6th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Class Curriculum Newsletter - Year 4 – Autumn 2

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a wonderful break and are ready for an exciting term of learning. I am looking forward to an exciting term ahead. This newsletter outlines some of the key areas we will be covering this term and ways you can support your child at home. I welcome and appreciate your support in helping your child meet Year 4 expectations. If there is anything you would like to clarify, please do not hesitate to ask.

English
This half term, we are excited to develop children's reading, writing, vocabulary and communication skills through high-quality texts and carefully sequenced learning.

Our first unit will focus on adventure stories, where children will explore how authors create excitement, suspense and atmosphere. They will analyse key text features before planning and writing their own adventure narratives.

Alongside this, children will study a range of poetry, learning how poets use language, imagery and structure to create meaning and evoke emotions. They will practise discussing and analysing poems, as well as performing and responding to poetry with confidence.

in reading, our class text will be The Girl Who Stole an Elephant by Nizrana Farook. This exciting adventure story follows Chaya, a brave young girl who sets off on a thrilling journey through the jungles of Sri Lanka. Through the text, children will develop their reading comprehension skills, explore themes and characters in depth and engage in rich discussions about the story.

Throughout these units, there will be a strong emphasis on vocabulary development, helping children to understand and use ambitious language in their speaking, reading and writing.

Spellings, each week we will explore a different area of spelling rules. Children will also explore the year ¾ spelling list and statutory words. Each week they will be given their 10 spelling words and 5 of the year ¾ spelling words to practice and be tested on the following week.

Maths
This term we will be exploring multiplication and division, area and shape. We will also be continuing out learning and understanding of times tables. It is important children continue to revisit and recall all times tables to build confidence in learning and feel ready for their MTC check at the end of the year.

Times Tables Test
At the end of Year 4, the children take part in the MTC (Multiplication Tables Check). The government's expectation is that, by the end of Year 4, the children should know the 2 to 12 times tables off by heart. The children take part in the MTC on a Chromebook. They are given 25 random questions and are given 6 seconds per question. We will be doing a lot of practice in school. Extra practice would be greatly beneficial for your child. We will be completing daily practice to ensure that the children feel confident and ready for this.

How you can help at home
Short, daily bursts of practice (5–10 minutes) are much more effective than long weekly sessions. Here is some fun, "no-screen" games you can play:

- **Rock, Paper, Multiply:** Just like the classic game, but when you reveal your fingers, the first person to multiply the two hands together wins a point.
- **Card Snap:** Use a deck of playing cards (remove the picture cards). Flip two cards over at the same time; the first person to call out the product wins the pair.
- **Times Table Shootout:** Stand back-to-back. On the count of three, jump around and "fire" a multiplication question at each other. The quickest correct answer wins!

Alternatively, here are some free online resources you can access at home:

Website	Features
Mathsframe	Specifically replicates the 6-second MTC format used in schools.
Timestables.co.uk	Offers a 5-step plan to master each table and a "Check" simulator.
Oxford Owl	Provides free tips, activity sheets, and advice for parents.
Hit the Button	Great for building speed and confidence in a high-energy way.

Humanities
Geography – Why are rainforests important to us?
The children will be examining the relationship between climate and biomes by locating the Amazon rainforest and investigating its physical features and vegetation.
We are also excited to announce that we will be visiting the living rainforest and completing a workshop on adaptations. Keep an eye out for communications around this.

Art
Craft and design: Fabric of nature
Using the flora and fauna of tropical rainforests as a starting point, children develop drawings through experimentation and textile-based techniques to design a repeat pattern suitable for fabric.

PE
Our PE lessons from Term 2 onwards will now be on a Wednesday and a Friday.
Children will partake in ball skills sessions and strengthen fundamental skills.
Their session on Wednesday will still be taught by a specialist sports coach.

ICT
Understanding hardware & software; Sound Stories.
E-Safety – online bullying – sharing online can affect you and others.

PSHE
Celebrating differences

Further Details

We are excited to be going on two trips this term.
One will be to the living rainforest, which will support children's humanities learning.
The other is an opportunity to go to Bristol Hippodrome to watch the pantomime. This trip is open to year 3 to year 6. It is a lovely opportunity to get into the Christmas spirit with their friends.
Please keep an eye out for letters regarding these trips.

PE day: Wednesday and Friday

Homework: set on Monday, Due the following Monday. This will consist of spellings, reading and Maths (times table practice).

Reading: We visit the library every Friday. Your child will bring home two books: one is a reading for pleasure book of their choice, and one is set at an appropriate reading level for them. Reading records and books should be kept in their bags and brought to school each day. Please read at least 3 times a week (from Friday to Friday) and have an adult fill in and sign the reading record. Reading records will be checked each Friday.

For any quick messages, an adult is around each day at drop-off or pick-up, or if needed you can arrange to have a 1:1 meeting (please speak to Miss MacFarlane or the office about this). Please do speak to an adult if your child is being collected by another adult, other than the usual adults, especially if they are going home with a friend. We will not allow your child to go home with another adult, unless we have received confirmation from you.

With thanks,

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Learning without limits, belonging without barriers.