PICKHURST ACADEMY

YEAR GROUP NEWSLETTER

YEAR GROUP

4

Week Commencing: 9th November 2026

A quick snapshot of what our children are learning, celebrating and preparing for.

THIS WEEK'S LEARNING

MATHEMATICS

We will be moving onto our next topic which is multiplication and division. This week we will be focusing on the 3, 6 and 9 times tables.

Useful Links:

https://ttrockstars.com/

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zm36g2p

ENGLISH

We will continue to read our new book Frindleswylde by Natalia O'Hara. We will be looking at figurative language from the text and using that to create a poem.

Useful Links:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvqr239

SCIENCE

We will investigate how states of matter change when temperature increases. We will observe ice melting in class and see how it differs where the ice is.

Useful Links:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zdpjs82/articles/zwj9r2p

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zdpjs82/articles/zngfp4j

HISTORY/GEOGRAPHY

We will be learning about South America, focusing on building our map skills when identifying a continent, country and city.

Useful Links:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUv2lD7031c

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zp9sydm#z33dqfr

ART/DT

We will be following a basic biscuit recipe, baking them and then tasting them!

Useful Links:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zgxktcw

PSHE

We will be learning about personal space and the importance of respecting other people's boundaries.

Useful Links:

Healthy boundaries with friends KS2 | Y3 RSHE (PSHE) | Lesson Resources | Oak National Academy

★ STARS OF THE WEEK ★

★ **Beech Class: Willow** for writing a vivid description of Cora's snowstorm-ravaged cottage!

★ **Lime Class: Jessica** for demonstrating fantastic effort and imagination in her writing inspired by our new book.

★ **Rowan Class: Arshiv** for his well thought out contributions in maths.

★ **Sycamore Class: Mila** for her superb effort in English when writing a description of Granny's cottage!

GENERAL REMINDERS

- **Thursday:** outdoor PE, children to arrive in their PE kit.
- **Friday:** indoor PE, children to arrive in their PE kit.
- Earrings should **not** be worn on PE days, alternatively tape should be placed over earrings at home.

HOW FAMILIES CAN SUPPORT LEARNING

- **Reading regularly:** Encourage children to read daily, discuss stories, explore new vocabulary and ask questions about what they have read.
- **Practising times tables:** Help children become confident with multiplication and division facts, particularly the 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12 times tables.
- **Developing writing:** Encourage children to write for different purposes, such as diaries, stories, letters and shopping lists. Practise spelling and punctuation.
- **Using maths in everyday life:** Involve children in cooking, shopping, telling the time, handling money and measuring.
- **Talking and asking questions:** Have conversations about school, current events, nature and the world around them to develop curiosity and speaking skills.

Homework Expectations

Subject	Frequency	Expectations for Child	Parent Support/Advice
Maths TTRS (TimesTables Rock Stars) ***Online***	Weekly (compulsory)	Recommendation is for 10 minutes per day or one hour per week if consolidating.	Encourage independence, support if/when needed.
My Maths ***Online***	Weekly	Complete assigned task which is set on a Friday. Complete by following Friday.	Encourage independence, support if/when needed.
Spellings	Weekly	Daily practice, approx. 10 minutes. Practice spelling words and using them in a sentence.	Encourage, daily practice. Dictate sentences.
Reading ***"Real book", keep in school bag***	10 minutes a day	Take a book home from school to read for pleasure. Choose book band for their level (or teacher will choose). Children should read every day either to themselves or to an adult.	Please listen to your child read at least once a week and comment on Boom Reader.
Writing	Half termly task (set at the end of every half term, compulsory)	Complete writing task in book, approx. 20 minutes.	Encourage independence, support when needed.
Projects for foundation subjects, e.g. history, science	Half termly (optional)	Optional to complete. However, finished projects will be placed on display around the school.	Encourage independence, support when needed.

Spellings

Children are expected to practise their weekly spellings at home alongside the daily spelling practice they receive in school. Each half-term, children will be tested on two sets of 15 words: words from Weeks 1–3 will be tested in Week 3, followed by words from Weeks 4–6, which will be tested in Week 6. These are low-stakes spelling checks designed to provide opportunities for practice and build confidence, rather than formal assessments.

For children with SEND, or those who find the year-group spelling words particularly challenging, we encourage continued practice of high-frequency words, which can be found below. Learning these words will help to support their confidence and independence in everyday writing.

100 High Frequency Words

the	his	be	do	into	house
and	but	like	me	back	old
a	that	some	down	from	too
to	with	so	dad	children	by
said	all	not	big	him	day
in	we	then	when	Mr	made
he	can	were	it's	get	time
I	are	go	see	just	I'm
of	up	little	looked	now	if
it	had	as	very	came	help
was	my	no	look	oh	Mrs
you	her	mum	don't	about	called
they	what	one	come	got	here
on	there	them	will	their	off
she	out			people	asked
is	this			your	saw
for	have			put	make
at	went			could	an

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200 High Frequency Words

across	birds	each	fun	how	looks	next	river	tell	want
after	boat	eat	garden	I'll	lots	night	room	than	wanted
again	book	eggs	gave	I've	magic	one	round	that's	water
air	box	end	giant	inside	man	only	run	there's	way
along	boy	even	girl	its	many	or	sat	these	well
am	can't	ever	going	jumped	may	other	say	thing	we're
animals	car	every	gone	keep	miss	our	school	things	where
another	cat	everyone	good	key	more	over	sea	think	which
any	clothes	eyes	gran	king	morning	park	shouted	thought	white
around	cold	fast	grandad	know	most	place	sleep	three	who
away	coming	feet	great	last	mother	plants	small	through	why
baby	couldn't	fell	green	laughed	mouse	play	snow	told	wind
bad	cried	find	grow	let	much	please	something	took	window
bear	dark	first	hard	let's	must	pulled	soon	top	wish
because	did	fish	has	liked	narrator	queen	still	town	work
bed	didn't	floppy	hat	live	need	rabbit	stop	tree	would
been	different	fly	he's	lived	never	ran	stopped	trees	yes
before	dog	food	head	long	new	really	suddenly	two	
began	door	found	home	looking		red	sun	under	
best	dragon	fox	horse			right	take	us	
better	duck	friends	hot				tea	use	

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Thank you from the Year 4 Team

Thank you for your continued support with your children's learning and for working with us as part of the Pickhurst Academy community.