



Dear Parents/Carers and children,

Welcome back after the Easter holidays. We hope you all had a fantastic time and are feeling refreshed and ready to start the new term.

General Overview of the Term's Learning

Here's a brief overview of what to expect this term in Year 4:

- **English:** We will focus on the book *How to Train your Dragon* by Cressida Cowell to develop adventure story writing skills.
- **Maths:** This term's maths curriculum will include decimals, money, time, statistics and shape.
- **Science:** Students will explore animals including humans and the digestive system.
- **History/Geography:** Our lessons will focus on how and why our local area changes.
- **Art/DT:** We will be adapting a recipe to make biscuits.
- **PE:** In PE, we will develop skills in athletics and tennis.
- **Computing:** This term we will focus on online safety, computational thinking and data handling.
- **RE:** In RE we will discover the meaning of Pentecost and explore the prayer book rebellion of 1549 from Curriculum Kernewek.
- **Life skills:** This term we will be learning to live in a world without judgement, first aid skills and explore our working world.
- **Music:** We will develop an understanding of how music teaches us about our community and environment.

Homework

Reading remains the key priority for our home learning, and we expect children to read for 20 minutes, at least 5 days a week. In response to listening to the children's thoughts and opinions on our reading diary approach, we are trialling removing them for this half-term for years 4,5 and 6. In their place will be class-based 'Book Club' discussions where teachers and pupils will spend time, at least once every fortnight, discussing their current school reading books. This will provide an opportunity not only for teachers to track children's reading habits without it being a chore for the children, but they will also ensure time is built into the busy week for children to chat informally about the books they are reading. The aim is that the Book Club sessions will be heavily led by the children: a time for children to swap book recommendations and share new authors they may have met on their reading journey. This approach will be reviewed at the end of this half-term, but if you have any queries, please either contact your class teacher or Mrs O'Kane through the school office.

We will be continuing to send home weekly spellings for children to practice, which will be tested weekly. We encourage children to use their home log ins for Times Tables Rock Stars, Maths Whizz and Ed Shed to continue their learning at home.

Multiplication Times Tables Check

As you are aware, in June we will be completing the statutory times tables check. The children are making great progress towards achieving fluency in this essential area of maths however, your child would still benefit from regular practise. A good website to use is <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/> website is a similar format to the test they will use later in the year. If you wish to discuss your child's progress on times tables, or if you have any concerns, please talk to your child's teacher.

Telling the Time and Money

We have noticed during our recent maths lessons that children would benefit from some additional support on telling the time on an analogue clock. Please can you help them with this at home before we start our time unit in maths in the Summer term. Please could you also support your child with using cash when you go shopping and allow them to count out the correct amounts or work out how much change they will have.

Kind regards,

Mrs Curnow and Mrs Endean
Year 4 teachers