



Address: Park Lane, Harefield, Middlesex, UB9 6BJ

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Web: www.harefieldjunior.com

Executive Head Teacher: Mr A. Sunner

Head of School: Mr J. Downs

Dear Year 4 Parents/Carers,

Year 4 Curriculum Letter - Autumn 1

Friday 5th September 2025

Message from the teachers

Welcome to Year 4! We hope that you had a wonderful summer and are eager to come back, feeling refreshed and ready for the year ahead. There are some fantastic topics to look forward to during this half term and we are excited to share them with you. One important aspect of Year 4 will be practicing times tables (up to 12x12) and we encourage you to support children with this learning at home. This letter will give you an idea of some of the lessons your child can look forward to during the first half term.

Our Core Values

Happiness: we spread joy to those around us.

Compassion: we care and are kind to all.

Respect: we treat others as we like to be treated.

Teamwork: we work well with everyone.

Year 4 Staffing

Juniper class teacher: Miss Mayling

Spruce class teacher: Miss Faghiri

Year 4 learning support assistants: Mrs Thomas and Mrs Pinchen.

Communication

Please feel free to arrange a meeting should you wish to speak to one of the teachers in person. Alternatively, you can email class teachers directly on the class email accounts and we will do our best to get back to you within a couple of working days.

Juniperclass@harefieldjunior.com

Spruceclass@harefieldjunior.com

Parent partnership is very important to us, so we have planned a year 4 parent tea/coffee morning in the school hall at 9am on Tuesday 9th September, where you will be able to meet the year 4 staff and talk to them about the year ahead. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Homework

Homework, along with answers, will be sent out each Friday to be returned the following Friday.

Reading at home

We have assessed the children's reading ages this week and home reading books, at the appropriate reading level, will be sent home every Monday, starting on the 8th September. Please remember to send these books back to school each Monday.

We will also visit the school library regularly from where the children can select a book to borrow and read at home. Please return these books to school once your child has finished reading it. New home reading books and library books will not be issued until the previous ones have been returned.



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Autumn Term Learning

This half term we will be learning the following in each subject area.

English:

The children in Year 4 will be reading Charlotte's Web by E.B. White this half term. They will use this text to create a meeting tale based on Wilbur's first meeting with Charlotte. The children will use this section of the text to write their own meeting tale between a main character and a surprising monster. This will be followed by a non-narrative explanation text where the children explain the inventive ways that a creature could trap its prey.



Mathematics:

Year 4 will be starting with place value in maths and learn to recognise, compare and order numbers up to 10,000. They will then continue with this place value understanding to help them add and subtract four-digit numbers with at least one exchange.

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Physical Education:

The outdoor P.E. unit for Year 4 this autumn term is called 'Outdoor Adventures'. This unit covers a range of fundamental skills needed for outdoor adventurous activities, including teamwork, problem-solving, communication and orienteering. During the unit, children will be given the opportunity to complete a range of different activities, including scavenger hunts, blindfolded challenges, map reading and map drawing exercises.

The indoor unit this term is Dance and the theme is 'Water'. The children will learn a range of different dance techniques, with the aim of producing an interesting and varied dance phrase that represents the water cycle.

Our PE days are:

Outdoor PE: **Wednesday** – Spruce Class

Indoor PE: **Friday** – Spruce & Juniper classes.

Forest School:

Forest School will be taking place each **Wednesday afternoon for Juniper Class** this half term. The children will be given opportunities to learn in nature, building a range of skills and making observations of the changing seasons. Please ensure your child brings their Forest School clothing into school in a bag on Wednesdays.

Music:

We are very fortunate to have a specialist music teacher in school every week to teach Year 4 music lessons, focusing on playing the violin.

Computing:

The computing unit this term is 'Word Processing'. In this unit children will learn about formatting images and organising content into effective layouts.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education:

'Being Me' is the first PSHE unit, where the children will look forward to the year ahead and make appropriate goals that they would like to achieve. They will consider how to make the school community a better place, understand that everyone has a right to learn and create a class charter to encourage children to work well with others.

