THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Bishopswood Infant & Junior Schools
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Executive Headteacher: Mr. G Golding
Executive Head of School: Mrs. J Armes

Monday 11th November 2026

Year 4 Autumn 2

Dear Parents,

We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful and restful Halloween half term break! This term, we are excited to begin our new topic, *"A River's Journey."* The children will be learning about the water cycle, exploring the key features of rivers, locating famous rivers around the world and investigating how rivers impact both the environment and human life. In Design and Technology, the children will put their creativity and problem-solving skills to the test by designing and building their own bridges, linking perfectly with our topic!

PE

This term, the children will be taking part in gymnastics and field hockey lessons. P.E will remain on Thursday afternoons. Please make sure your child has warm clothing for field hockey; tracksuits bottoms and a jumper, please. As always, suitable footwear must be worn and hair tied back, and any earrings must be removed or taped (reminder – only one small pair of studs is permitted. No hoops or shaped/large studs please).

Homework

Topic homework will continue to be handed in on Mondays. Children can choose to complete an activity from the existing homework grid or create a piece of homework based on our current topic, Rivers.
Children should also practise their times tables several times throughout the week using Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS). Logins were stuck into homework diaries at the beginning of term. Should your child need a replacement, they can ask their teacher to supply one. Spellings will be sent home each week on a Friday and tested on the following Friday.

Homework Diaries

Please continue to check and sign your child's diary regularly. By Friday, children should have recorded the three reading sessions they have completed at home. An adult should then check and sign the diary.
It is your child's responsibility to take their diary home and to remind an adult that it needs to be signed. Encouraging children to take responsibility for this routine will help them to develop their independence.

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Christmas production

We have started rehearsing for our Christmas production, and the children have now been allocated their roles. Those with speaking parts will have brought a script home. We would like to ask if you can support your child with learning their lines by practising with them. This will help them to become more confident and familiar with their parts as we continue rehearsing over the coming weeks.

We have finalised the dates and times for the performances. The current timing arrangements are:

- **Monday 14th December at 2:00pm**
- **Wednesday 16th December at 9:30am**

We will let you know if there are any changes to these dates or times.

Children will also receive a costume list if their role requires a specific outfit. We have tried to keep costumes as simple as possible, using items that you may already have at home. If you have any difficulty finding or providing any of the items listed, please do let us know so that we can help.

Thank you for your support. We are looking forward to bringing the production together and hope the children enjoy taking part!

Yours sincerely,
Mr Sargeant & Miss Cullen

At Bishopswood, we offer a rich and diverse curriculum that engages all children. Enriched activities that motivate children, enhancing their life opportunities is something that is very important to us.	
Year 4	**Term –Autumn 2 2026 – A River's Journey**
Subject	**Areas Covered**
English	**<u>Writing</u>** *Float* by Michael Miyares – Narrative Writing Butterfly – Non-chronological Report **<u>Guided Reading</u>** Riverbank Otter The Secret of Willow Marsh **<u>Spellings</u>** Spelling Shed spellings
Mathematics	**<u>Addition and Subtraction</u>** Consolidation of addition and subtraction skills **<u>Area</u>** Counting squares Comparing areas **<u>Multiplication and Division</u>** Multiples of 3 Multiplication and division facts for the 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times-tables Multiplying and dividing by 6, 7 and 9 Using the 3, 6 and 9 times-tables Multiplying by 1 and 0 Dividing by 1 and itself Multiplying three numbers together
Geography	**<u>Rivers</u>** Understand and explain the water cycle. Learn how rivers erode, transport and deposit materials. Investigate why rivers are important. Locate rivers using an atlas. Explore the causes of river pollution and its effects on the environment. Investigate a river in detail, including its impact on the environment and surrounding landscape.
Science	**<u>Living things and their habitats</u>** Life processes and biodiversity Food chains and food webs Habitats and the organisms that live in them Changes to the environment and their impact on living things

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Design Technology	**<u>Building a Bridge</u>** Explore how to make structures strong and stable. Understand how forces help to strengthen bridges. Experiment with different building and joining techniques. Design and build a structure for a specific purpose. Evaluate finished designs and suggest improvements.
Physical Education	**<u>Gymnastics</u>** Create a sequence of balances, rolls and jumps to form a routine. Work cooperatively with a partner and others. **<u>Field Hockey</u>** Develop teamwork and cooperation with others. Control and manoeuvre a hockey ball with accuracy. Pass the ball accurately to teammates. Practise tackling safely and with control.
Music	**<u>Journey of a river</u>** Explore melodic patterns and minor scales. Develop instrumental skills and techniques to play tunes with accuracy, fluency and musical expression. Understand and use graphic notation. Improve musical compositions through individual and group rehearsals.
RSHE/My Happy Mind	**<u>Celebrate</u>** Explore what makes us who we are. Understand what character means and recognise our own character strengths. Identify and reflect on the character strengths we use most often. Learn why character strengths are important and how they help us in everyday life.
Languages	**<u>Spanish- Presenting myself</u>** Use basic greetings in Spanish, ask somebody how they are feeling and reply when asked. Ask somebody their name in Spanish and reply when asked. Recall the numbers 1-10 and count from 11-20 in Spanish. Ask somebody how old they are in Spanish and reply when asked. Ask somebody where they live in Spanish and reply when asked.
Religious Education	**<u>Christianity – Holy Mary</u>** Understand what holiness means. Explore how Christians show their belief in Mary as holy. Consider the importance and value of Mary's holiness to Christians. Reflect on their own responses to the concept of holiness. Explore how holiness can influence people's lives.

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