

Dear Parents,

We hope that you all had a wonderful and relaxing summer with your families after what was another very strange academic year. We're so pleased to have welcomed the children back to school and can't wait to get to know them better in the coming weeks. White Class will be taught by Mrs Barker and Mrs Pearson and Brown Class by Mrs Burdon. Year 4 will be supported by Mrs Knox and Mrs Holman.

Topics this term

This term we are learning about:

English

This term we will be linking our English to a series of texts based on the Romans. We'll be looking at some of the most famous Roman myths, as well as reading the novel 'Circus Maximus: Race to the Death' and we will also be basing some of our work on the Horrible Histories book, 'Rotten Romans'.

Spellings

On a Monday, your child will bring home 5 spellings which we'd like them to learn for a test on the following Monday morning. 3 of these words will be based on our weekly spelling rule, and the other 2 words will be from the Year 3/4 list of key spellings which children should know by the end of Year 4. This list is attached to the newsletter.

We will still be using Spellzone in school and setting homework tasks online. Please let us know if you have forgotten your login details for this.

A reading list compiled by our Literacy Lead has also been attached to the newsletter for your child. The list is intended to provide guidance about age-appropriate books. It is also intended to help encourage your child to read a wider variety of genres and authors. We encourage the children to try reading some of the books from this list or to read them with someone at home. These books are all available to borrow from the school library.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will be using short pre-assessments and our own teacher observations to help us identify any objectives from the previous year which may require further consolidation before moving on to more advanced content. Alongside this, we will be covering the following objectives from the Year 4 curriculum:

- Place Value, ordering and rounding of digits up to 10,000

- Counting in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 100.
- Adding and subtracting numbers up to 4 digits using formal written methods.
- Recalling multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 .
- Multiplying 2 and 3 digit numbers by a one-digit number.
- Measuring and calculating the perimeter of rectilinear shapes.

In order to help all children acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need, a longer amount of time will be spent upon building key concepts and securing fluency with number facts.

Your child should have a Times Tables Rock Stars login. We will set the children challenges on TT Rockstars as part of their homework each week and it really is a fantastic resource to help children learn their times tables so please do make use of it at home. If anyone is struggling to login, please let us know.

History - A year-long focus on the Romans beginning with 'Why did the Romans march through Durham?'

Geography - Our unit this term will have us looking at Europe and using geographical skills to learn more about our continent.

Science - Our areas of study during the Autumn term this year in science will be 'Animals including Humans' and 'States of Matter'.

Computing - In our lessons we will be learning all about the Internet and will then complete a programming unit. E-safety will focus on keeping our personal information safe.

Art - Keeping in step with our history topic, we will look at Roman mosaic patterns and prints.

D&T - The children will be designing and making a moving character which uses pneumatics to initiate the movement.

PSHE/RSE - This term our topic in PSHE is Health and Wellbeing. We will focus on using a greater vocabulary to describe our emotions and recognise emotions in others. We will look at ways to manage our mental health and ways to boost our resilience. We will finish off the term looking at recognising, predicting and assessing risks, particularly focusing on risks in our local environment and road safety. If you have any questions or concerns about any of these topics, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Dates

October Half term: Friday 22nd October - Monday 1st November

Parents' Evening: Tuesday 16th November & Wednesday 17th November

Christmas Holidays: Friday 17th December - Wednesday 5th January 2022

Timetable

Please find attached a copy of the class timetables. This is to give you an idea about what your child has learned each day but is subject to change (other than PE).

This year our PE day is a Wednesday. Please remember that your child should come to school already dressed for PE. Our class will continue to access Forest Schools throughout the year, and we will let you know in advance so that appropriate clothing can be worn to school on those days.

As this year group missed out on weekly swimming sessions last year, we will also be going swimming right through the Autumn Term at Durham School. For Brown Class, this will be on Tuesday afternoons. White Class will swim on Wednesday afternoons. Please send your child's swimming kit in to school with them on these days. These swimming sessions will take place up until Christmas.

Homework

In Year 4, children will receive Maths and English homework on a Monday, to be completed by the following Monday when it will be marked. In addition to our English and Maths homework, we ask that you read with your child for 10 to 15 minutes each night. Fostering a life-long love of reading is our main focus and so we encourage you to also read **to** your child, discussing the book you are reading - this may include character intent [Why did he say that?] but also your own responses to the plot [I don't think I could have done that because...] Whether they have read to you or you to them, *please can you encourage your child to regularly update their reading record and then can you initial it each week as a check.* Children should have their school reading book in their bag on a daily basis to enable us to listen to them read.

Depending on your child's reading level, they may have brought home a login for Bug Club which gives you online access to the reading books from their particular reading band. The logins have been written in the front of your child's reading record if this is something which they'll have access to at home.

