

January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break. The whole year group team would like to thank you all for the kindness and generosity of your Christmas gifts.

It is hard to believe that we already find ourselves in the Spring Term, but we are all looking forward to the new and exciting learning activities in store. This newsletter aims to provide you with an overview of what your child will be learning this term, as well as some important dates for your diary.

Homework:

Homework will continue to be set on a Thursday to be given in by the following Tuesday. Almost all children have become very organised with the homework system and complete the work to a good standard - thank you for your support with this.

Reading:

The children will continue to have four class comprehension sessions each week focusing on retrieval, inference, vocabulary and use of evidence. We would ideally ask that reading at home to an adult is done on a daily basis. Please indicate when your child has read to you at least 3 times per week in their *Reading Diary*. These are checked every Monday morning.

Spelling:

Spellings will continue to focus on applying a particular rule each week. As in the previous term, children need to learn their spellings according to which group they are in. All children must also ensure they are learning the statutory words given on the spelling list each week. There will be a test at the end of each week, on a Friday morning. Watch out for the BPS Spelling Bee!

English:

In English, this term we will be studying a range of different genres including stories set in imaginary worlds, recounts, diary entries, science fiction writing and autobiographies.

Maths:

The children will continue to work in their current maths sets but changes to these sets may be made as the term progresses, if your child's maths teacher feels that this is appropriate for his or her progress. If this affects your child, then your child's maths teacher will phone you to discuss the proposed changes.

The children will be undertaking the national multiplication times tables check in the summer term. Therefore,



this term we would like to reiterate the importance of your child practising their times tables. In school, children practise their times tables daily (a score is recorded weekly), including the multiplication and related division facts. Children are encouraged to practise using Times Table Rockstars as often as possible – watch out for competitions! Any problems with TTRS passwords, please let us know immediately as we would rather reissue the password than children not be practising. Please do not underestimate the importance of practising regularly at home.

Science:

This term the children will be studying the topics of States of Matter and Animals (including humans).

Geography:

In Geography this term, we will be learning about Rivers, which will also link to our Science work on States of Matter.

RE:

In RE we will be learning about how different religious groups – including Hinduism and Christianity - contribute to society.

Design Technology:

During the first half term, we will be learning about the process of making bread and considering different ideas for ingredients, before eventually baking our own bread.

Art:

After February half term, we will be learning about surrealism and our artist study will be on Salvador Dali. The medium we will use is poster paint.

Computing:

This term we will be learning more about the digital world, including producing and editing media using the program Audacity. After half term, our focus will be on digital communication and sharing information using Publisher. Most importantly, we will also be learning about how we present our self-image and identity online.

Music:

Singing with a simple harmony, in rounds and with dynamics. Listening focus on identifying and naming instruments.

PE:

The children will continue to have two weekly lessons of PE, including at least one which is delivered by a sports coach. Please ensure, however, that your child has the correct PE kit each day in case of timetable changes, which should include plimsolls for indoor PE.

Important Dates:

- Monday 12th January – Update Parents' Evening meetings (letters have been sent to specific parents, please check your child's bag!)
- Week commencing Monday 26th January – Year 4 Test Week
- Thursday 29th January – DT bread making morning
- Wednesday 11th February 5.30pm - Zoom meeting for Danbury Park residential trip



- Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th February - Parents' Evening
- Monday 2nd March – Maths Drop-ins with Maths Set teachers
- Thursday 19th – 20th March – Danbury Residential trip
- Wednesday 25th March Year 3/4 Choir Performance 7.00pm
- Thursday 26th March 9.15am - Year 4 Assembly

As always, if you have any questions regarding the content of this newsletter then please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or Mrs Cattini (Year Group Leader). We are looking forward to another exciting and successful term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Cattini, Miss Hall, Miss Parrett and Miss Murfitt

