

Birchgrove Primary School

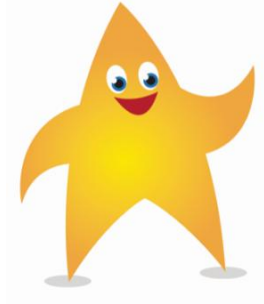
Year 4

Curriculum Talk

2025 - 2026



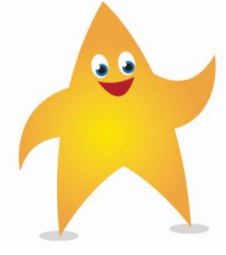
Meet the team



Miss Lewis - 4L



Mr Warlow- 4W



Mrs Lynne Rees- TA



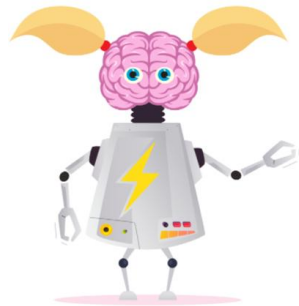
Ms Fran Mears- Interventions
and maths support

Our Learning Heroes

Meet our Learning Heroes. These colourful characters were designed by our pupils to help them understand the different attributes that make a well-rounded learner. Each hero has a special talent and are referenced along your child's learning journey and used alongside other thinking tools such as; thinking maps, De Bono's hats and lots of reflective learning opportunities.



Teamwork Twm



Brainy Branwen



Decisions Dew



Creative Cadi

Our Learning Heroes' Attributes

**BRAINY
BRANWEN**



- *Persist – keep going*
- *Power of YET*
- *Ask lots of questions*
- *Be open to learning new things*
- *Use what you already know*
- *Pay attention to detail*
- *Learn from your marvellous mistakes*



- *Manage our impulsivities*
- *Think about our thinking*
- *Take responsible risks*

**CREATIVE
CAP!**



- *Think flexibly / try it a different way*
- *Be confident in your own ideas and choices*
- *Be creative and imaginative*
- *Respond with awe and wonder – be intrigued*

**TEAMWORK
TWM**



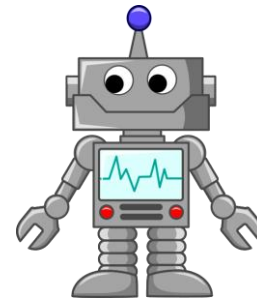
- *Think and work interdependently*
- *Listen carefully*
- *Be caring*
- *Discuss things together*
- *Find humour (sometimes laugh at yourself)*
- *3B4Me*
- *Be clear and precise*

WELCOME!

to Year 4





Robot Rampage



Robot Rampage – A Hands-On Adventure

In this topic, pupils will dive into the fascinating world of mechanisms—from gears and levers to circuits and magnets. They'll build simple working models, test everyday materials and investigate forces like electricity and magnetism.


 They'll explore what makes materials waterproof, insulating or conductive and even experiment with rust to understand chemical reactions. Safety is key too, as they learn how to assess risks around machines and structures.


 All this knowledge will come together in a creative challenge: designing a robot for a specific task, choosing the right materials and justifying their decisions. To top it off, they'll debate a big question—**should teachers be replaced by robots?** Developing their speaking and reasoning skills along the way.

Children of the Revolution

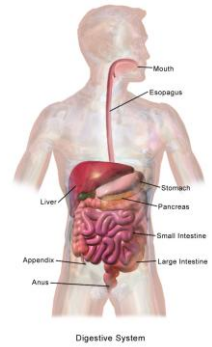
Children of the Revolution – A Journey Through the Victorian Era

In this topic, pupils will step into the shoes of Victorian children to explore life during the Industrial Revolution. Through drama, role play and hands-on enquiry they'll uncover the stark contrasts between rich and poor and the social, moral and technological changes that shaped the 19th century.

 They'll experience a day in a Victorian classroom, compare it to modern life and investigate key figures and events that drove change. Building on their learning about children's rights they'll reflect on the lives of working children then and now.

 Pupils will also explore toys and games from different eras and consider how the Industrial Revolution influenced life in South Wales. By examining artefacts and historical sources they'll begin to understand bias, interpretation and inequality in Victorian society across class, gender and heritage.

Burps, Bottoms and Bile



★ Burps, Bottoms and Bile – Exploring the Digestive System

In this topic, pupils will explore the organs and processes that keep our digestive system working. They'll learn about teeth, how to care for them and investigate the impact of sugary drinks on their health.


🧪 Pupils will test the pH of different solutions and discover what makes them acidic, alkali or neutral. They'll write explanations to describe how digestion works and begin to explore ways to keep their bodies healthy.