We hope your child will enjoy the year in either White or Brown Class. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Barker, Mrs Pearson and Mrs Burdon

White Class timetable

Monday	Maths	English	Science	PSHE
Tuesday	Maths	English	Computing	R.E
Wednesday	Maths	P.E	Swimming	English
Thursday	Maths	English	History/Geography	Music
Friday	Maths	English	Art/DT	French

Brown Class timetable

Monday	Maths	English	Science	PSHE
Tuesday	Maths	English	Swimming	Computing
Wednesday	Maths	P.E	R.E	English
Thursday	Maths	English	History/Geography	Music
Friday	Maths	English	Art/DT	French

Spelling word list for Year 3 and Year 4

100 words that children in England are expected to be able to spell by the end of Year 4 (age 9). How many can you spell?

accident(ally)	disappear	interest	pressure
actual(ly)	early	island	probably
address	earth	knowledge	promise
answer	eight/eighth	learn	purpose
appear	enough	length	quarter
arrive	exercise	library	question
believe	experience	material	recent
bicycle	experiment	medicine	regular
breath	extreme	mention	reign
breathe	famous	minute	remember
build	favourite	natural	sentence
busy/business	February	naughty	separate
calendar	forward(s)	notice	special
caught	fruit	occasion(ally)	straight
centre	grammar	often	strange
century	group	opposite	strength
certain	guard	ordinary	suppose
circle	guide	particular	surprise
complete	heard	peculiar	therefore
consider	heart	perhaps	though/although
continue	height	popular	thought
decide	history	position	through
describe	imagine	possess(ion)	various
different	increase	possible	weight
difficult	important	potatoes	woman/women

Y4 Reading List

<u>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</u>	<u>Lewis Carroll</u>
<u>The Ogre of Oglefort</u>	<u>Eva Ibbotson</u>
<u>Granny</u>	<u>Anthony Horowitz</u>
<u>The Dragon's Child</u>	<u>Jenny Nimmo</u>
<u>A Bear Called Paddington</u>	<u>Michael Bond</u>
<u>Malory Towers Series</u>	<u>Enid Blyton</u>
<u>The Borrowers</u>	<u>Mary Norton</u>
<u>How to Train a Dragon</u>	<u>Cressida Cowell</u>
<u>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone</u>	<u>J.K. Rowling</u>
<u>Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets</u>	<u>J.K.Rowling</u>
<u>The Dancing Bear</u>	<u>Michael Morpurgo</u>
<u>The Sleeping Sword</u>	<u>Michael Morpurgo</u>
<u>Long Way Home</u>	<u>Michael Morpurgo</u>
<u>The Wreck of the Zanzibar</u>	<u>Michael Morpurgo</u>
<u>The Sea Piper</u>	<u>Helen Cresswell</u>
<u>Harry the Poisonous Centipede</u>	<u>Lynne Reid Banks</u>
<u>The Famous Five Series</u>	<u>Enid Blyton</u>
<u>Gregory Cool</u>	<u>Caroline Binch</u>
<u>A Pot of Gold</u>	<u>Jill Bennett</u>
<u>Diggers</u>	<u>Terry Pratchett</u>
<u>Dragons at Crumbling Castle</u>	<u>Terry Pratchett</u>
<u>The Witch's Vacuum Cleaner</u>	<u>Terry Pratchett</u>
<u>The Demon Headmaster</u>	<u>Gillian Cross</u>
<u>Dog So Small</u>	<u>Philipa Pearce</u>

<u>The Battle of Bubble and Squeak</u>	<u>Philipa Pearce</u>
<u>Emil and the Detectives</u>	<u>Erich Kastner</u>
<u>The Iron Man</u>	<u>Ted Hughes</u>
<u>The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe</u>	<u>C S Lewis</u>
<u>Little House on the Prairie</u>	<u>Laura Ingalls Wilder</u>
<u>Mrs Frisby and the Rats of Nimh</u>	<u>Robert C O'Brien</u>
<u>Stig of the Dump</u>	<u>Clive King</u>
<u>Matilda</u>	<u>Roald Dahl</u>
<u>James and the Giant Peach</u>	<u>Roald Dahl</u>
<u>Danny the Champion of the World</u>	<u>Roald Dahl</u>
<u>Emily Feather Series</u>	<u>Holly Webb</u>
<u>'I Survived' Series</u>	<u>A range of authors</u>
<u>Charlotte's Web</u>	<u>E.B. White</u>
<u>The Secret Garden</u>	<u>Frances Hodgson Burnett</u>
<u>Flour Babies</u>	<u>Anne Fine</u>
<u>Clarice Bean That's Me!</u>	<u>Lauren Child</u>
<u>Tom Gates Series</u>	<u>Liz Pichon</u>
<u>The 13th Storey Tree-House</u>	<u>Andy Griffiths/Terry Denton</u>
<u>The World's Worst Children</u>	<u>David Walliams</u>
<u>The Demon Dentist</u>	<u>David Walliams</u>
<u>The Story of Tracey Beaker</u>	<u>Jacqueline Wilson</u>