Autumn 2026

This term, Year 4 will be exploring *Music and the Arts* through our central topic, **'Thank You for the Musicals'**. Across the year, the children will learn through well-known productions such as *Matilda*, *Hercules*, *Moana* and *The Lion King*, using these stories to inspire creativity, curiosity and reflection. Through subjects such as History, Geography, Science, Art and Design Technology, pupils will deepen their understanding of the world around them and consider how people, places and cultures shape our lives. They will be encouraged to think critically, celebrate their successes and develop resilience as responsible, thoughtful learners who question, explore and make connections across the curriculum.

Maths:
In the Autumn term, Year 4 follow the White Rose Maths scheme, beginning with Place Value where they work with numbers up to 10,000, rounding, comparing and ordering them. They then move on to Addition and Subtraction, using formal written methods and solving multi-step problems. Later in the term, children study Area, learning how to count squares and compare the size of different shapes. These units help build strong fluency, reasoning and confidence at the start of the year.

English:
This term, children will be learning two texts: The Canal, a warning tale, and Little Vixen Street, a suspense story. Through these units, they will develop expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, and secure compound sentences, while learning rich vocabulary such as detritus, skulk, and aromas. They will retell each story and then create their own versions, building tension with short sentences, atmospheric details and powerful verbs to keep the reader engaged.

Science:
In Autumn, Year 4 study two key science units: States of Matter and Animals Including Humans. Children learn how solids, liquids and gases behave, exploring how materials change state through heating and cooling. They also develop their understanding of the human body, including digestion, teeth and the functions of different organs. These units help build strong scientific enquiry skills and confidence in observing, comparing and explaining scientific processes.

History:
In History this term, Year 4 will study The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain, exploring how Roman rule changed daily life, technology, buildings and beliefs across the country. Children will learn about key developments such as roads, towns, language and trade, and compare Roman Britain with the Britain that existed before the invasion.

Geography:
In Autumn, pupils will explore Spatial Sense, learning to read maps and understand how places are organised. They will study how Dunstable has changed over time, describing developments in land use and local features, and building confidence in using geographical vocabulary to explain how a town grows and evolves.

Art:
Year 4 will explore a range of creative art projects linked to their history learning and our musical theme. They will design Roman coins inspired by stories like Hercules, learning how ancient cultures used imagery to celebrate heroes. Later in the term, they will create book covers based on the Stuart dynasty, experiment with abstract art, and develop careful observational skills through still life work. These projects help pupils build confidence, refine techniques and express their ideas across different artistic styles.

Computing:
In Autumn, pupils are introduced to Computing Systems and Networks, learning how the internet works and how information moves between digital devices. They then move on to Creating Media – Audio, where they will plan, record and edit their own West End show podcast, developing skills in capturing sound, reviewing audio and improving the quality of their final piece.

Design and Technology
In Autumn, pupils will begin by adapting a recipe to create their own Matilda themed cake, learning how ingredients and methods can be changed to improve a final product. They will explore how small adjustments—such as altering flavours, textures or decoration—can enhance the outcome, building confidence in evaluating and refining their designs as young designers.

***P*.S.H.E:**
In our Jigsaw lessons the themes of focus are:
- Being in My World
- Celebrating Difference

The children will be encouraged to think about their own goals for the year ahead and helping them consider and develop skills of independence and resilience. While they will also learn to consider the diversity and differences which exist in society today and how to develop tolerance and to gain strength of character to stand up for those who may be op*pressed.*

Music:
This year the children will beginning to learn a new instrument and will have the opportunity to delve into the world of percussion and beat with drums. These lessons will be led by the very able and talented tutors from Inspiring Music Service. The children will also have singing lessons led by a dedicated singing tutor.

MFL:
This year our fantastic MFL teacher, Mrs Tallett will be leading our sessions. This term the children will be learning a selection of key phonemes to facilitate accurate and authentic pronunciation as part of their language knowledge. Then the children will use this new knowledge coupled with their prior learning to develop their vocabulary around various topics.

R.E:
In Autumn, Year 4 explore key themes from world religions, beginning with the Sikh Rite of Passage and what these ceremonies mean for Sikh families. They then move on to the Christmas Journey, learning about the Nativity story and its importance to Christians. These units help children understand belief, tradition and how different faiths celebrate important moments in life.

P.E:
This term in PE, the children will keep working with specialist teachers to develop their dance skills as they prepare for their performance at The Grove, focusing on teamwork, timing and

Dates for your diary:
Tuesday, 20th October 2026—Individual School Photos
Wrest Park Trip– Date TBC
Walk around local area– Date TBC