

Dear children, parents and carers,

Welcome back! I hope you have had a brilliant summer holiday and had lots of fun ☺

This term we are starting with the theme Everyone's Welcome; we will be exploring this in detail in the first weeks back. Later in the term, we will kick off our Stone Age topic with a trip to the Ashmolean Museum on Wednesday 25th September. We have lots of exciting projects planned for you to kick off the new academic year.

I would like to invite you to pop in after school on **Monday 16th September at 3.30pm** for an opportunity to meet me and ask any questions you might have, or just for a quick hello! ☺

I look forward to meeting you and working closely with your children to help them shine even brighter in Year 4!

Mrs O'Neill

Home Learning

You will receive a new Home Learning brochure with tasks linked to our topic until half term. Homework tasks for both topic and Maths will be set on **Thursdays**. Please hand in homework by **Tuesday** to allow time for me to mark and return it. Please complete Maths homework using a pencil and not in pen as it looks much neater.

Spellings

Spelling rules that we are learning in school will be sent home each week, containing information on the spelling rule, possible websites to use to help learn the rule and a list of words that fit the rule. In order to thoroughly learn and embed the spelling rules, there will be no weekly spelling test consisting of 10 words. We want children to be able to apply the rule beyond 10 words which fit the pattern. At the end of each half term the children will have a test which will cover all the spelling rules taught. These scores will be shared with parents.

Please continue to set aside time to help your child learn the spelling rules so that they can confidently apply them to their written work. Little and often is best!

Y4 spelling rules are attached to this newsletter for your reference. Also attached are details of the Y3/Y4 Statutory Spelling list, which are words pupils are expected to be able to spell by the end of Year 4.

Reading

Your child has received a new reading record to note daily reading. This shouldn't be recorded by a parent, your child is now expected to make entries themselves. If your child is a free reader they are welcome to read books from our class bookshelf, their own books from home or books from the local or school library. Reading books should be in school daily.

In Year 4, I expect every child to read every day at home, this can simply be a few pages of their book. Mrs Thomas and I will check reading records every morning to ensure each child has read and recorded their reading the night before.

We are keen for every child to become a free reader. For those children reading banded books, Mrs Thomas will change these when an entry in the reading record shows the book has been completed.

Times Tables

Children are encouraged to make use of Times Tables Rock Stars to practise their time tables. **Cracking Times Tables** will continue. The test will be on Thursdays and will continue to be 3 minutes. By the end of Y4 children should know all of their times tables up to 12x12. At the end of Y4, your child will take part in a new online multiplication tables check set by the Government. Below is the Cracking Times Tables pyramid for your reference.

Level	Tables Tested	Number of Questions
1	2	10
2	2, 10	15
3	2, 10, 5	20
4	2, 10, 5, 4	25
5	2, 10, 5, 4, 8	30
6	2, 10, 5, 4, 8, 3	35
7	2, 10, 5, 4, 8, 3, 6	30
8	2, 10, 5, 4, 8, 3, 6, 9	45
9	2, 10, 5, 4, 8, 3, 6, 9, 7	50
10	2, 10, 5, 4, 8, 3, 6, 9, 7	100

General Reminders...

PE

For the Autumn term PE will continue to be a double slot every **Tuesday**. Warm clothing is recommended as many sessions will take place outdoors.

Forest School sessions:

Wednesday October 2nd, Tuesday November 5th, Wednesday December 4th

Please add these dates to your calendar so your child remembers their kit and warm clothes!

Swimming:

Our Swimming classes will start on Thursday 19th September. A letter with more detail will follow.

Labels

A lot of clothing is also left daily in the cloakroom. Please ensure **all** uniform, PE kit, coats, water bottles etc. are labelled with your child's full name to ensure they do not go missing.

Topic Overview

Subject	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
Christian Value	Generosity	Compassion
English	Everyone's Welcome Here We Are Stig of the Dump Descriptive writing How to plan and edit writing Dictionary & thesaurus skills	Stig of the Dump Stone Age Boy Story writing Diary entry / inner monologue
Maths	Place Value Addition & Subtraction	Addition & Subtraction Multiplication & Division
Science	Rocks	Light
Computing	eSafety	Search technologies
History	Stone Age	
Geography	Local area study: mapping, purpose, human geography, geog skills, comparisons, maps	
R.E.	Christianity – Creation & Fall Story	Christianity – Incarnation
Art & Design	Colour mixing Christmas card designs	Remembrance poppies Stone Age cave art
Design Technology		Food technology
P.E.	Mr Tanner / Swimming	Mr Tanner / Swimming
Music	Charanga – Mamma Mia!	Charanga - Lean on Me
PSHE	Unit 1: Our Happy School Pants Rule	Unit 2: Out & About Anti-bullying week 11-15th Nov
Wow Events	Life Education Bus Ashmolean Museum trip 25 th September	Pantomime!
Assembly for Parents	Date TBC	
SMSC Social Moral Spiritual & Cultural		

Spelling Rules

Please note: Spellings may not be set in this order but these rules will be covered during the year. In addition, some rules from KS1 are revisited such as verbs ending in *ing*

- Use the prefixes un-, dis-, mis-, re-, pre-.
- Add suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable e.g. forgetting, preferred, gardening, limited.
- Use the suffix -ly.
- Spell words with endings sounding like 'zh' and 'ch' e.g. *treasure, measure, picture, nature*.
- Spell words with endings which sound like 'zhun' e.g. *division, decision*.
- Spell the homophones brake/break, fair/fare, grate/great, groan/grown, here/hear, heel/heal/he'll, mail/male, main/mane, meet/meat, peace/piece, plain/plane.
- Spell words containing the 'i' sound spelt 'y' elsewhere than at the end of word e.g. *myth, gym*.
- Spell words containing the 'u' sound spelt 'ou' e.g. *young, touch, double*.
- Spell words with the 'k' sound spelt 'ch' e.g. *scheme, school, echo*.
- Spell words with the 'sh' sound spelt 'ch' e.g. *chef, machine*.
- Spell words with the 'ay' sound spelt 'ei', 'eigh' or 'ey' e.g. *eight, they*.
- Use the first two or three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary.

Y3/Y4 Statutory Spelling List – children have the opportunity to practise these during their

SPAG session in guided reading time

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

For further guidance on the National Curriculum for Y4 English or Spelling please visit:

<http://www.primarycurriculum.me.uk/year4/english>

Maths:

<http://www.primarycurriculum.me.uk/year4/mathematics>