Welcome to Year 4

Mrs Donato (4D)
Miss Hudson (4H)



Reflection & Prayer

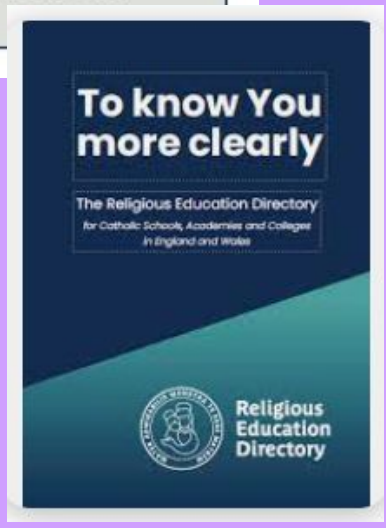
I used to think that prayer changes things, but now I know that prayer changes us, and we change things
St Teresa of Calcutta

Father,
We thank you for our school community, knowing that we can learn from each other and grow in faith. We pray for all those involved in our school, and that all of us may grow as the people you call us to be.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
Amen

What We Will Teach

Ways of Knowing		
Understand	Discern	Respond
See	Judge	Act
What will I see and hear to help me understand?	How will I discover more?	What can I do now?



Catholic Life



Assemblies
Masses & Liturgies
Feast Days
Cathedral visits
Visits from Fr Alan
Class Prayer tables
10% Curriculum time for RE
Prayer Garden
Reconciliation
Junior Chaplaincy
CAFOD Club
Rosary Club

RHE (Relationships and Health Education)

RHE
Relationships and Health Education

Information can be found on our school website, under the 'Curriculum' tab.

Our RHE policy and curriculum content has been developed by the Catholic Education Service, working in consultation with the DfE on the new national guidelines. The content of our curriculum has been advised and approved by the Bishop. Each summer, parents are invited to a meeting in school to view the content of what their child is to be taught.

Expectations

Children arrive at school on time. This is at **8:40 for a 9:00am start.**

Children come to school in correct uniform and with everything they need to support their learning. This includes:

- Water Bottle
- A snack
- Lunchbox
- Reading book & Home Learning Journal

Please do not send your child with any stationary equipment/pencil case as we will provide the children with all the equipment they need.

What's new?

Key Changes in Year 4

By the end of Year 4 we expect children to……

Grow their level of independence

- Developing their capacity to become 'unstuck', self-sourcing answers to their problems in class.
- Organising their learning, equipment and belongings.

Develop their learning stamina

- Writing: we will continue to increase their speed and fluidity to help them write for longer.
- Reading: Children will develop their reading speed so that they can read more complex texts for a longer period of time.

Growth Mindset

A key concept which shapes the ethos of our school is **Growth Mindset.** This is based on the work of psychologist Carol Dweck. The overriding principle of growth mindset is that all children (and adults) have the potential to learn and improve with effort, perseverance and high-quality teaching.

