Year 4 Summer Overview

	Summer 1	Summer 2
English	Fiction – A Finding Tale - *The Iron Man by Ted Hughes* This imaginative unit explores the genre of a finding tale through *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes. Children delve into the story's rich language and vivid imagery, analyzing how the author builds tension and excitement around the discovery of the Iron Man. They examine the structure of a finding tale, focusing on key elements like setting description, character reactions, and the resolution of the discovery. Grammar skills include using correct verb inflections for clarity, conjunctions to express time and cause, and suffixes to extend vocabulary. Inspired by the text, children plan and write their own finding tale, weaving in suspenseful events and detailed descriptions. The unit concludes with children sharing their stories, celebrating their creativity and storytelling skill Non-Fiction - Persuasive Texts - *AI Robot Adverts* This exciting unit focuses on persuasive writing, as children create adverts for AI robots. We begin by analysing examples of persuasive texts, identifying features such as catchy slogans, engaging language, and clear organisation. Children learn how to use suffixes to build persuasive vocabulary, apply possessive apostrophes accurately, and structure their ideas into clear, focused paragraphs. They then design their own AI robot, considering its unique features and benefits, before planning and drafting an advert to persuade others to buy it. The unit concludes with a showcase of their adverts, where children use their speaking and listening skills to present their creations with confidence and flair.	Fiction – A Warning Tale - *Keep off the Tracks!* This gripping unit explores the genre of a warning tale through the text *Keep off the Tracks*. Children examine how the story uses suspense and consequences to deliver a powerful message. They analyse the structure of a warning tale, focusing on how tension builds and how the warning is ultimately reinforced. Grammar skills include using past verb tenses accurately to recount events, applying prefixes to extend vocabulary, and correctly using plural possessive apostrophes to show ownership. Inspired by the text, children plan and write their own warning tales, crafting engaging narratives that highlight the importance of heeding advice. The unit concludes with children sharing their tales, reflecting on the impact of their warnings and storytelling. Fiction – Poetry - *Kennings - The Cave of Curiosity - Oceans and Seas* This creative unit introduces children to the art of poetry through the study of kennings, inspired by The Cave of Curiosity and the theme of oceans and seas. Children explore how kennings use vivid imagery and metaphor to convey ideas in a concise and imaginative way. They analyse examples, focusing on the use of subordinate clauses to add depth and detail, as well as organisational devices to structure their ideas effectively. Drawing on the beauty and mystery of the ocean, children create their own kennings, experimenting with language and poetic techniques. The unit concludes with a class poetry reading, where children present their work with expression and pride, celebrating their creativity and growing confidence in writing and performance.
Maths	Decimals B In this Decimals B unit, students build on their understanding of decimals by working with tenths and hundredths. They begin by making a whole using tenths and then using hundredths to complete a whole. Students practice partitioning decimals, including flexible partitioning, to deepen their understanding of decimal values. They learn to compare and order decimals, enhancing their ability to work with numbers in decimal form. Students also explore rounding decimals to the nearest whole number and work with halves and quarters as decimals, reinforcing the connection between fractions and decimals. This unit helps students refine their skills with decimals and prepares them for more complex operations. Money In this Money unit, students develop their understanding of how to work with money using decimals. They begin by learning to write amounts of money as decimals, then practice converting between pounds and pence. Students also compare different amounts of money and estimate costs in various scenarios. They move on to calculating with money, building their skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Finally, students apply their knowledge to solve real-world problems involving money, helping them gain confidence in managing financial tasks and developing practical mathematical skills. Time In this Time unit, students explore different ways of measuring and representing time. They start by learning about years, months, weeks, and days, and how they relate to each other. Students then focus on hours, minutes, and seconds, understanding how these units of time are used in everyday life. They practice converting between analogue and digital clocks, and move on to converting time to and from the 24-hour clock format. Through these activities, students develop a solid understanding of time and its various forms, helping them become more confident in reading and using time in different contexts.	Shape In this Shape unit, students explore the properties of different shapes and angles. They begin by understanding angles as turns and identifying various types of angles. Students practice comparing and ordering angles to build a strong foundation in geometry. They then explore triangles, quadrilaterals, and polygons, learning to identify and classify different types of shapes. Students also investigate lines of symmetry, understanding how shapes can be divided into equal parts. Finally, they practice completing symmetric figures, reinforcing their knowledge of symmetry and its applications in geometry. Through these activities, students develop a deeper understanding of shapes and their properties. Statistics In this Statistics unit, students focus on interpreting and creating different types of data representations. They begin by interpreting charts, learning to analyze the information presented and draw conclusions. Students then practice comparing data, finding sums and differences between values. Next, they explore line graphs, interpreting the data shown and understanding trends over time. Students also gain the skills to draw their own line graphs, organizing data effectively to represent information visually. Through these activities, students develop a strong foundation in statistics, building their ability to work with and analyse data in various forms. Position and Direction In this Position and Direction unit, students explore how to describe and manipulate positions on a grid. They begin by describing positions using coordinates and practice plotting coordinates on a grid. Students then draw 2-D shapes on a grid, reinforcing their understanding of spatial relationships. They learn to translate shapes on a grid, moving them along specific paths, and describe the translation of shapes in terms of direction and distance. Through these activities, students build their skills in navigating and describing positions and movements, enhancing their understanding of geometry and spatial reasoning.

