

# Welcome to Year 4!



4D

Mrs Davies  
Miss Savage  
Mrs Clayton

4F

Mrs Fitzgerald  
Mrs Hewish



# School uniform

- Shoes must be black, no slip on shoes and no open toed sandals.
- No jewellery is to be worn in school.
- Bags must be appropriate school bags or backpacks, no handbags or suitcase style bags.
- Hair longer than collar length must be tied up, extremes of fashion such as shaved patterns / lines or partings, colours, very short hair on one side with longer on the other etc. are not allowed.



**Winter Uniform** *(can be worn all year round)*



White blouse or shirt to be worn with a school tie  
and

Navy blue cardigan\* or jumper\* with school crest  
*to be worn with*



Navy blue skirt or pinafore dress with white socks or navy blue tights  
or

Grey trousers and grey socks



***Summer Uniform*** (can be worn during Terms 1, 5 and 6 only)

Navy blue and white checked (gingham) dress with white socks

or

Navy skirt with white socks or grey trousers or

shorts with grey socks

*to be worn with*

white polo necked t-shirt with the school crest\*



# PE

Monday afternoon – Indoor

Wednesday afternoon – Outdoor

(Wednesday afternoon - Swimming- Term 3 and 4 tbc)

Please ensure your child wears a full PE kit to school:

- Navy shorts
- Coloured House team t-shirt
  - Plimsolls/trainers
- Navy or black jogging bottoms (no logo)
- Navy or black sweatshirt (no hoods or logo)

Please label ALL PE kit.



# Homework

- Homework will be set every Friday on Dojo.
- Spellings, reading, writing and maths will be set on either Purple Mash or MyMaths.
- We will have a spelling test every Thursday using the homework spellings. They will be based on the year 3 and 4 words and you should have received a spelling overview yesterday.
- We will keep a record of the maths that has been completed online and the writing/spelling that has been completed in the children's jotter books. The homework won't be marked individually but the information will be used to inform future planning and teaching.



# Year 4 Spelling Focus Overview

Purple Mash: Spelling Scheme Overview  
Year 4 – Autumn 1

## Year 4 - Autumn 1

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Homophones and near Homophones	Homophones and near Homophones	Words with the /s/ sound spelt sc	Statutory word list	Endings which sound like /ən spelt – sion
A homophone is a word that sounds like another word but has a different meaning.	A homophone is a word that sounds like another word but has a different meaning.	science scene discipline fascinate crescent scissors scenery descent ascend descend	actual address calendar disappear experience particular thought separate difficult weight	-sion meaning = 'the action of/ 'the state of/ 'the result of'.
groan grown affect effect fair fare great grate through threw	heel heal main mane medal meddle key quay check cheque			expansion extension comprehension tension suspension occasion dimension diversion permission discussion