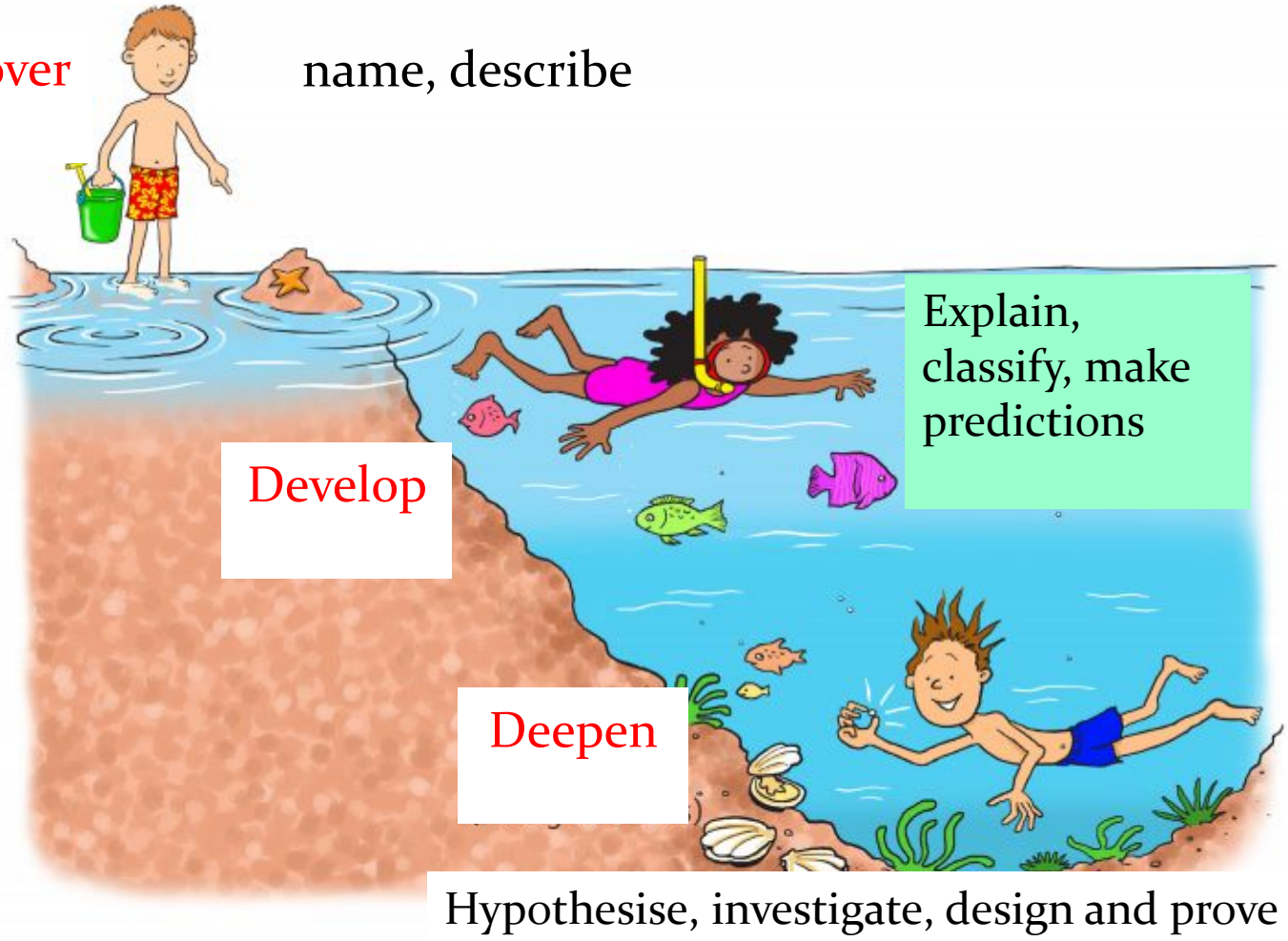


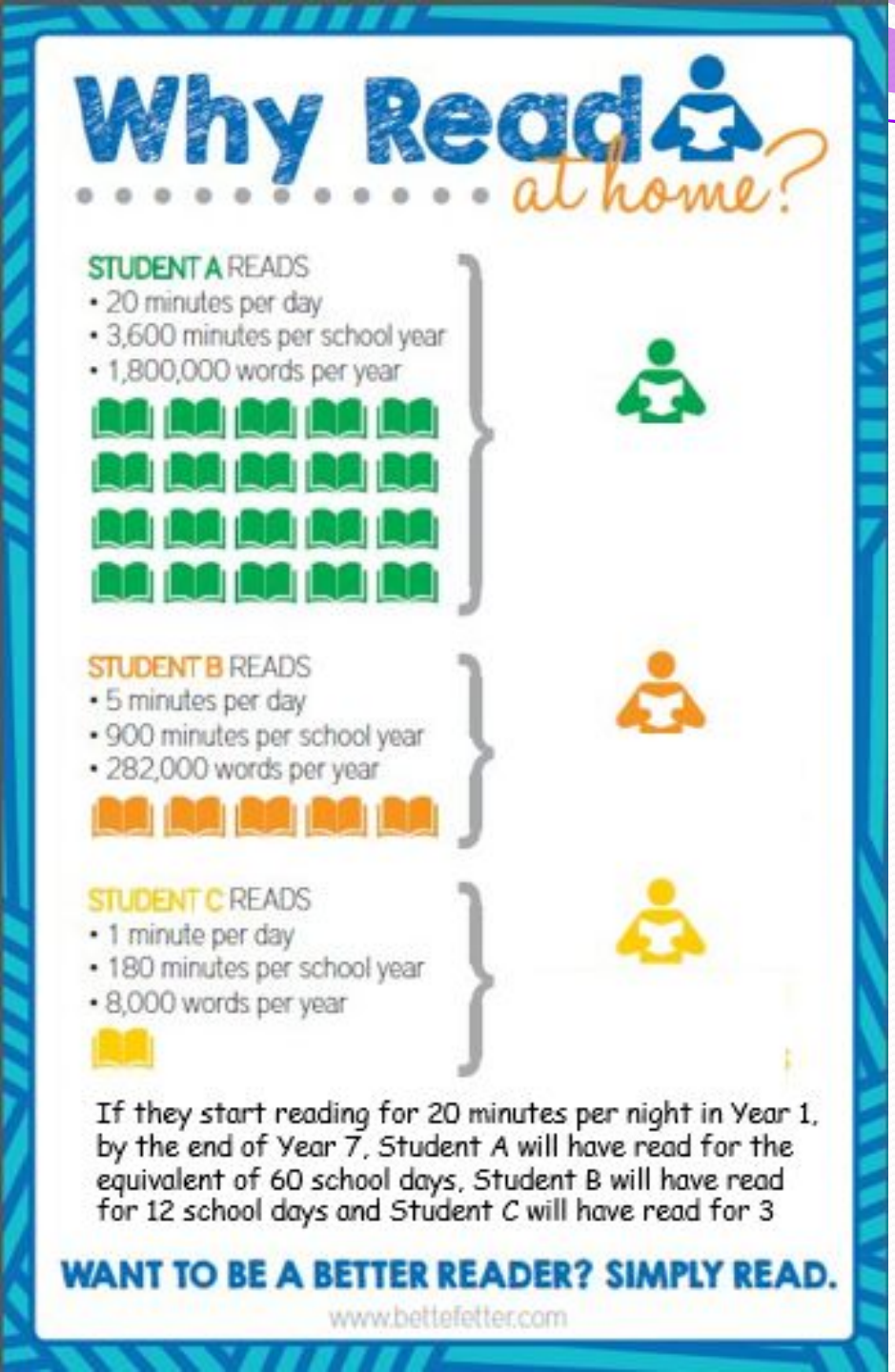
Children are taught and encouraged to embrace challenges, be resilient and keep going when things get difficult and see effort as the path to mastery. They reflect and learn from feedback, and learn from and find inspiration from the success of others. These children recognise that effort and persistence are what helps them develop and grow as learners.

