

We will be learning to develop our reading skills across different text types, including fiction, non-fiction and poetry. We will develop our oracy skills through classroom-based discussion. We will build on and develop our inference, retrieval, prediction, language understanding and summarising skills.

Vocabulary: retrieval, inference, predict, summarise, decoding, fluency, structure, root word, prefix, suffix.

Science

Grouping Living Things

We will be learning how to classify, group and organise living things. We will make observations to name, group and sort both animals and plants, using classification keys to assist us.

We will also explore Space as part of Space Week 2024.

Vocabulary: vertebrate, invertebrate, specimen, classification key, grouping, sorting, flowering, non-flowering, characteristics, amphibians, mammals, reptiles.

Geography

Can You Come on A Great American Road Trip?

We will be learning about North and South America. We will be learning the compass points up to 8 points and we will study both human and physical features of the continent. The children will learn about topography and climate.

Vocabulary: country, city, state, continent, North Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, compass, desert, prairie, human feature, physical feature

Art & DT

Drawing: Power Prints

We will be learning to create several pencil tones when shading, as well as using charcoal and rubber to show areas of light and dark. We will use different tools to create marks and patterns into a painted surface.

Vocabulary: composition, precision, shading, collage, contrast, shadow, tone, pattern, symmetry, highlight, observational drawing, abstract.

RE

What is the best way for a Jew to lead a good life?

We will be learning about the "special relationship" that Jews believe they have with God, and how the examples shown to them in their holy texts show how they should live their life today.

Vocabulary: Mitzvah, Judaism, commitment, synagogue, Torah, sacrifice, Isaac, Shabbat, marriage, vows

PSHE

Being Me in my World.

We will be learning what makes a good citizen and understanding how our actions affect other people locally and globally.

Vocabulary: goals, worries, fears, rights, community, empathy, choices, responsibilities, consequences, learning charter, legal, illegal, laws, democracy.

French

Pronunciation

We will be learning pronunciation this half term, looking at the 26 different phonemes that are used in spoken French but are not used in English. By focusing on these sounds, we will be able to improve the quality of our pronunciation, and we will also become more confident in reading unknown words.

PE

OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activity) & Gymnastics

In OAA, we will be learning to develop our resilience, problem solving, endurance and interpersonal skills. In gymnastics, we will be learning to improve on key skills, such as coordination, balance and movement.

Vocabulary: agility, teamwork, collaboration, endurance, balance, straddle roll, coordination.

Computing

Computing Systems and Networks

We will apply our knowledge and understanding of networks, as well as exploring the World Wide Web. Children will be given the opportunity to explore the web for themselves in order to learn about who owns content and what they can access, add and create.

Vocabulary: content, network, web, website, ownership.