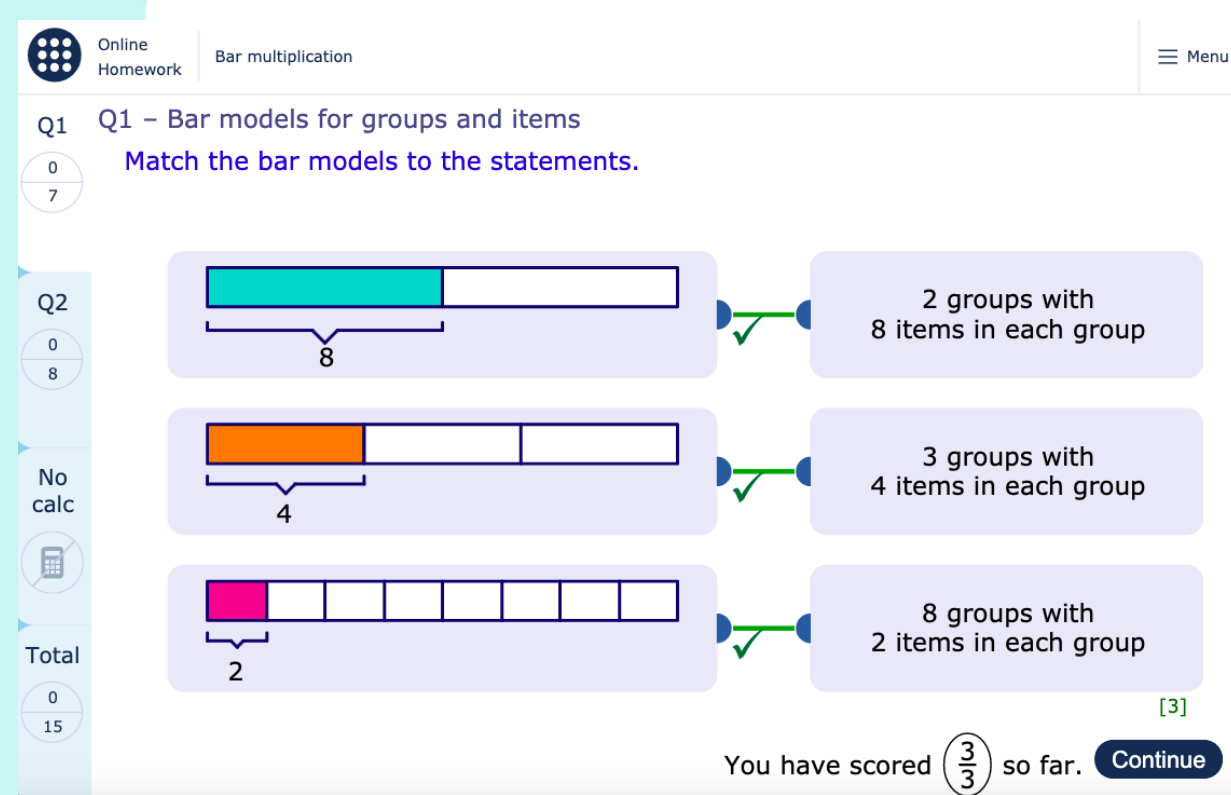
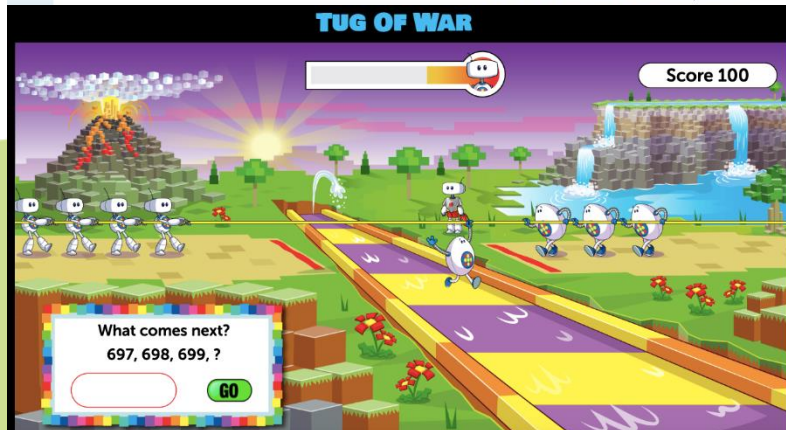
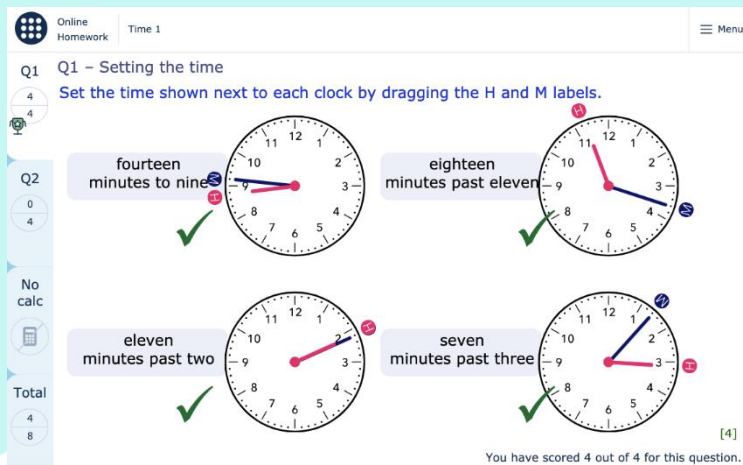
NC Statutory learning focus

NC Statutory common exception words - Year 3&4

(includes at least 8 statutory words per half term to cover second 50% of list by end of year)