Our Curriculum

Rationale

In Year 4, we mainly work at the 'Develop' phase with some children starting to 'Deepen' their understanding.





Reading: The Marathon Years!

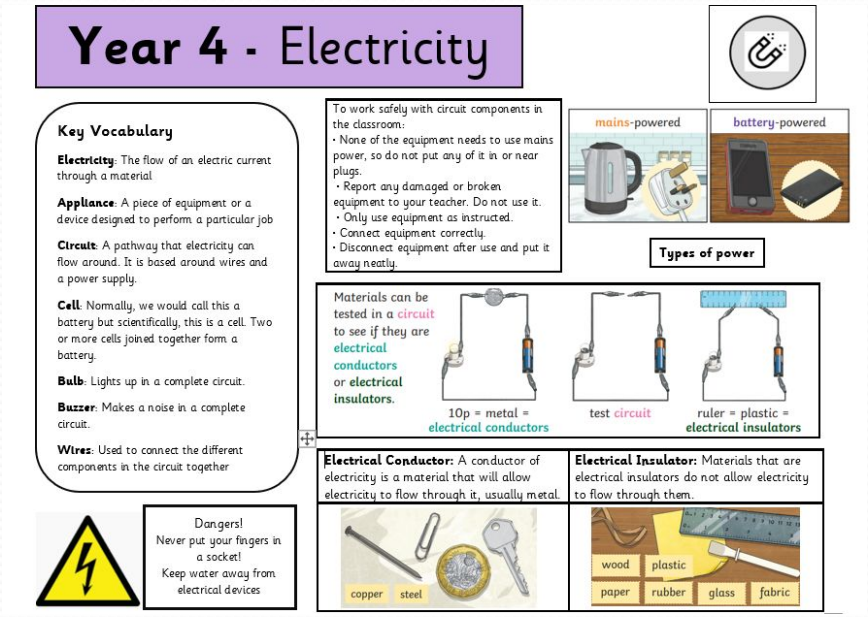
- It is really important children leave Year 4 as fluent, expressive readers. They should develop their stamina and speed.
- Regular, short bursts of quality practice will be essential to make good progress. We recommend that you try and read with your child everyday for about **20 minutes.**
- Even if your child is a 'free reader' please ensure they are reading regularly and out loud to you at home too.

Our Curriculum Topics!

Geography: Extreme Earth	**Science**	**History: The Tudor Age of Exploration**
Coastal Erosion Volcanoes Earthquakes and Tsunamis (3 half terms)	Electricity Sun, moon and Earth The Digestive System Habitats Sound States of Matter	Tudor monarchs Life for the rich/poor Tudor explorers (3 half terms)

Our Curriculum Topics

Knowledge Organisers



Year 4 - Electricity

Key Vocabulary

Electricity: The flow of an electric current through a material

Appliance: A piece of equipment or a device designed to perform a particular job

Circuit: A pathway that electricity can flow around. It is based around wires and a power supply.

Cell: Normally, we would call this a battery but scientifically, this is a cell. Two or more cells joined together form a battery.

Bulb: Lights up in a complete circuit.

Buzzer: Makes a noise in a complete circuit.

Wires: Used to connect the different components in the circuit together

To work safely with circuit components in the classroom:
- None of the equipment needs to use mains power, so do not put any of it in or near plugs.
- Report any damaged or broken equipment to your teacher. Do not use it.
- Only use equipment as instructed.
- Connect equipment correctly.
- Disconnect equipment after use and put it away neatly.

mains-powered | battery-powered

Types of power

Materials can be tested in a circuit to see if they are electrical conductors or electrical insulators.