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Science	Living Things and their Habitats In this unit, children will explore various methods to identify, sort, group, and classify living things. They will learn how animals are divided into 'vertebrates' and 'invertebrates' and begin to understand the differences between living things within these groups. Children will use and create classification keys to group, identify, and name living things from local habitats and beyond. The unit also introduces the concept that environments can change due to human-made and natural factors, and these changes can impact living things. Throughout the unit, children will work scientifically by gathering, recording, and presenting information in different ways.	
Art	Textiles - *Chinese/Japanese Tie Dying* During this Art unit, we will learn all about Textiles. Pupils will explore the traditional art of tie-dyeing, with a focus on Chinese and Japanese techniques. They will learn about the cultural significance of textiles in both countries and how tie-dyeing is used to create beautiful, intricate patterns on fabric. Throughout the unit, pupils will practice various tie-dyeing methods, experimenting with different colours and designs to create their own textile artwork. This topic not only develops their practical skills in working with fabric, but also helps them appreciate the rich history and cultural importance of textile arts.	
Computing	Modelling and Design – *Sketchup* Children will develop skills in navigating a 3D environment and creating simple 3D models using SketchUp. They will become familiar with basic drawing tools and learn how to design and build objects in a virtual space. In Lesson 1, they will get started with SketchUp, exploring its features and tools. In Lessons 2, children will create 3D models of furniture, practicing precision and creativity. Lessons 3 and 4 focus on building houses, teaching children to design and structure more complex models. Finally, in Lessons 5 and 6, children will apply their skills to create topic-linked designs.	Computational Thinking - *Alien Contact!* An unplugged unit to develop your students into strong computational thinkers by solving a wide range of exciting unplugged problems. Will they be able to solve the problems, earn the trust of an alien species and cement a new galactic friendship?
Design and Technology	Levers and Linkages In our Year 4 DT topic, "Levers and Linkages," pupils will explore how mechanical systems work, focusing on the use of levers and linkages to create movement. A key part of the unit will involve designing and making pneumatic or hydraulic Mayan masks, where pupils will learn how air or liquid pressure can be used to make parts of their masks move. They will experiment with creating simple mechanical systems and apply their understanding of levers and linkages to bring their designs to life. This unit combines creativity with practical engineering skills, helping pupils develop problem-solving abilities and a deeper understanding of how mechanical systems can be used in design.	
French	Language Angels - As-tu un animal ? (Do You Have a Pet?) In the unit *As-tu un animal ?*, pupils learn to talk and write about pets in French. They will express what pets they have or don't have, using both the first and third person singular. By the end of the unit, they will be able to name pets, say what the pet is called, and use basic conjunctions to extend sentences, building confidence in both spoken and written communication.	Language Angels - Au salon de thé (At the Tea Room) In this unit, pupils consolidate core grammar (nouns, gender, determiners, and plurality) from previous units while expanding their food and drink vocabulary. They develop confidence using key transactional phrases to order in a French tea room. By the end of the unit, they will be able to perform a short role-play, ordering items with accurate language and polite expressions.
Geography	Rivers In this unit, children will explore key aspects of rivers, their features, and their significance. They will learn about the main rivers in Europe and around the world, understanding their paths and geographical importance. The unit will cover how rivers erode and transport materials, and how ox-bow lakes are formed through this process. Children will investigate how people use rivers for transport, water supply, and recreation, and explore the impact of flooding on local areas. Finally, they will learn about hydroelectric power (HEP), examining how it works and the role of rivers in generating renewable energy.	Rivers and Bridges - *a Local Study* In this local geography study, children will focus on the River Tyne, examining its local significance and geography. They will learn about the rainfall patterns in the River Tyne catchment area, exploring when and where it rains in this region. The unit will also cover the main bridges of the Tyne, investigating their history and importance. Children will study the river's profile in Newcastle (the "toon"), understanding its features and how they change along its course. Finally, they will explore how the Tyne is used by people today, including transport, recreation, and its role in the local economy.

