



Headteacher: Mr A Smith  
B.Ed (Hons); NPQH; PGCertSENCo

*'Aim high, prepare to achieve'*

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### Year 4 Autumn Term 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you have all had a lovely, relaxing summer holiday and are ready for the new school year. We are looking forward to working alongside you this academic year to support your child in their development.

At Bishopton, we consider reading to be really important, so please continue to ensure that you hear your child read regularly at home and discuss the book with them as they read. Books and reading records should be brought into school every day. Books will be changed when completed, which will vary on day of the week depending on the length of book your child is reading. As last year, it is the expectation for your child to read at least 3 times per week at home and for their reading diary to be signed by an adult. We ask that children complete the 'book review' section of their reading records for each text that they complete. The importance for your child to read regularly at home to supplement what we do in school is a key aspect of their learning. Children who read regularly significantly increase the amount of new vocabulary they are exposed to, which supports all other areas of the curriculum and their wider opportunities as they progress through school and into adulthood.

In Literacy this term, we will be reading 'Varjak Paw' and 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane'. These are both wonderful stories which we are sure the children will enjoy. Throughout these texts, we will explore narrative plot, settings, and characters and draw inferences to develop understanding. Pupils will empathise with characters and explore their dilemmas. Pupils will be engaged with a story told through a mixture of narration, speech and visual imagery. Pupils will write descriptive passages, working on their sentence structure development. They will write instructions and letters, and build up to writing narratives based around these texts.

Weekly spelling tests will continue to take place on a Monday. Spelling lists will be emailed every Monday and tested the following week. Please continue to support your child with learning their spellings, which will link to a spelling pattern or rule and words linked to our current learning in History/Geography and Science.

In Maths, we will continue to use Power Maths for our daily maths teaching. Children will start by exploring place value. They will explore 4-digit numbers followed by addition and subtraction. Later in the term, our focus will be on measurement and finally multiplication and division. Children will continue to work on their fluency through daily Fluency Bee activities. We will focus on mathematical reasoning skills throughout the term. We will teach stand-alone arithmetic lessons every Friday.

Our topic for the first half term is 'Ancient Civilisations', which focuses on the history of three of the world's first ancient civilisations: ancient Sumer, ancient Egypt and the Indus Valley civilisation. Children will learn about the rise, life, achievements and eventual end of each civilisation. In the second half term our topic is 'Traders and Raiders', which looks at the decline of the Roman Empire and the invasion of Anglo Saxons and Vikings. We will learn about the Dark Ages, exploring who the Anglo Saxons were, how they lived, and their settlements before moving on to the Viking raiders. We will also use geographical skills to identify settlements, think about physical features and explore maps and grid references to support our learning.

In Science, our first unit explores sound. Pupils will identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating, understand that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear and recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases. After half term, children will learn about electricity. They will identify which appliances use electricity in their homes and how to keep themselves safe. Children will construct circuits, start to create pictorial circuits and conduct investigations.

In PSHE, there will be a big focus on returning to school and helping the children to settle in. During the first half term, the children will discuss 'Being Me in My World' where they will learn about themselves and how they fit in. After half term, the children will focus on 'Celebrating Difference' where they will think about similarities and



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differences and being unique. In R.E., we will explore big questions each term starting with 'Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?' Each unit will start with a 'big question' followed by individual questions to answer each lesson. Next, we will move on to exploring 'Hindu Britain Today.' Computing lessons will involve the children using Purple Mash and learning to code. E-safety sessions will also be delivered regularly with the focus on staying safe online.

In P.E. this term, Year 4 will be learning tag rugby and focusing on a dance block of work based on 'Carnival of the Animals'. After half term, we will be focusing on team sports. Please send your child to school in appropriate PE wear (details in table below).

Children's maths homework will be a continuation of the White Rose Maths 'Maths Practise Journals' and Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS). Journals will be sent out on a Friday and to returned to school by the following Thursday. Children can hand their maths journals in as soon as they have completed them also and do not need to wait until Thursday. The pages set each week will correlate to the learning covered in school that week. Children should access TTRS three times per week, playing a studio game with the aim to increase their times table speed and fluency. The children's log-ons are in the back of their reading diaries. We, as teachers, log-in each week to see who has beat their scores. Half termly projects will also be set.

#### Summary of key information for the Autumn Term in Year 4

| Day      | What?                                | Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday   | Spelling test                        | Tested on words set from the previous Monday.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Tuesday  | PE<br><br>Indoor and outdoor lessons | Please wear PE kit to school on this day. PE kit at Bishopton consists of black/navy joggers or shorts, a white t-shirt (logo or plain), black trainers or pumps. Please no football kits for PE. If your child does an afterschool club which requires a football shirt, they may bring this to change into before the club starts and not to wear throughout the whole day at school.<br>Please refer to the updated <a href="#">uniform policy here</a> . |
| Thursday | Library                              | Children will have the opportunity to visit the school library to borrow a book. A great opportunity for children to pick a text that really interests them.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Friday   | Maths homework                       | Handed out on a Friday. Due in at the latest by the following Thursday.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| TBC      | Parents' Evening                     | Please be aware we will hold parents' evening around half term. Exact dates to follow in due course.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

Should you have any queries, please email us:

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We look forward to an exciting term ahead and thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs Nero, Mrs Bunt and Mrs Healey*



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