

April 2026.

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you had a lovely Easter and managed to enjoy some quality time with family and friends. As we dive into this new term, I'm excited to share the learning journey your child will embark on. As you know, while Mrs Davis is off, Mr Pickering will be covering the majority of the time in Mrs Davis's absence. Thursday and Friday remain the same with me teaching.

Open door policy

At Austin Farm Academy, we're more than happy to help and support you with anything you may need. Mornings can get rather busy, and I always try to greet the children and settle them into the classroom. However, this can be tricky when parents are having lengthy chats at the door. I completely understand that there might be important things you want to discuss, but I kindly ask that you keep conversations brief during this busy time.

If you've had a bit of a tricky morning and need to update me, please do use Class Dojo to send me a message. Alternatively, if you would prefer a more in-depth conversation, feel free to arrange an appointment to see me after school. Your co-operation is much appreciated, and together we can ensure that every child starts their day positively!

PE

Year 4 will have PE on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. The correct PE kit is: blue PE t-shirt and plain blue or black shorts. No football kits or own clothes. Please ensure that with the colder weather approaching that your child wears a plain tracksuit to ensure that they stay warm.

Reading

We feel very strongly about nurturing and instilling a love of reading within children. Your child will be familiar with AR now and they will be given a reading range. They will need to read regularly throughout the week. **Once your child has finished their book they will need to complete an accelerated reader quiz on the computer. If they get a high enough percentage on the quiz, they will be able to progress onto a new book.**

Snack

Your child is welcome to bring a healthy snack to school for break time. It's a great way to keep their energy up and stay focused throughout the day. However, we ask that you please avoid sending in chocolate, sweets, or yoghurts, as these aren't suitable for a break time snack. Instead, consider options like fruits, vegetables, or whole grain snacks. Thanks for your support!

Water bottles.

Children will need to bring a water bottle from home **filled with water** and will be expected to take their bottle home at the end of the day to be washed in preparation for the next day. Please make sure the bottle is labelled with a name. There will be no cups available at the sink for drinking from.

Times tables

Practicing timetables at home is really important, so please make sure you're working on the specific tables I've shared through Dojo messages. By the end of Year 4, it's essential for your child to know all their times tables up to 12x12. I encourage you to spend some time each week helping them with this. You can make it fun with games or songs to keep them engaged. Let's work together to ensure they're confident and ready for what's ahead!

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me either in the morning or on class Dojo

Mrs Hobbins :-)

English

In our English lessons this term, we are excited to begin writing our own *Dare to Care* pet guides. We have already learned all about dragons and will now move on to a shared write about the Yeti. Following this, the children will create their own fantasy creature and write two to three 'how-to' guides, explaining how to care for their unique animal.

DT

In this unit, the children will explore linkages and levers, developing their understanding of how mechanisms create movement. They will then apply this knowledge to design and create their own moving dragon picture.

PE

This term PE is on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

Maths

In this unit, the children will develop their understanding of decimals, money and time, building confidence in applying these skills to solve a range of practical problems

History—Arabia and Early Islam

In this fascinating exploration of History, we delve into the vibrant tapestry of Arabian worlds before Muhammad, where diverse tribes and rich cultures flourished. We will discover Makkah, the city in the desert, a bustling hub of trade and spirituality, crucial in shaping the early Islamic experience. We will unravel the intricate social and religious dynamics that characterised pre-Islamic Arabia, setting the stage for the monumental changes brought by Muhammad's teachings.

MFL

The children will continue to develop their learning of the French language through our successful new scheme.

Year 4 Science- Human impact on the environment

The children will continue their learning about the impact humans have on the environment, with a particular focus on biodegradable and non-biodegradable materials and their effects. They will also explore the issue of microplastics, considering how these materials affect our oceans and the animals that live within them.



Year 4/5
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Geography—Earthquakes

In our Geography curriculum, We will learn how earthquakes happen, examining the movement of tectonic plates and the immense energy that is released. We will learn about the various methods scientists use to measure these tremors, such as the Richter scale and seismographs. Furthermore, we'll investigate the profound effects earthquakes can have on people and the environment, including the destruction of infrastructure and the emotional impact on communities.

PSHE—Relationships

This half term, we will be learning all about relationships. The children will explore what makes a healthy relationship and recognise the signs of an unhealthy one. They will discuss important topics such as jealousy, love and loss, memories, getting on and falling out, and friendships, including age-appropriate discussions around girlfriends and boyfriends. Throughout the unit, children will also be encouraged to reflect on and celebrate their own relationships with people and animals

RE—The message of Jesus spreads

We will be learning about the message that Jesus spreads to his disciples. After His resurrection, Jesus sends the Holy Spirit upon His followers, empowering them to preach boldly. This culminates on the Day of Pentecost, when Peter delivers a powerful sermon that inspires thousands. The incredible reach of Jesus' message then extends all the way to Rome, signalling the birth of a faith that would change the world forever.

Computing— photo editing

During this engaging unit, learners will develop their understanding of how digital images can be changed and edited, and how they can then be resaved and reused. They will consider the impact that editing images can have, and evaluate the effectiveness of their choices.