In **Science** year 4 will be learning about States of Matter, and then will use this knowledge to investigate the water cycle – attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.



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In **Geography** Year 4 will be learning about water. Children will explore the processes of evaporation and condensation through a range of practical activities – attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.

In **Religious Education** Year 4 will be learning about Faith today and focusing on different aspects of various religions– attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.

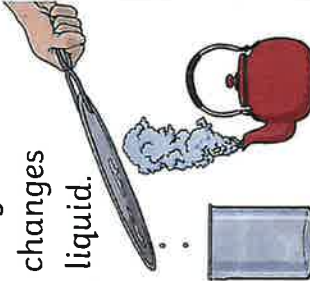
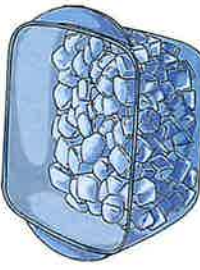
In **French** Year 4 will be learning about 'All around town', where the children will learn to describe places in town, count to 100 and give their address in French – attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.

In **Art** we will explore the theme of 'Autumn'. Children will learn how to use pencil, colour, paint, print, collage and paper to create quality art work that shows progression in skills.

Please feel free to contact us via the class email accounts should you have any questions over the term ahead.

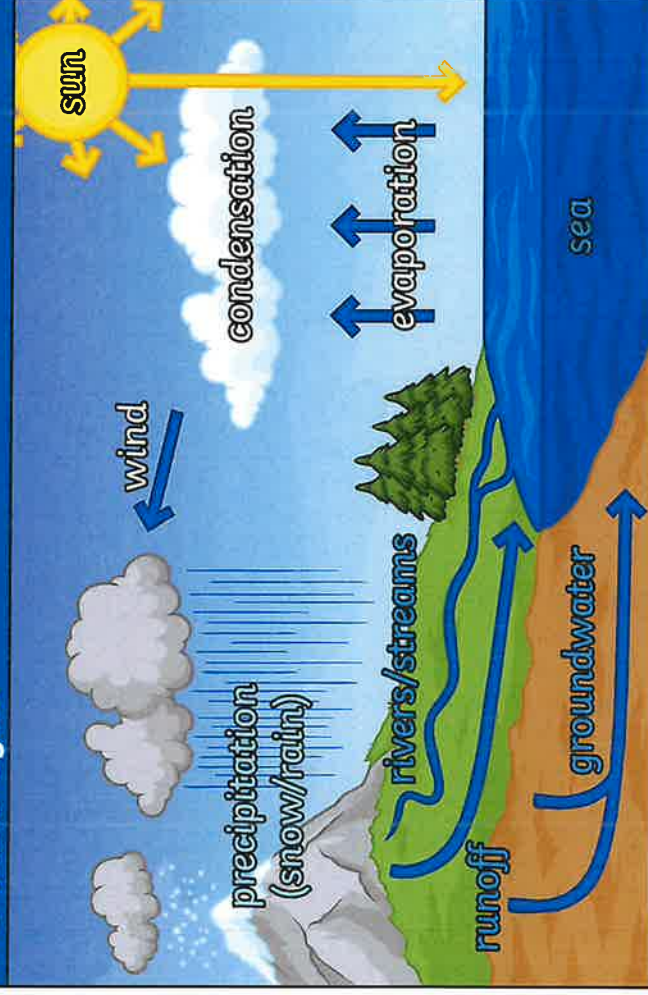
Yours faithfully,
The Year 4 Team

Key Vocabulary	
dam	A barrier that blocks off flowing water.
fertiliser	A substance that helps make plants grow.
particles	Everything is made up of matter. Particles are tiny bits of matter.
pesticides	A substance used to destroy pests such as small animals, insects and weeds.
pollution	Anything that is introduced into a habitat which has a harmful effect on plants and animals living there.
reservoir	A man made lake that is used to store water.
water vapour	Water that is in the form of a gas.