🌍 Linking to Article 24, they'll reflect on every child's right to health care, clean water and nutritious food and consider what being healthy really means.

Cardiff Back to the Future

Cardiff: Back to the Future

In this topic, pupils will explore how Cardiff has changed over time and what those changes mean for the people who live here. They'll develop their sense of chronology and begin to understand cause and effect by looking at how physical and social changes shape communities.

 Through field trips, maps and photographs, pupils will ask questions, gather information and present their findings in creative ways. They'll explore Cardiff's diversity and look at how redevelopment continues to transform the city, considering its impact on the environment and local life.


 To bring their learning to life, pupils will also develop film and digital media skills, learning how to frame and capture the world around them.


Blue Planet



Blue Planet – Life Beneath the Surface

In this topic, pupils will dive into the wonders of ocean ecosystems. They'll explore where the world's oceans are, what lives in them and how marine creatures adapt to their habitats. From coral reefs to deep-sea trenches, they'll investigate layers of the ocean and group animals by shared features like mammals, fish and reptiles.

 Pupils will build food chains and begin to understand how ecosystems connect across the globe. They'll reflect on how human actions—like littering and plastic pollution—can harm marine life and explore ways to reduce their impact.

 Inspired by real-life ocean activists, pupils will ask questions, carry out research and present their findings in creative ways, building on their scientific skills and environmental awareness.



Daily Maths Lessons

All children will take part in daily maths lessons. These are carefully planned to build fluency, confidence and problem-solving skills and to ensure that every child is supported and challenged appropriately.

Maths Grouping Across the Year Group

Children will be grouped for maths across the year group based on teacher assessments, classroom observations and discussions with their previous teachers. This helps us tailor teaching to each child's current stage of learning. These groups are flexible and reviewed regularly to reflect children's progress.

Maths Across the Curriculum

In addition to daily lessons, maths will also be taught through other areas of the curriculum and within topic work. This helps children see how maths connects to real-life situations and other subjects.

Weekly Maths Investigations

Each week, children will take part in a maths investigation. These sessions are designed to develop their reasoning and problem-solving skills in a fun and engaging way.

Supporting Learning at Home

We will also be recommending websites and online resources that children can use at home to practise and reinforce the skills taught in class. These will be shared regularly and are a great way to support your child's learning.

This Term's Focus

In the first part of the term, our focus will be on place value, helping children understand the value of digits in numbers. We will then move on to number work involving the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.



P.E. (Health and Well-Being)

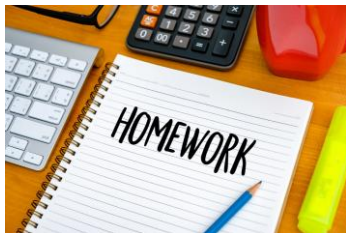


- **Indoor** P.E sessions for both classes will take place on **Wednesday afternoons.**
- **Outdoor** PE sessions for both classes will be on **Thursday mornings.**

IMPORTANT

Children must bring their PE kits into school and not wear them in. As part of SRE, we are encouraging good hygiene and changing for sports is an important part.

All pupils will need the correct PE kits for lessons. This includes; a yellow top, leggings/joggers/shorts, trainers and a jacket or hoodie for when the weather changes.



Homework



- **Daily reading** should be carried out at home. Please ensure the pupils bring their reading books in to school everyday. Books usually take longer to read. Listening to your child read is still really important. Ask them questions about the text such as:

‘Can you tell me what has just happened?’ (Try using terminology such as summarise, text, paragraph etc)

‘Who are the main characters and what are they like?’

‘How is _____ feeling? Why?’

- **Reading journals** will be handed out at the start of the term. Pupils are expected to **complete one journal entry each week**. Please remember that children do not have to finish the book to write a journal entry. This can be based on a paragraph as we understand that the books some children will be reading are much longer.
- **Maths** - Try to practise times tables at home. We will periodically place links to relevant websites on Google Classroom.
- **Spellings** - These will be taught in class on weekly literacy carousel. There will be spelling groups and different strategies to help them learn in class. At home, we would like adults to support with spellings which will be uploaded on the website.
- **Learning Logs** - Children will be set a research and presentation task linked to their topics. There will be **one for each topic**. Children will be given a few weeks to prepare and create their own learning log. A letter with information about each task will be glued into their Learning Log book before being sent home.



- PE Days - Wednesday PM (indoors) and Thursday AM (outdoors)

(Children need to bring their PE kit into school to change in class)

- Royal Mint Trip - 25th September
- Big Pit Trip - TBC
- Parents Evening - 14th and 15th October
- Half Term - Monday 27th October- Friday 31st October