



Holyrood Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 2026

Welcome back! In this term we will be learning about many different topics. Please read on to discover all the great things we will be covering!

English

One of our class texts this term will be *Until I met Dudley* by Roger McGough. This picture book is an extremely inspiring tale of a techno wizard dog who explains how everyday machines work.

Using *The Barnabus Project* as their class text, children will develop reading skills including vocabulary, inference and prediction. They will also apply grammar, punctuation and spelling skills, focusing on apostrophes, adverbs, prepositions and conjunctions, while developing self-reflection and evaluation.

Escape from Pompeii is another class text this term, linking closely to History and Geography. Through this exciting story, children will develop retrieval, explanation and summarising skills, while learning to write in paragraphs, punctuate direct speech and use fronted adverbials.

Children are expected to be reading **every day** at home. It is important parents or older siblings ask questions to the children about the book that they are reading such as: Who are the characters? What is happening now? Why does a certain character feel this way? What do you think will happen next? It is not about how much the children read; it is about how much they understand. Reading for roughly 15-20 minutes a day is perfect. The children have chosen and will continue to choose a book from the school library.

Children will be practising their handwriting on a weekly basis, learning how to join the letters and to ensure their writing is legible. Through English children will learn how to write a variety of different genres including non-fiction and poetry.

We use EdShed to support spelling. New spellings are given each Friday. We do encourage daily home practice, with progress assessed through regular dictation to check retention and accurate application of the words learned.

Maths

Following the White Rose scheme of work Year 4 will focus on the following units during the Autumn term: place value, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. Lesson will be taught with a mastery approach in mind with lots of chance for paired discussion and reasoning. All lessons will incorporate a practical element (where possible) and will try to highlight the real world applications of the maths skill being taught.

We will also be completing daily arithmetic sessions to further enhance your child's mathematical skills with a weekly arithmetic test to monitor their progress.

To support your child at home please get them to practice their times tables up to 12. Children in Year 4 need to know all their times tables up to 12 x 12 and the division facts in readiness for the multiplication check at the end of the year. Children will have access to TT Rockstars to learn their tables, whilst there are plenty of other websites such as topmarks.com and timestables.me.

Science

This term, your child will be exploring **Living Things and Their Habitats**: Children will group living things, learn more about habitats, ecosystems, environmental changes, food chains and will conduct a local habitat study.

Animals Including Humans: Children will explore the digestive system, teeth, healthy lifestyles and food chains. Through practical investigations, they will develop scientific enquiry skills, making predictions, gathering evidence and drawing conclusions, while understanding how living things depend on one another.

Other Curriculum Subjects

History and Geography:

This term in Topic, Year 4 children will be learning about **The Romans and their impact on Britain**. Through this fascinating topic, pupils will explore who the Romans were, why they invaded Britain, and how their arrival changed life for people living here.

Children will explore Roman Britain, learning about invasions, roads, towns and Hadrian's Wall. They will investigate daily life, compare past societies, develop historical enquiry skills and discover the Romans' lasting legacy.

RE: Throughout this academic year we will be learning about Sikhism. This term will focus on answering the questions, what is Sikhism? And who and what they believe.

PSHE: During this first half-term children will be learning about dreams and goals. Focusing on aspirations and how to achieve goals. We will work on understanding the emotions that go with this. In the second half of the term the children will be doing some work on a unit called healthy me. This is all about teaching the children how to be and keep safe and healthy.

PE: Currently children have PE on **Mondays and Friday**. On Monday the children are swimming so please remember to bring in swimming costumes every week. On Friday we will be doing gymnastics. Please ensure your children have the correct kits on the correct days!

Art & Design: In Art this half-term we will be learning all about mosaics. Using different material to create our own.

Design & Technology: During lessons we will be researching, designing, creating and evaluating different ways of using linkages in different products, creating our own with a working mechanism.

Music: Children will be learning a unit called create and notate which focusing on the development on the compositional skills.

Computing: Children will be learning about how to use Microsoft office products alongside internet safety.

Homework

In Year 4 we ask that the children read to an adult daily whilst asking those important questions as mentioned above. We also encourage the children to use the Times table Rockstars app daily in order to practice their times tables. Every Friday a spelling list will be sent home and you are encouraged to work with your child to learn these.

We do hope that your child enjoys their first term of this academic year with us. If you do have any worries or concerns, please feel free to speak to one of us quickly, about any matter, however small.

Mr. Hyde, Mrs. Hughes and Mrs. Henton