

Year 4 News - Terms 5&6 (Summer 2026)

Dear Parents

We hope you had a lovely Easter break.

Plans for this term

The curriculum map, which details the topics we will be covering over the summer term, will be on the website.

Reading Books

Although many of the children are now reading independently, it is still important for them to be heard read and for them to hear you read, so that you can model expression and how to use punctuation effectively. Ideally children should be reading daily for 10-15 minutes, however we know it is hard to find the time and even 5 minutes would help. It is helpful if you or your child can record this in their reading records. For those who are on the coloured reading scheme, we are working towards them becoming free readers this term and they may change their books as often as they wish. Anyone who is currently a free reader may also change their books as frequently as they wish, but we would expect that, depending on the size of the book, they would be able to finish it in 2-3 weeks anyway. There are also many books for them to choose from our classroom reading spine. A separate email will be coming around about a class certificate system for the number of times read so please look out for it.

We will continue to use whole class reading, and as most of the children are reading fluently, the focus will be on gaining a deeper understanding of the book, exploring a range of vocabulary and answering quick start questions. Further to this, we will be using prediction, inference, summarising and explanation skills; with all these skills, the children will be using evidence from the text to support their ideas. We will be exploring a range of books, extracts, songs and films to continue to develop our comprehension skills. We will be focussing a lot this term on The Butterfly Lion and Romans on the Rampage.

Times Tables

Year 4 is the year where it is expected that most children will know all their times tables. Times Table Rockstars is a great help to learn them, including division facts. Along with this, there are many songs on YouTube, which help (see the year 4 class page on our website). Please continue to support your child with their speed at answering times table questions. To extend those children who already know their times tables, it is good to make sure they are confident with their division facts and can apply their times tables to

larger numbers e.g. If they know $3 \times 7 = 21$ then they should be able to work out 3×70 and 3×700 .

They can also look at missing number problems e.g.

$$6 \times 4 = 8 \times ? \text{ or } 8 \times 9 = 2 \times 9 + 2 \times 9 + 2 \times 9 + 2 \times 9$$

or $81 \div ? = 9$. As you are aware, there is a times table test which will take place in June where the children have to answer 25 questions and will have 6 seconds to answer each question. This will be a big focus over the next term.

Spelling

The children will continue to have spelling lessons two or three times a week. Please check Spelling Frame at least fortnightly to complete tasks at home. This term we will also review/ learn all the words on the Y3/4 statutory spelling list; again, work at home is expected. All spelling words can be found on our Y4 page on the website.

PE lessons

PE lessons will be Mondays and Wednesdays (from w/c 27th April as detailed in the separate email), where they will be learning: tennis, rounders and athletics. As the weather warms up, the majority of lessons will be on the field, so children will need appropriate footwear and named PE kit.

Homework

This half term we are asking the children to concentrate on timetables and spellings. You will have received an email about this. The PowerPoint which has been emailed out to you has some games and activities to help your child learn the times tables. This will replace the grid this half term; a normal grid will be given after half term.

Outdoor Learning

Please look out for the new timetable which will be on the class page. A reminder will always be posted on the classroom door a few days before our next session too.

Karen Ainsworth and Chantal Hobday