



Leyburn Primary School curriculum newsletter

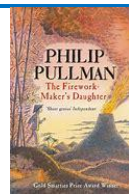
Year: 4

Term: Spring 1 2026



Termly overview: Welcome back. We hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year and is looking forward to 2026! We have lots of exciting learning planned for Year 4 and so, in anticipation of the wet and chilly weather, please ensure children have **spare shoes** in school each day to allow outdoor play and learning in all weathers. PE in school will be on Tuesdays with Kev and Fridays with Mr Burge. Please continue to encourage your child to read most days, access Spelling Shed and Times Table Rockstars at least 3x weekly and, if they have a login, Reading Plus to complete 5 books per week. Class Dojo will continue to be our main communication tool for class messages as well as Facebook for photos of what we have been up to! Thanks. *Mr Burge and Mrs Thrower*

English: We begin by learning about newspaper articles, focusing on using subordinating conjunctions (e.g. when and because), becoming more consistent with our handwriting, and interviewing 'eyewitnesses' to practise our oracy skills. Then we move onto adventure stories, using 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' as a model for our own writing. We will use expanded noun phrases (e.g. 'the snowy school behind locked gates') to add interest and detail to our work.



Storytime / RfP: This half-term, we are moving onto Philip Pullman's *The Firework Maker's Daughter* - a great adventure story which will also get us in the mood for our own adventure writing later in the half term.

Maths: We are learning different written methods of multiplication and division. To do this, we need to know our tables really, really well so please keep practising at home – at least 5 minutes, 3 times per week on TTRS, if you can. This is also in preparation for the Multiplication Tables Check at the end of the year.



Art: We will be using our knowledge from our 'Rivers' unit last term to paint our own pictures of rivers. We will study the work of Renoir and Afremov to learn more about shade and tone and how to use paint to create different colours and textures.



RE: Last half-term, we looked at what makes someone inspirational and considered why Jesus is inspiring to some people. Now, we are moving on to study Hinduism and what it means to be a Hindu today.



Science: No Science unit this half-term.



Music/DT: Excitingly, the children will be taking part in a project from the Royal Ballet and Opera, which involves designing a set for the ballet of 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland', combining a response to music and story with practical design work.

History: We will be moving from the Anglo-Saxons and onto the Viking period, this half-term. We will consider the major events of the period (including Lindisfarne) and their impact on Britain today. This also links to our next Geography topic focusing on York and the major features of cities.



PE:
*** Tuesday & Thursday***

We will be developing our teamwork and ball skills on Tuesdays - please have spare shoes in case we are outside and get muddy. On Fridays, we will be doing gymnastics inside.

PSHE: We will be learning about how to look after our money by exploring how we know if something is worth its price. We will become more aware of how products are marketed to persuade us to buy them and how to make reasonable decisions based on our own values.



Computing: In the first of two units on programming, we will use the Logo programming language to draw shapes and patterns. We will learn how to use repetition and loops to carry out more complex commands.

French: After mastering fruit vocabulary, we are moving onto that of vegetables, which we will use to practice polite language in a market role play. We will also begin writing in our brand-new French books as we look in at how French sounds are represented in writing.