Changing State			
Evaporation	Condensation	Melting	Freezing
Evaporation occurs when a liquid changes into a gas or water vapour . 	Condensation is when a gas cools and changes to a liquid. 	This is when a solid is heated and changes to a liquid. 	Freezing is the process of a liquid cooling and changing to a solid. 

Clouds form when warm, moist air is cooled. When it is cooled, it condenses into tiny water droplets which appear as clouds.

The Water Cycle



Heat from the sun evaporates water, which rises, condenses in the cool air and then falls back down to earth.

Treating Water				
				
Water is stored in reservoirs to allow solids to settle at the bottom.	Chemicals are added to help remove small particles .	Water passes through gravel and carbon to filter out tiny particles .	Chlorine is added to kill off bacteria.	Water is clean and safe to drink.

Flooding			
Fluvial	Pluvial	Coastal	Plumbing
			
Lots of rainfall causing rivers to burst their banks.	Heavy rainfall cannot drain away quickly enough.	High tides and storms.	Broken pipes in buildings.
Flooding can be prevented in some areas by building dams and flood barriers. However, blocking a river at one location can cause flooding further up or downstream.			

Pollution

- Chemicals – can poison animals.
- Litter – can be ingested by animals or trap them.
- Fertilisers** – can cause a lack of oxygen and kill animals.



Reducing Pollution

- Be careful what you throw down the sink or toilet.
- Don't throw litter into lakes, rivers or oceans.
- Use environmentally-friendly household cleaning products.
- Have more plants in the garden to stop contaminated water running into the water supply.
- Don't over use **fertilisers** or **pesticides**.

Marine Protection and Conservation Areas

- Just under 25% of the UK coastal waters are protected.
- Over 6,500 species of plants and animals are found here.

Key Vocabulary

- **solid** – a material or object with a defined shape and a fixed volume



- **liquid** – a state of matter with no fixed shape but a fixed volume



- **gas** – a state of matter with no fixed shape and no fixed volume



- **volume** – the amount of space a solid, liquid or a gas takes up



- **states of matter** – these are solids, liquids and gases. Materials can be grouped into these three states of matter

- **pouring solid** – a solid that can be poured like a liquid



- **condensation** – the state change where gas turns to a liquid



- **evaporation** – the state change when a liquid turns to a gas

- **freezing** – the state change when a liquid turns to a solid



- **melting** – the state change when a solid turns to a liquid



- **boiling** – the state change when a liquid turns to a gas as it is heated. Boiling produces visible bubbles



- **independent variable** (what will change) – the temperature of the water



- **dependent variable** (what will be measured) – the time it takes for ice to melt



- **controlled variable** (what is kept the same) – the volume of water in the containers, the size of containers, the size and shape of the ice cube and whether the liquid is stirred or not

Knowledge

- Solids have a defined shape and volume. A solid material will keep its shape if it is transferred from one container to another.
- Liquids have no fixed shape and will take on the shape of the container they are transferred into. The volume will remain the same.
- Gases have no fixed shape and no fixed volume. They will spread out and fill any available space.
- Some solids, such as sand, salt, flour and rice, can be poured but they are still classified as solid materials.
- Liquids maintain the same volume if transferred to different containers.
- Some liquids, like water, flow easily while other liquids, like treacle, do not flow as easily.
- Some materials can change states between solids, liquids and gases.
- When heat is applied to ice, it melts and turns to water. When water is heated it turns into a gas. Water has a boiling point of 100°C.
- To change water to ice, it needs to be frozen. Water freezes at 0°C.

Key Vocabulary

oobleck – a material made from corn starch and water



flow – to move easily in one direction



thermometer – a piece of equipment used to measure temperature



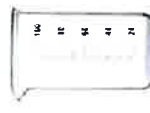
melting point – the temperature at which a given solid will melt



stopwatch – a watch with start and stop buttons which can be used to take exact measurements of time



beaker – a transparent piece of equipment used to hold and measure liquid



temperature – the measure of how hot or cold something is

Petri dish – a shallow, circular and transparent dish



observations – the method of closely watching something before writing any results and a conclusion



data – facts and numerical information collected

Time (hours)	Location	
	Classroom	Fridge
1		
2		
3		
4		

conclusion – what has been found during an investigation based on experimental measurements and observations

Location: Fridge		
Time in hours	Temperature (°C)	Has the water evaporated?
1	4	No
2	4	No
3	4	No

the water cycle – the natural recycling and movement of water on planet Earth



precipitation – liquid or frozen water that falls back to Earth from the atmosphere. This can be in the form of rain, hail, sleet or snow



atmosphere – the layer of gases that surrounds the Earth



global warming – the gradual increase in the temperature of the Earth



water vapour – the gaseous state of water

Knowledge

- A thermometer is a piece of equipment that is used to measure temperature.
- Stopwatches are used to measure intervals of time.
- A large amount of planet Earth is covered in water.
- Water is in constant movement through a process called the water cycle. As the water moves it can be in different states of matter.
- Evaporation is one stage of the water cycle. Evaporation is where a liquid changes state to a gas.
- Condensation is when a gas changes state to a liquid.

Key Vocabulary

agnostic	Agnostic is the word for a person who believes that nothing is known or can be known of the existence or nature of God.
atheist	An atheist is a person who disbelieves or lacks belief in the existence of God or gods.
empathy	Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another person.
enlightenment	Enlightenment is the state or action of achieving spiritual knowledge.
faith	A complete trust or confidence in someone or something.
philosophy	A way of thinking or an attitude that guides people's actions in life.
worldview	A way of looking at and thinking about the world. Different faiths might do this in slightly different ways.

Faiths That Believe in the Existence of One God

Christianity	Judaism	Islam	Sikhi
			

Faiths That Believe in the Existence of More than One God

Taoism	Taoists believe in an ultimate creative force of the universe that all things are connected to. This is called the Tao. Taoists believe that this creative force can work as many gods.
Hindu Dharma	People who follow Hindu Dharma believe in only one eternal energy called Brahma, that can take form as many gods and goddesses.



Faiths That Do Not Believe in the Existence of God or Gods

Humanism	Humanism is a way of thinking about the world. It follows a set of ideas about how people should live and behave and places its faith in the natural world and science.
Buddhism	Buddhists follow the teachings of a man called the Buddha. The Buddha reached enlightenment and taught others how to live good lives.



Did You Know...?

Many branches of Christianity, Islam and Judaism all date back

to Abraham, as well as a belief in the existence of Adam and Eve.



Books of Faith

Christianity	The Bible
Judaism	The Torah
Islam	The Qur'an
Sikhi	The Guru Granth Sahib Ji is the sacred text of Sikhi.
Taoism	Tao Te Ching
Humanism	No holy book
Buddhism	Tipitaka
Hindu Dharma	The Vedas

The Golden Rule

The Golden Rule is common in all faiths but is worded slightly differently in each. This is the universal Golden Rule:

'Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself.'



It links the faiths of the world together through a united value.



