Year 4 Autumn Term News 2026

Dear Year 4 Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 4, I am so excited to have the privilege of teaching your children this year.
They have all settled into Year 4 so well and we are enjoying exploring the Year 4 curriculum together.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please contact me at: m.mihai@grandsvaux.sch.je

Our main topic this term will be
The Romans

Here is an overview of our **subject focuses** for the term:

PSHE - This term, our PSHE will be delivered through a new scheme of work called SCARF, alongside reinforcing the Zones of Regulation within the classroom. The zones will continue to be our focus, with children learning to recognise their different emotions and learn strategies to help them manage these and self-regulate. We will also work together to create a class charter grounded in our school values of being safe, ready, and respectful, fostering a positive and collaborative learning environment. In the first term of PSHE, our topic will be 'ME and my relationships', where we will explore self-awareness and interpersonal skills essential for developing positive relationships. In the second half term, Year 4 will be focusing on the topic 'Valuing Difference' in which we will continue to build on our class community with a special focus on making sure we are all included and valued.

English – A lot of our English learning this half term will link into our Romans topic. We will start of with poems linked to Pompeii, non-fiction learning will be linked into this and we will also share stories about this historical event. We will also explore the story 'The Tear Thief', using it to learn about the key features of diary entries and develop our own diary writing. Continuing from Year 3, grammar will be taught through these lessons, ensuring the children understand the correct terminology and apply what they have learned in their independent writing. Spelling will be practised regularly in school. Handwriting and presentation will also be a big focus. Year 4 are learning handwriting joins each week and will use these in their various forms of writing.

Maths – We will be using the "White Rose" scheme which ensures that the children have concrete, pictorial and abstract experiences to build their fluency. This term our learning will focus place value, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. Mental strategies including times tables and mental addition and subtraction will be practised daily. A child's rapid recall of their times tables is essential for their mathematical development and your continued support with this at home is greatly appreciated.

Science – Our topic for the first term is 'States of Matter'. Throughout this topic we will investigate similarities and differences between solids, liquids and gases. How and when they change from one state to another will also be explored. In the second half of term, we will focus on 'Sound' we will learn about how sounds are made, changes of pitch and volume, how we hear sounds and soundproofing.

Physical Education – On Mondays, PE lessons will be led by me, with a focus on dance. On Tuesdays, children will take part in a PE lesson led by a sports coach. As PE takes place on **Mondays** and **Tuesdays**, children should come to school wearing their full PE kit on both days.

Computing – This Autumn, Year 4 will be developing their understanding of how the internet works. They will learn about computer networks, how information is shared online, and the importance of keeping networks secure. Children will also build their programming skills by exploring sequence, repetition and selection, learning how these key concepts help create clear and effective computer programs.

Art, Design and Technology - In Design and Technology, we will be exploring Roman food and ingredients, culminating in the design and creation of a Roman honey cake. In Art, our focus this term will be on 3D form, and we will be designing and constructing Roman arches inspired by Roman architecture.

History and Geography – This learning will have a strong history focus but we will also be developing our geographical skills and it will also link in with some of our English units of learning. We will learn about the founding of Rome, the expansion of the Roman Empire, the strength of their army and also what life was like for everyday Roman citizens. There will be a focus on developing our questioning skills, the use of historical evidence and comparing it and also map work.

RE – This year we are using the new Jersey agreed syllabus which has been created with Jersey specifically in mind. In the first half term we will be learning about the concept of the Trinity and why this is important for Christians. In the second half term we will study Hinduism and what Hindus believe God is like.

Home reading – If your child develops a love of stories they will want to learn to read! Even though they are now Year 4, reading stories with them and to them is still vital for their development and this can be in any language.
Each week your child will bring home a book to share with you. In Year 4, this will be a levelled book for some children or a free choice book for others. Reading a book that they enjoy from home is also perfectly fine. Maybe you're doing some cooking together and they read the recipe that night or they read an article in a magazine.

Home-learning tasks and Spellings – Home-learning will include reading, spellings and maths.
Children will be assessed on their times tables three times a week to help build fluency, confidence and recall speed. Regular practice at home will support their progress and help them become more secure with their multiplication and division facts. You can support your child at home by using Topmarks- Hit the Button, a fun and interactive game that helps children practise their times tables and number facts in an engaging way.
Please read with your child every day and record any reading in their Reading Record. Reading folders should be brought to school every day to ensure that reading can be supported both at home and in school.

Healthy Snacks
To support children's learning and wellbeing, all snacks brought into school should be healthy choices. Suitable snacks include fruit, vegetables, cheese, crackers and other nutritious options.
We ask that children do not bring sugary snacks into school. Foods that are high in added sugar can cause rapid increases and decreases in energy levels, which may affect concentration, focus and readiness to learn. Healthier snacks help to provide more sustained energy throughout the day and support children's overall health.
Please do not send chocolate, crisps, biscuits or sweets as snacks for school.

Other – Please make sure all uniform is clearly labelled.
Please provide your child with a named water bottle to have in class (Additional to their lunchtime drink).

I thank you in advance for your support and I look forward to working with you.

Kind regards,

Mrs Mihai