



## Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter September 2023

### Park Hill Junior School Curriculum

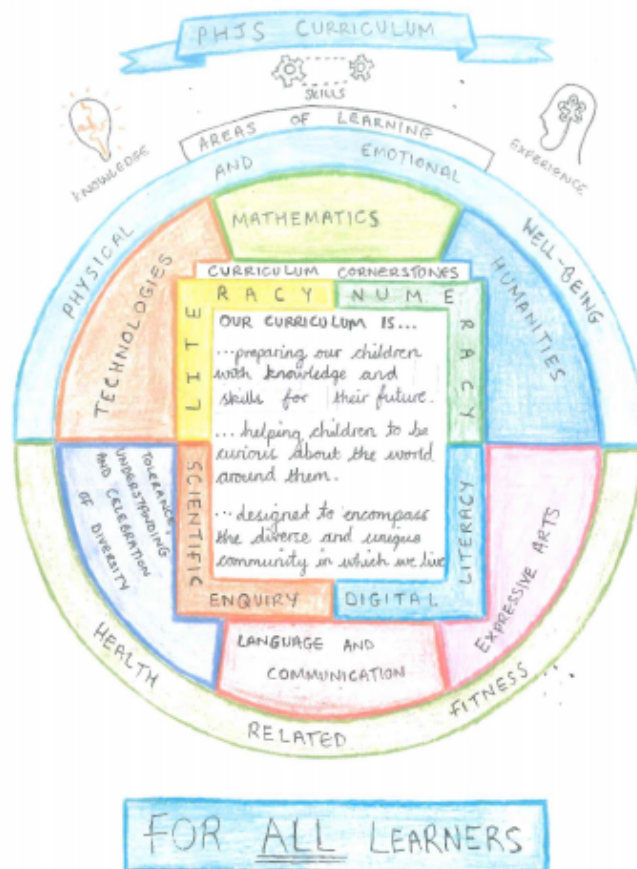
Each term this year, you will receive a Year Group Curriculum Newsletter which will showcase the learning the children have completed that term. The Newsletters will include pictures, examples of learning, explanations and child comments and we really hope you enjoy sharing them with your children and seeing what they have been learning.

We have worked carefully to develop our Park Hill Junior School curriculum over the last few years to ensure it is engaging, current and reflects our community. Our curriculum model (pictured below) shows the subjects we teach, the aims for our curriculum and how well-being is also thoughtfully considered.

This first curriculum newsletter lets you know the theme the children will be focusing their learning around in the Autumn term, including links to different sections of our website, which we think will be helpful for you. We look forward to sharing your child's learning with you in the next newsletter towards the end of the term.

We encourage you to ask your children questions about their learning to promote their curiosity, share their passions and help them to remember what they have learnt.

Thank you for your support.



## Autumn term Curriculum

This term in year 4 the children will be introduced to the theme Africa, with a particular focus on Western Africa. Throughout their lessons, children will learn about the continent but will particularly focus on Egypt. They will explore the physical and human geography of Egypt, learn about Ancient Egypt (including the importance of the Nile, religion and life and society) and make links with their art and writing too.