10p = metal = electrical conductors | test circuit | ruler = plastic = electrical insulators

Electrical Conductor: A conductor of electricity is a material that will allow electricity to flow through it, usually metal.

copper | steel

Electrical Insulator: Materials that are electrical insulators do not allow electricity to flow through them.

wood | plastic | paper | rubber | glass | fabric

Dangers!
Never put your fingers in a socket!
Keep water away from electrical devices

These will be available on the school website and include the main teaching that we will aim to cover throughout a topic.

Uniform

Uniform is worn at St Francis of Assisi to develop a sense of pride in being a member of the school community. It is expected that all children will wear the school uniform.

- **Boys**
- black/dark grey trousers (or shorts in summer)
- white shirt (& tie) / polo shirt (no tie) in summer only
- school sweatshirt

- **Girls**
- black/dark grey trousers/skirt/pinafore
- white shirt (& tie) /polo shirt (no tie) in summer only
- purple gingham dress (summer)
- school sweatshirt/cardigan

- Summer uniform may be worn in September if the weather is still warm.
- Shoes should be black and appropriate for school i.e. not trainers, high heels, hightops, boots, flip flops etc.
- All uniform should be **clearly labelled** with your child's name

Earrings can be worn to school, as long as they are small studs. We request that on PE days, they come to school without them, or covered up with medical tape. We will not be able to take them out for your child.

PE Kit

- Please make sure that your child has the correct PE kit each week:
  a white t-shirt,
  plain black shorts / plain black sports trousers
  purple hoodie/school jumper/fleece/cardigan.
  Sports trainers

- Remember that some P.E lessons are taught outside and during the winter months **your child will need** appropriate kit from the above list.

- **Remember no jewellery – earrings must be covered with tape for PE days**

- **Swimming days – NO earrings to be worn at all.**

Homework and Home Learning Journal

•We recommend that you try and read with your child everyday for about **20 minutes.**

•Each day can you sign and date that you have read with your child. This can include if you have read aloud to your child too – a balance is important!

Year 4 homework expectations:

- TT Rockstars
- Spelling handwriting sheet
- Daily reading

We will collect in journals on a Monday to check for any communications from home & reading records.

Trips in Year 4

•To enrich the curriculum, we aim to go on a trip at least once a term. These are **potential** days out for Year 4:

Geography beach field trip (TBC)

Norwich Central Mosque *(Free)*

Sainsburys Centre – Art *(Free)*

Kentwell Hall (TBC)

We will give you lots of advance warning for trips that will need to be paid for and some may be paid in instalments. Prompt payment is appreciated

Pupil Premium

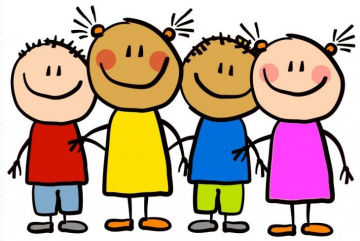
- Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals which means that the school will be given £1,500 as an additional source of income that will be used to support your child. We will pay for your first school uniform and then pay for all school trips (excluding residential ones). We will use the money to improve classroom teaching but also to provide support in the classroom and by offering extra intervention.

Your child is eligible for free school meals if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

Please go onto our website to download a form to complete if you are eligible.

Learning Support



Rachel Bowen is our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator or SENDCo. She is responsible for co-ordinating the provision for all pupils requiring additional support at St. Francis and works very closely with families and class teachers.

Please come and see us if you have concerns about your child and we will get in contact with Rachel for you. Or if you prefer you can email her direct on senco@st-francisofassisi.norfolk.sch.uk

Important Links



Our School Website – Useful links and information.

The Newsletter – it does exist and is really useful! It is emailed to you on a Friday.
(Paper Copy on Request)

Sharing Skills – could your job or a skillset you have enrich learning in the school? Could you support by hearing readers?

Keeping in Touch

We will continue to communicate key messages through the following:

- Our School Website
- The Newsletter
- Home Learning Journals

To help us to do so, please can you ensure all of the following are up to date:

- Email
- Address
- Phone details

Equally important would be to update the school and kitchen staff (via the office) with any updated **care plans** that could be important.

St Francis of Assisi Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)







The PTFA is a small group of parents, friends and staff who join together to raise money to buy special things for our school. We organise several events during the year and would love it if you could get involved – no offer of help / support is ever too small!

PTFA funded projects

We have contributed or paid for the following items around our school but we'd love to offer more – for this to happen we need more volunteers! If you would like to join our happy team, please see Juliette Clifford in the office to pass on your contact details. Thank you!













Any Questions?