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History	A local History Study - *Cullercoats and the Tyne* Continuing our local history study, children will delve into the rich history of the area, focusing on key aspects of the local fishing heritage. They will learn about the Cullercoats Fishwives, exploring their important role in the community and the fishing industry. The unit will also cover the traditional fishing boat, the coble, and the fishermen's cottages that dotted the coastline. Children will investigate the significance of the herring fish to the local economy and culture, and study the impact of the Great Flood of 1771, examining how it affected Cullercoats and the surrounding area.	A Local History Study - *Cullercoats and the Tyne* In the final part of our local history study, children will explore the history of Newcastle and the River Tyne, focusing on the development of the area's infrastructure and industries. They will learn about the construction of the main central bridges in Newcastle, discovering when they were built and their significance. The unit will also cover the major industries along the Tyne, including shipbuilding, coal mining, and manufacturing, and how these industries have changed over time. By examining the historical transformation of the Tyne and its surrounding area, children will gain insight into the region's industrial past and its evolution.
Music	Oak Academy - *Notation* Charanga - *Blackbird by The Beatles* A song about civil rights. Discussion of expression of feelings through songs. This Unit of Work consolidates the learning that has occurred during the year. All the learning is focused around revisiting songs and musical activities, a context for the History of Music and the beginnings of the Language of Music.	Oak Academy - *Notation* Charanga - *Blackbird by The Beatles* A song about civil rights. Discussion of expression of feelings through songs. This Unit of Work consolidates the learning that has occurred during the year. All the learning is focused around revisiting songs and musical activities, a context for the History of Music and the beginnings of the Language of Music.
PE	Athletics - *Quadkids* Children will focus on developing key skills in throwing, catching, sprinting, and running techniques. They will practice these techniques in a variety of athletic events, working to improve their form, speed, and accuracy. The unit will also include *Fitness Circuits*, where children will explore the effects of exercise on the body, working different muscle groups through various activities. They will learn how different exercises benefit their fitness and strength. The unit encourages personal improvement as children strive to beat their personal bests in each event, promoting motivation and self-development.	Rounders/Cricket Children will focus on developing striking and fielding skills, learning how to hit the ball effectively and field with accuracy. They will practice techniques for batting, bowling, and catching while working on teamwork and communication to coordinate their efforts in both attack and defence. Rowing Children will develop coordination, stamina, and teamwork through rowing activities. They will learn the basics of rowing technique, including how to handle the rowing machine, work in sync with teammates, and build endurance. The unit emphasises cooperation and strategy, improving physical fitness while fostering a sense of teamwork.
PSHE	One World This unit is based on the concept that we all have a responsibility to live as global citizens. It is inspired by the idea that we all have a responsibility to help the environment and all living things throughout the world through the choices we make. It aims to enable the children to explore the ideas of sustainability, the use of the earth's natural resources and the harmful effects of global warming. In this unit, children also learn about the steps they can take to reduce these harmful effects. They will also learn about biodiversity and its importance and explore what they would like to do to make the world a better place.	VIPs This unit, entitled VIPs (Very Important Persons), will focus on relationships we have with our VIPs. It will look at friendships, how friendships are formed and maintained, and the qualities of a good friend. The lessons will then move on to disputes and bullying and will address strategies for coping with each of these.
RE	How and why do people show care for others? In our Year 4 RE topic, "How and why do people show care for others?", we explore the importance of compassion and kindness in various religions and worldviews. Pupils learn about the teachings and actions of religious figures, such as Jesus and other leaders, who emphasised caring for the vulnerable and less fortunate. We discuss how different faiths encourage charity, community service, and empathy as ways to demonstrate care. This topic helps children understand the moral and spiritual reasons behind acts of care and inspires them to think about how they can contribute positively to their communities.	Why do people visit a cathedral today? In this topic we will explore the various reasons people visit these magnificent places of worship. Pupils will learn about the historical and architectural significance of cathedrals, as well as their role in Christian worship and community life. We will discuss how cathedrals serve as spaces for prayer, reflection, and special ceremonies, such as weddings and ordinations. Additionally, we will consider how some people visit cathedrals for their beauty, history, or as tourists, seeking to understand the cultural and spiritual heritage they represent. This topic helps children appreciate the continuing importance of cathedrals in both religious and cultural contexts.