MATHS	AFRICA	READING AND WRITING
<p>Children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A robust understanding of place value up to 10,000</li> <li>Round to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000</li> <li>How to partition numbers</li> <li>How to compare using the &lt; and &gt; symbols</li> <li>To order numbers</li> <li>About negative numbers</li> <li>Roman numerals</li> <li>Different mental and written methods for addition and subtraction</li> <li>About kilometres and equivalent lengths for metres and centimetres</li> <li>To measure perimeters of rectangles and regular shapes</li> <li>To multiply and divide by 10 and 100 using place value</li> <li>Multiplication and division facts, especially for the 3, 6, 9 and 7 times table</li> </ul>	<p>Children will use VPEKS and take part in Non-fiction Fridays in Guided Reading sessions.</p> <p>The class books they will be reading are: Africa is Not a Country, Mercy and the Riddle of the Sphinx and The Patchwork Path.</p> <p>In grammar lessons the children will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present tense</li> <li>Subordinate clauses</li> <li>Figurative language</li> <li>Adverbs and adverbial phrases</li> <li>Brackets</li> <li>Appositives</li> </ul> <p>In writing the children will be using their knowledge to write:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A non-chronological report</li> <li>A persuasive piece</li> <li>A poem</li> <li>Diary entries</li> <li>A play script</li> <li>Descriptions</li> <li>Instructions</li> <li>An informal letter</li> <li>A newspaper report</li> </ul>	<p>Children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to be part of the class team</li> <li>About the school community and everyone's roles</li> <li>About democracy in school</li> <li>How their actions affect themselves and others</li> <li>About bullying and being a witness to it</li> <li>To identify what is special about them</li> <li>About first impressions and how they can change</li> </ul> <p>Children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To develop collaboration and communication</li> <li>To move and use actions with co-ordination and control</li> <li>To move and find space when not in possession in a game which will be explored through football</li> </ul> <p>PE with a focus on endurance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To explain some important safety principles when preparing for exercise</li> <li>To choose appropriate warm ups and cool downs</li> </ul> <p>Real gym with a focus on the creative art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To begin to recognise similarities and differences in movements and expression</li> <li>To explore a variety of movements to fit a theme</li> <li>To work with a partner to create, repeat and improve a sequence with at least 3 phrases</li> </ul> <p>Real Dance with a focus on the social skill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use dance to communicate an idea</li> <li>To begin to show control, making sure dance movements are clear and focused</li> <li>To confidently communicate and collaborate with others about my ideas</li> </ul>
AFRICA	AFRICA	AFRICA
<p>Children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use atlases and maps to locate information and countries</li> <li>About the continents Africa</li> <li>The human and physical features of Egypt</li> </ul> <p>In History children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>About Ancient Egypt including agriculture, society and beliefs</li> <li>The importance of the River Nile</li> <li>The process of mummification</li> <li>About Hieroglyphs</li> <li>About the life of Tutankhamen</li> </ul>	<p>Children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The names of crabs, snails and fruit</li> <li>To become familiar with 7 zone and air game cards</li> <li>To ask and answer questions</li> <li>How different cultures celebrate special days</li> </ul> <p>Children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>E-safety</li> <li>To recap the features of Google Classroom</li> <li>What blogging is and the features of blogging</li> <li>How to use digital cameras for photography</li> </ul>	<p>Children will learn about the musical elements through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Composition using percussion instruments</li> <li>Keeping a beat in an ostinato pattern</li> </ul>
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## Curriculum Maps

Specific information about what the children will be learning in each subject is included on our curriculum maps which can be found on our website and linked [here](#).

As we adapt our teaching to suit the needs of the children or to reflect things which are happening in the world, certain learning may be tweaked but these curriculum maps give an overview of the knowledge and skills the children will be learning.

SCIENCE	PSHE	RE
<p>Working scientifically</p> <p>Children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use equipment to measure variables</li> <li>To make careful observations to help them to answer a question</li> <li>To find patterns when investigating</li> <li>To set up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests</li> <li>To take accurate measurements</li> <li>To record findings</li> <li>To draw simple conclusions</li> </ul> <p>Science:</p> <p>Children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How sounds are made and how we hear them</li> <li>About pitch and how it can be changed</li> <li>About volume</li> <li>About soundproofing</li> </ul> <p>Electricity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How an electrical circuit works</li> <li>To identify if a bulb will light or not</li> <li>About switches</li> <li>About electrical conductors and insulation</li> </ul>	<p>Children will be following the Aglow programme and learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to be part of the class team</li> <li>About the school community and everyone's roles</li> <li>About democracy in school</li> <li>How their actions affect themselves and others</li> <li>About bullying and being a witness to it</li> <li>To identify what is special about them</li> <li>About first impressions and how they can change</li> </ul> <p>Children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To develop collaboration and communication</li> <li>To move and use actions with co-ordination and control</li> <li>To move and find space when not in possession in a game which will be explored through football</li> </ul> <p>PE with a focus on endurance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To explain some important safety principles when preparing for exercise</li> <li>To choose appropriate warm ups and cool downs</li> </ul> <p>Real gym with a focus on the creative art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To begin to recognise similarities and differences in movements and expression</li> <li>To explore a variety of movements to fit a theme</li> <li>To work with a partner to create, repeat and improve a sequence with at least 3 phrases</li> </ul> <p>Real Dance with a focus on the social skill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use dance to communicate an idea</li> <li>To begin to show control, making sure dance movements are clear and focused</li> <li>To confidently communicate and collaborate with others about my ideas</li> </ul>	<p>Children will be learning about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beliefs</li> <li>Sign and symbols</li> <li>Adverts and the ten commandments</li> <li>Cloning</li> <li>The Torah</li> <li>The Songmen</li> </ul> <p>Children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adverts</li> <li>Christmas around the world</li> </ul>
ART AND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	ART AND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY	ART AND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
<p>In Art and Design children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use sketchbooks to make observations and refine their art skills</li> <li>To use tone to create a 3D effect</li> <li>To make simple 3D</li> </ul> <p>In Design and Technology children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To compare fabrics</li> <li>To use a needle and thread</li> <li>To plan for purposes and evaluate their designs</li> <li>To create a working mechanism</li> </ul>	<p>In Art and Design children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use sketchbooks to make observations and refine their art skills</li> <li>To use tone to create a 3D effect</li> <li>To make simple 3D</li> </ul> <p>In Design and Technology children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To compare fabrics</li> <li>To use a needle and thread</li> <li>To plan for purposes and evaluate their designs</li> <li>To create a working mechanism</li> </ul>	<p>In Art and Design children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use sketchbooks to make observations and refine their art skills</li> <li>To use tone to create a 3D effect</li> <li>To make simple 3D</li> </ul> <p>In Design and Technology children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To compare fabrics</li> <li>To use a needle and thread</li> <li>To plan for purposes and evaluate their designs</li> <li>To create a working mechanism</li> </ul>