Symbols of Faith



Islam



Christianity



Judaism



Sikhi



Taoism



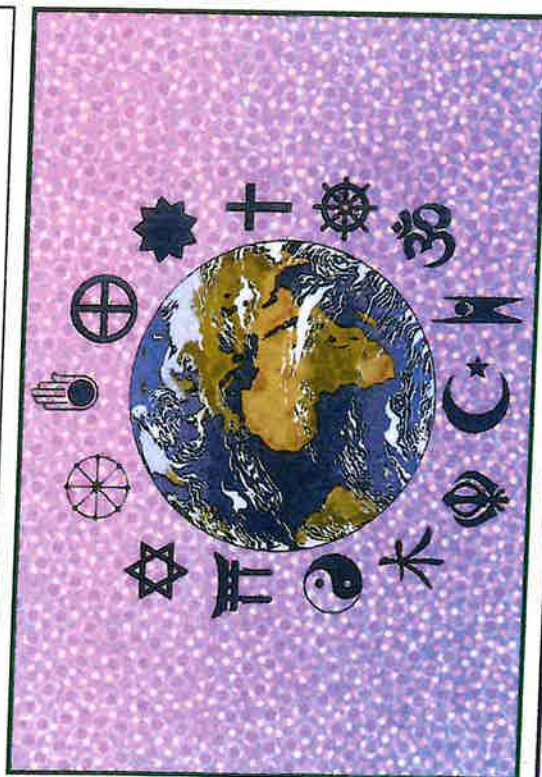
Humanism



Buddhism



Hindu Dharma



Key Language in Context

Qu'est-ce qu'il y a **dans** ta ville ?
What is there in your town?

À Bordeaux, il y a une gare.

À Nantes, il n'y a pas de piscine.



Quelle est ton adresse ? What is your address?

Mon adresse est 23 rue **de la Ferme**, à Nice.

My address is 23 Farm Road, in Nice.



Où habites-tu ?
Where do you live?

J'habite à Marseille.
I live in Marseille.



Key Knowledge and Grammar

Il y a means there is or there are. You can use it before a singular or plural noun:

- Il y a un parc/une gare. (There is a park/train station.)
 - Il y a des magasins. (There are some shops.)
- Il n'y a pas means there isn't or there aren't. You can use it before a singular or a plural noun (always introduced by 'de'):
- Il n'y a pas de cinéma (there isn't a cinema).
 - Il n'y a pas de magasins (there aren't any shops).

Note that Il n'y a pas is followed by 'de' instead of un/une/des.

du/de la/de l'/des are used to say of the in addresses.

- Use **du** before a masculine noun, e.g. rue **du** Soleil (road of the Sun).
- Use **de la** before a feminine noun, e.g. allée **de la** Plage (lane of the Beach).
- Use **de l'** before a noun which starts with a vowel or the letter 'h', e.g. boulevard **de l'** Hôpital (boulevard of the Hospital).
- Use **des** before a plural noun, e.g. place **des** Fleurs (square of the Flowers).

mon/ma (my) ton/ta (your) are possessive adjectives and they agree with the noun they go with.

- Use mon and ton with a masculine singular noun, e.g. mon père (my dad), ton frère (your brother).
- Use ma and ta with a feminine singular noun, e.g. ma ville (my town), ta ville (your town).

Exception: With a feminine noun that starts with a vowel or the letter 'h', you must use mon/ton instead of ma/ta, e.g. mon/ton adresse (my/your address).

dans/à are prepositions meaning in.

- **Dans** means in/inside, e.g. **Dans** ma ville, il y a deux boulangeries. (In my town, there are two bakeries.)
- Before the name of a town/city, we use **à** to say in, e.g. J'habite **à** Paris.

Key Vocabulary

f = feminine m = masculine

			
un magasin (m)	une école (f)	une église (f)	un musée (m)
			
un café (m)	une piscine (f)	une gare (f)	une pâtisserie (f)
			
une boulangerie (f)	un supermarché (m)	un cinéma (m)	un parc (m)
			
un théâtre (m)	un marché (m)	une mosquée (f)	une rivière (f)
une allée (f) a lane	un boulevard (m) a boulevard	une avenue (f) an avenue	une place (f) a square

Numbers

un 1	quinze 15	soixante-dix 70
deux 2	seize 16	soixante-et-onze 71
trois 3	dix-sept 17	quatre-vingts 80
quatre 4	dix-huit 18	quatre-vingt-un 81
cinq 5	dix-neuf 19	quatre-vingt-dix 90
six 6	vingt 20	quatre-vingt-onze 91
sept 7	vingt-et-un 21	cent 100
huit 8	vingt-deux 22	plus +
neuf 9	trente 30	moins -
dix 10	trente-et-un 31	fois ×
onze 11	trente-deux 32	divisé par ÷
douze 12	quarante 40	zéro 0
treize 13	cinquante 50	
quatorze 14	soixante 60	

Que veut dire 'arbre' ?
What does 'arbre' mean?

Comment dit-on 'hospital' ?
How do you say 'hospital'?