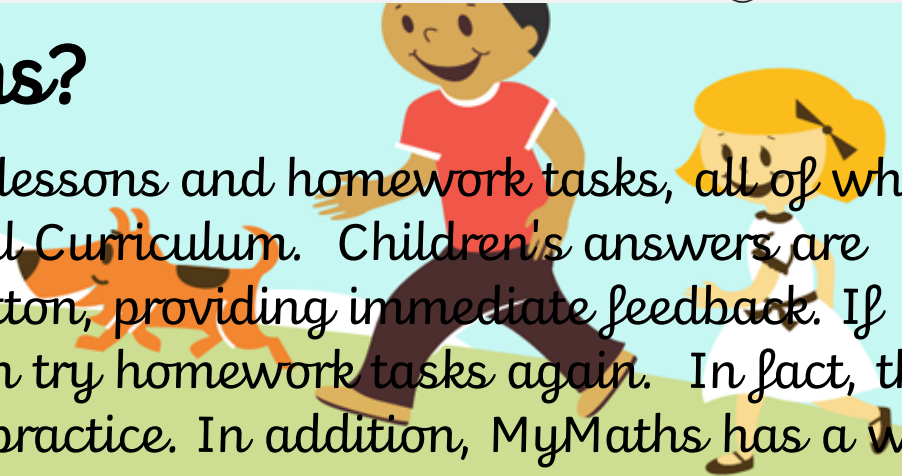
# What is MyMaths?

MyMaths is a whole-school interactive resource for use both in the classroom and at home. It is used to increase mathematical fluency and consolidate learning. Predominantly, we will be using MyMaths as an online homework platform.



## Why use MyMaths?

MyMaths offers interactive lessons and homework tasks, all of which are matched to the National Curriculum. Children's answers are marked at the click of a button, providing immediate feedback. If children choose to, they can try homework tasks again. In fact, the resource provides limitless practice. In addition, MyMaths has a wide variety of games designed to motivate pupils to consolidate their maths skills whilst enhancing their enjoyment of the subject.





# What is Accelerated Reader?

## What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a reading management and monitoring programme that aims to foster independent reading. The internet-based software assesses reading age, and gives pupils a reading level (ZPD number). Pupils take computerised quizzes on the books and will aim for a quiz target of at least 85%.

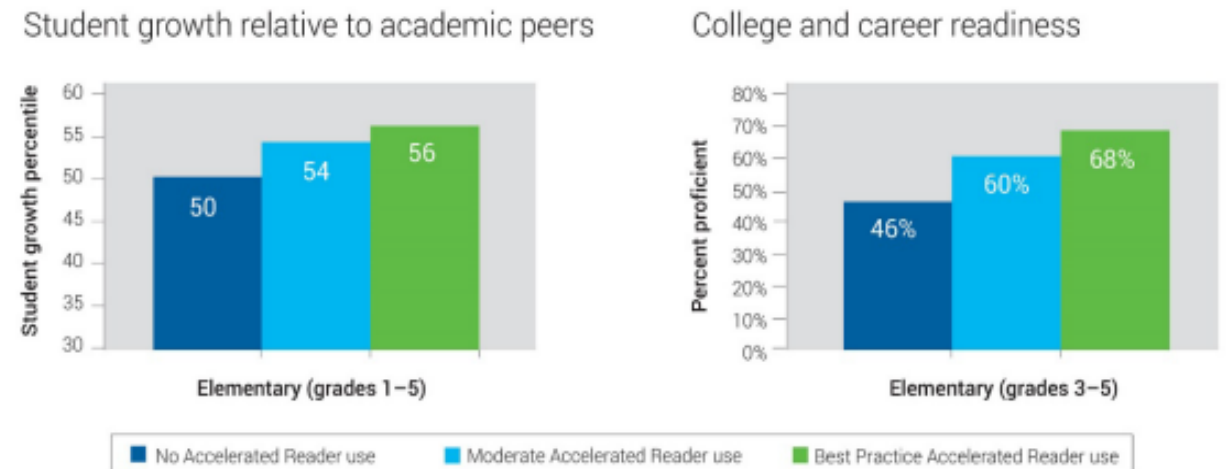


## Why use Accelerated Reader?

A study found that Year 7 pupils who were offered Accelerated Reader made 3 months' additional progress in reading compared to other similar pupils. For pupils eligible for free school meals the figure was 5 months' additional progress.

In primary school, research has shown that pupils using Accelerated Reader make significantly more progress.

Figure 3. Elementary students who used Accelerated Reader grew more



## How does AR work?

1. Pupils will be assessed at the beginning of the year on their reading understanding **and** fluency. This will give them a ZPD number.
2. Pupils will pick a book to take home based on their ZPD number. **Please continue to read with your child as normal and fill in their reading log.**
3. When they finish the book, pupils will take a short quiz in school.
4. Your child's teacher will monitor your child's quiz performance and adjust their ZPD number if necessary.
5. Children will be assessed using the AR STAR assessment up to 5 times throughout the year, which will help to inform their ZPD number.

