

# Year 4

## Curriculum Newsletter



### September 2020, Launch of Ben Jonson's Redesigned Curriculum

In September 2014, a new primary national curriculum was introduced that changed the way subjects are taught in school. The main aim was to improve standards across all subjects with raised expectations in both English and Maths. At Ben Jonson Primary School we have always used the new National Curriculum as the basis for our curriculum. However, during the last two years we have been through a process of review, considering what is best for our children in the world we live in today, as well as preparation for the future. September 2020 allows us to bring you the result of this curriculum review, a new 'Learning journey' approach to our curriculum which groups subjects together in a more meaningful and engaging manner. The new National Curriculum only contains the frames of essential content that pupils are expected to know, apply and understand. Our redesigned Ben Jonson Curriculum considers the diversity of our community of learners, their interests and aspirations. The totality of the experience of our children is at the heart of our curriculum and is what we hope makes learning here memorable. Children will notice subjects are more interconnected with learning linking across them and with reading playing a much more cross curricular role.

Our redesigned curriculum firmly follows the National Curriculum (2014), but it extends far beyond this to include aspects of learning that reflects the makeup of our school. Ben Jonson is a proudly inclusive school serving a diverse community in the centre of London. Our curriculum helps children prepare for secondary school and later life through developing the key skills, knowledge and understanding they will need to succeed. We also aim to enable our learners understand how they can explore the wider world and contribute to society as adults. This not only includes a very strong emphasis on literacy and numeracy skills but computing, design and the expressive arts as well. We have developed a cohesive and connected curriculum so that these skills are supported by exciting and stimulating learning experiences. This integrated and thematic approach is strengthened by the expertise and guidance of our specialist teachers in music, art, DT, dance and computing.

We are really excited about the launch of our redesigned curriculum and look forward to seeing it in action and being driven by the values of being *brave*, *kind* and *curious*, ensuring all our children realise their potential.

**Muslimah Khanom**

Assistant Headteacher for Teaching and Learning and the Curriculum

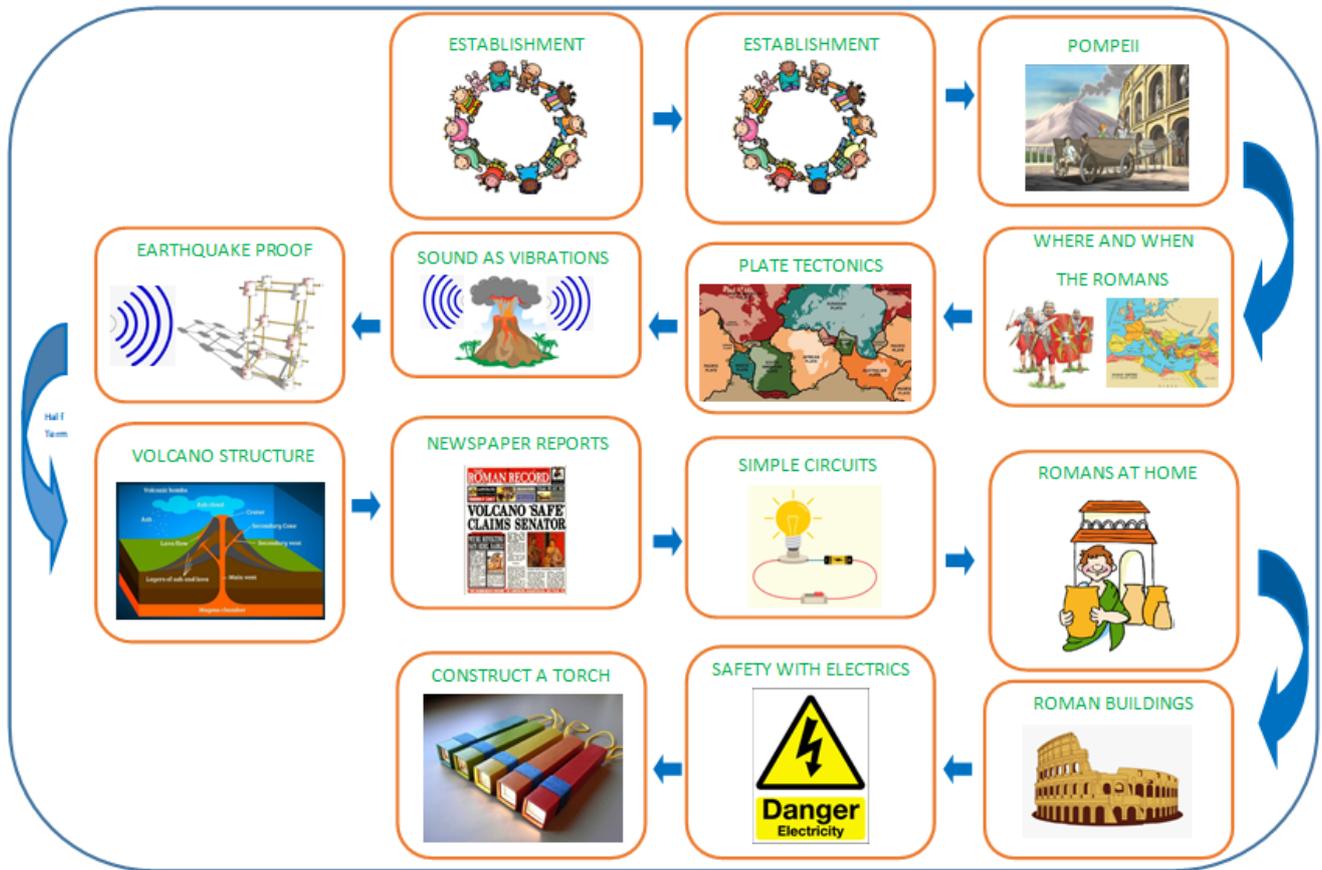
## Key information about Year 4:

- Children's home reading books will get changed regularly, depending on the length of their book. Please make sure you read at home with your child everyday and sign their reading record book. Asking your child questions about what they have read and discussing texts with them helps to improve their understanding. Ask for their opinion on the book to find out if they enjoyed it.
- Your child will need to come into school wearing their PE kit on the day that their class does PE. You can check which day this is on the Ben Jonson website, as this varies according to which class they are in and may change over the course of the year as the children each get a chance to be taught by our specialist dance teacher, Leire. Your child needs to wear black trousers, black trainers and a white t-shirt on their PE day. During colder weather, they can also wear their school jumper and coat to school on top of their PE kit, which they will remove for their PE session. We will also be doing the Daily Mile on most days.
- Homework will be set once a week on Google Classroom. Children will need to log in to Google Classroom to complete their homework. Our aim is to get children and parents familiar with using Google Classroom as this is how we will be setting homework as part of our new curriculum offer, as well as supporting the children with their learning at home in the event of a possible school closure.
- In June, your child will be taking the Multiplication Table Check, a 25 question test on the times tables between 1 and 12. The test will be done on iPads. It is important that your child learns all their times tables up to 12 and practices these on Times Table Rockstars. The Soundcheck feature on Times Table Rockstars gives them the chance to practice what the test will be like.



# Year 4's topic this term is **Volcanoes and Earthquakes**

## Our learning journey:



## Our topic map:

