

CURRICULUM LETTER

Year 4 - Spring 1



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Exwick Heights Primary School

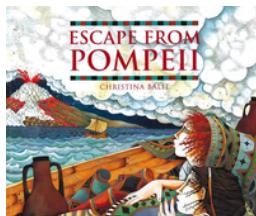
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Tuesday 6th January 2026

Dear Parents / Carers of Exwick Heights Year 4 pupils,
Happy New Year! We have a busy half term ahead!

This half term in **English**, we will be exploring the text 'Escape from Pompeii' by Christina Ballit. While consolidating our punctuation knowledge and developing our vocabulary, we will learn to rewrite the story from the perspective of one of the main characters. We will also be applying grammar and punctuation skills through descriptions of experiences within a recount of our History school trip to Escot!



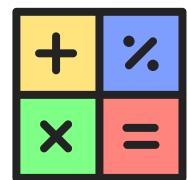
Supporting your child at home: Please encourage your child to practise any new spellings set using 'Doodle Spell'. There will also be English tasks set through 'Doodle English'. Please provide opportunities for your child to practise their handwriting at home.

 **Reading** themes this half term will include witches and wizards, Chinese New Year and children's classics. We encourage children to read widely at home and explore different genres whilst developing their expression by reading to family members. The benefits of reading cannot be underestimated.

Please ensure that you share a love of reading with your child and read with them whenever you can.

 **Supporting your child at home:** As always, do encourage your child to read a range of books, both fiction and non-fiction. Year 4 children should read at home for a minimum of 20 minutes a day and, for each book your child reads, they can complete an Accelerated Reader quiz to earn points - eventually becoming a Word Millionaire and more! Regular reading will be rewarded with tickets in the 'Read to Succeed' draw, where they could win a book!

In **Maths**, we will continue our learning on multiplication and division, focusing on factor pairs and formal written methods of calculation including three-digit times two-digit numbers. We will also be learning about length and perimeter.



Supporting your child at home: Please encourage your child to complete the activities set on 'Doodle Maths'. They are also able to access 'Doodle Tables' to complete independent practice. All Year 4 children are expected to know all times tables by the summer term and will be formally assessed on them; there will be a parent meeting in the Spring Term to share further information.



In **Science**, we will be learning about **sound**. We will be learning about how sounds are formed and how we are able to hear them. We will explore where pitch and volume comes from and will even make our own instruments.

Supporting your child at home: Notice and discuss a variety of sounds in real life contexts, asking your child how they think they are made.

Our **History** topic this half term is Anglo Saxons. We will learn about what life was like during this exciting time of British history. Our learning will be brought to life on our school trip, where we will explore the Anglo Saxon village at Escot. We will discover who Alfred the Great was and the impact he had on the modern day. **Supporting your child at home:** Explore the fantastic resources on the Anglo Saxons on the BBC Bitesize website together.



REACH THE HEIGHTS

In **Art**, we will be focusing on painting and mixed media with an emphasis on light and dark. We will explore the work of famous artists and practise our painting skills. We will be creating compositions and we will also create a still life piece. **Supporting your child at home:** Explore local art galleries or museums and talk about the different shades of colours on show in these pieces.



This half term, we will be playing **Tag rugby**, working on positional throws and catches. Inside, during this half term, we will be trying our hand at **badminton** until the 27th February, when will be enjoying swimming lessons!

Supporting your child at home: Encourage your child to choose active ways to get around, such as walking, cycling or scooting.



Our **PSHE** focus is '**Dreams and Goals**'. The children will be thinking about setting their own goals and considering their dreams for the future. We will also be discussing challenges we may face and how we can overcome these challenges to achieve our goals. We will also learn about role models who worked hard to become successful and overcome challenges.

Supporting your child at home: With your child, talk about their dreams for the future and ask them what they will need to work hard in to achieve them.



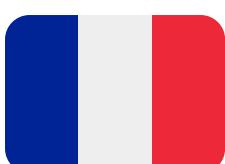
In **RE**, our focus is: **What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain Today?** In this unit, we will learn about dharma, the Hindu whole way of life. We will explore how Hindus worship together using shrines, prayers and songs. We will also learn about how they celebrate a range of festivals together including Divali, Holi and Durja Puja.

Supporting your child at home: Have open conversations about any spiritual questions your child may ask you.

In **Computing**, we will be learning how to create branching databases. We will write our own yes/no questions to organise and sort data into different groups, building clear and user-friendly branching databases. As we do every term, we will also be recapping our online safety rules to ensure we are safe while online.



Supporting your child at home: Please support your child at home by giving consistent reminders about online safety. 'Think You Know Online Safety' is a great place for finding out more yourself.



In **French**, we will be studying the topic 'My Town'. We will learn the names of different buildings that you can find around town, as well as how to ask where they are. We will also learn key shopping vocabulary, including different types of shops and how to ask about the cost of items.

Supporting your child at home: BBC Teach has a selection of French language resources including their popular TV show 'Muzzy'.

Home Learning: All 'core' home learning and reading records will be checked on a Friday with time scheduled in the day to share and celebrate any 'Curiosity' tasks completed.

If you have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher directly or email admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk; your query will be passed to them. If you have any concerns or want to bring something to our attention, please do contact the Year Group Lead - Mrs Lloyd-Seetim.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Lloyd-Seetim
Rashford

Ms Willett and Mrs Davis
Rapinoe