## Knowledge organisers

[Included on our website here \(please scroll down to the Knowledge Organiser section\)](#) are our Knowledge Organisers. These are great resources and the 'go to' documents that the children use in class to help them remember key facts, vocabulary, spellings and information around a particular topic they are learning in a subject or in a theme. These also encourage the children to be resourceful in lessons. At home we encourage you to discuss them with your children and see what they have learnt already and what they remember from their lessons. Our initial letter introducing these can be found [here](#).

**PARK HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL**

**YEAR 4 ANCIENT EGYPT KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER**

KEY VOCABULARY AND SPELLINGS (more are in bold in the text)	CHRONOLOGY
<p><b>Hieroglyphics</b> – a system of writing using symbols instead of letters.</p> <p><b>Mummification</b> – a method of preparing a dead body so it doesn't decay.</p> <p><b>Howard Carter</b> – archaeologist who discovered the tomb of Tutankhamen.</p> <p><b>Civilisation</b> – a level of development at which people live together in a community.</p> <p><b>Archaeology</b> – the study of human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites analysis of remains.</p> <p><b>Tutankhamen</b> – an Ancient Egyptian Pharaoh.</p> <p><b>Papyrus</b> – a plant that grew on the banks of the river Nile which was used for paper.</p> <p><b>Canopic jar</b> – special jars that held the organs of the dead.</p> <p><b>Sarcophagus</b> – a large stone box that held the mummy's coffin.</p>	<p><b>AGRICULTURE</b> - The River Nile was important to the Ancient Egyptians for a few reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Growing crops for food</li> <li>Keeping animals</li> <li>Trading; they could use boats to sail.</li> </ul> <p>They used a hand-operated device known as a <b>Shaduf</b> to move water from the Nile to their farm lands.</p> <p><b>BELIEFS</b> – The Ancient Egyptians really valued life after death. <b>Pharaohs</b> (who were the rulers of Ancient Egypt and were very powerful) would be buried in <b>pyramids</b> (their tombs) with their belongings including clothes, furniture, food and games so that they had everything they needed in the afterlife. The Ancient Egyptians also believed in many different Gods who all had an important role e.g. Anubis – the God of death/<b>Mummification</b>.</p> <p><b>LEGACY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They built the pyramids and other monumental structures which influence and inspire many architects and artists today.</li> <li>They had great medical skills which were passed onto the Greeks and Romans after them.</li> </ul>

## Reading

During Guided Reading sessions, in every year group, we follow the **VIPERS** skills

**V = Vocabulary**

**I = Inferencing**

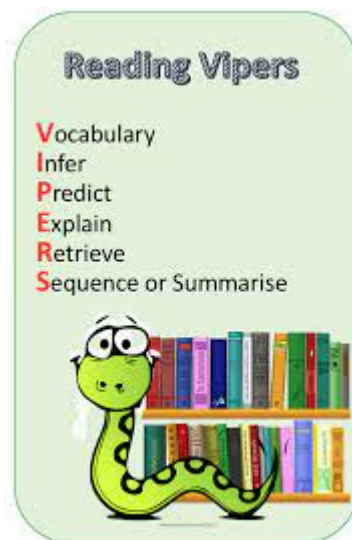
**P = Predicting**

**E = Explaining**

**R = Retrieving**

**S = Summarising**

Every day one or two of these skills are the focus and on a Friday it is Non-fiction Friday, where the children can research and learn facts based on the theme they are learning.



## Experiences

We are in the process of booking trips and experiences for the children this year. In the Autumn term year 4 will be going to the British Museum for a workshop called 'Excavation in Egypt'

Information about trips will be sent to you in a separate letter.



## Please Just Ask

If you need to speak to us about your child's curriculum, please do come and speak to your child's class teacher or Ms Dempsey or Miss Turner. You can also go to the curriculum page on our website which you can access on the following link: <https://www.phjs.co.uk/curriculum/curriculum-statement>

## Can you help?

If you have a particular passion or skill which you think will link well with a theme please speak to your child's class teacher or Miss Turner. Alternatively, you can email the school office.

Also if you hear of local or national events which you think would be good to promote in our school please share them with us.



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