Please note – AR books are categorised **completely differently** from our previous book band scheme. AR takes into account understanding as well as fluency, therefore please do not be alarmed if your child brings home a book with a lower band than they were on previously!

# What is Purple Mash?

*'Purple Mash is the digital vault of resources, games, tools and activities that's easily searchable by whichever area of the curriculum you're learning. It is fully mapped to the National Curriculum.'*

## Why use Purple Mash?

We use Purple Mash as a school to teach our Computing curriculum. Alongside this, we use Purple Mash for other areas of the curriculum such as English, reading, maths, times tables, music, art, humanities, spellings etc.

Occasionally, homework will be set on Purple Mash. Your child's log in is in the inside cover of their diary. Purple Mash can be used at home to extend children's learning, particularly in spellings, reading and times tables as answers to games/quizzes are marked at the click of a button providing immediate feedback.



# ▪ Fine Motor Skills and Handwriting in Year 4

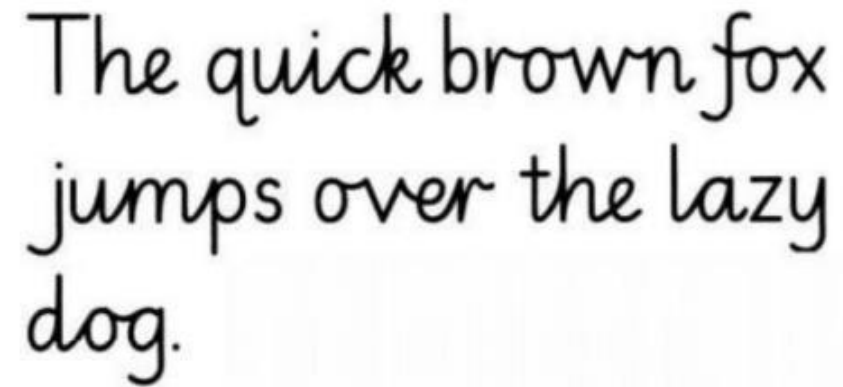
In Year 4, children will develop their fine motor skills through a range of activities.

We will also teach and support your children to:

- use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined
- increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting [for example, by ensuring that the down strokes of letters are parallel and equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch].

In Year 4, children will continue to join their handwriting using the correct diagonal and horizontal strokes more consistently and understand which letters are best left not joined.

Children should join their handwriting during independent writing.



The quick brown fox  
jumps over the lazy  
dog.

# Number bonds and times tables weekly challenge

Number fluency is fundamental to being a successful mathematician which is why the children take part in weekly maths challenges.

- Year 1 - represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20 and counting in twos, fives and tens from different multiples
- Year 2 - recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables
- Year 3 - recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables
- Year 4 - recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to  $12 \times 12$
- Year 5/6 - multiply and divide whole numbers and those involving decimals by 10, 100 and 1000
- Weekly maths challenge will happen on a Tuesday morning.





# Times table test

- You may be aware that from June 2020 the Government announced a new test for Year 4 children called the “Multiplication Tables Check”. Under the national curriculum primary school children are expected to know their 12 times tables by the end of Year 4. As a result we’ve been preparing the children to know their times tables by the end of Year 4 for quite some time now and this will be a useful checkpoint.

## The check itself:

- Will take place in the summer term in June/July over a one-week period.
- Is completed online using a computer
- It is done one pupil at a time
- Will take no longer than 5 minutes
- Will feature 25 questions and children will have 6 seconds to answer each question
- There’s no problem solving or division, just simple “ $3 \times 4 = ?$ ” Type questions
- During the test there will be an emphasis on the 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables, which will form the majority of the questions
- Follows a very similar format to the Purple Mash practice assessment

The results are for the teachers.  
There is no pass or fail mark. The results of the test are not published publicly. They are for us to use so that we can provide the appropriate support where necessary.

# Behaviour

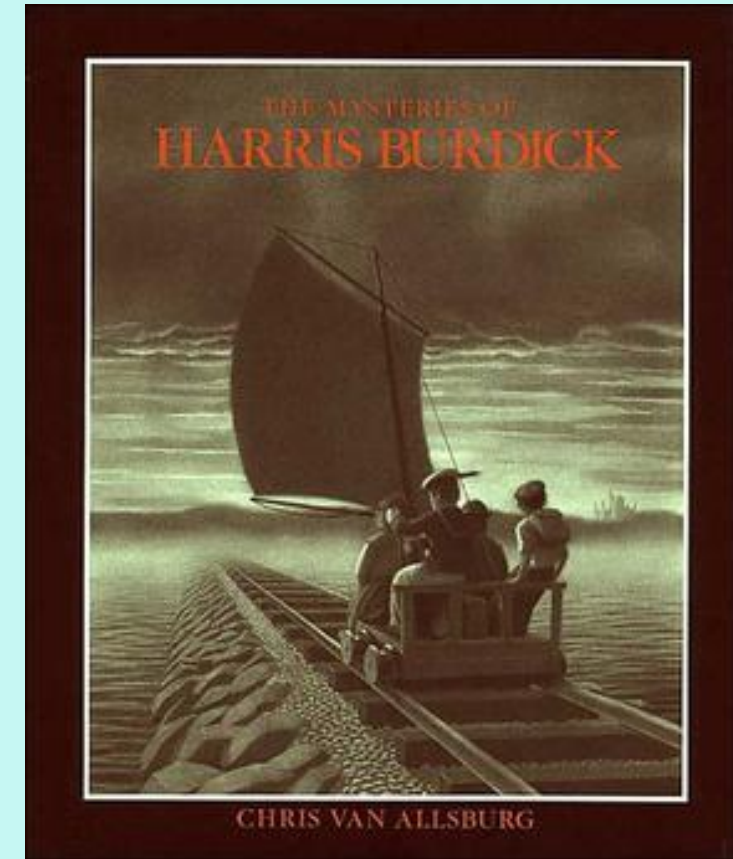
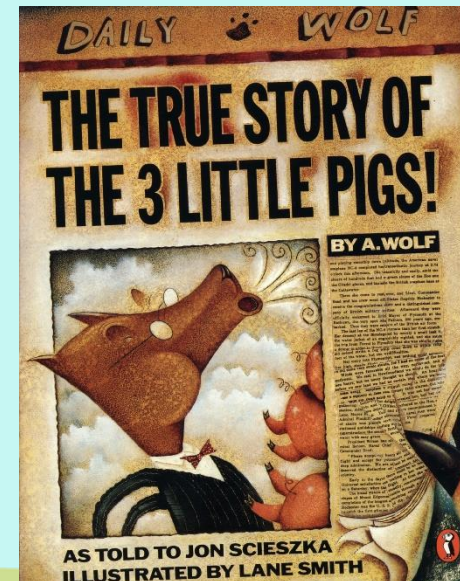
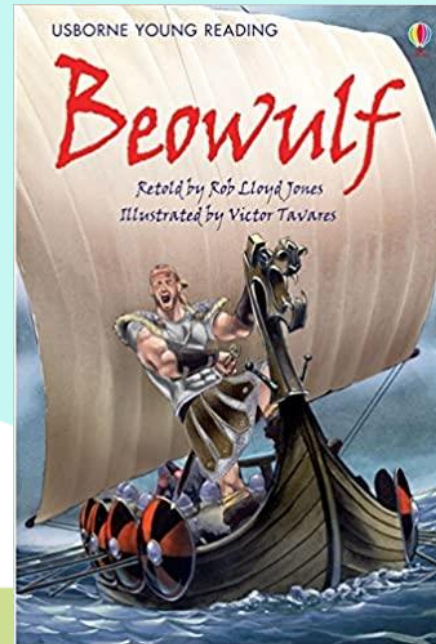
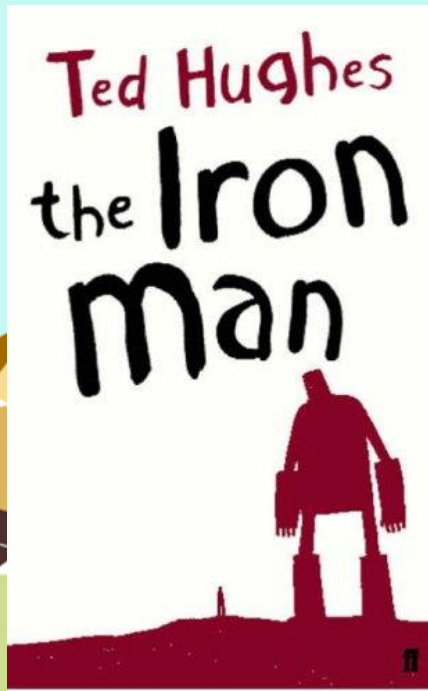
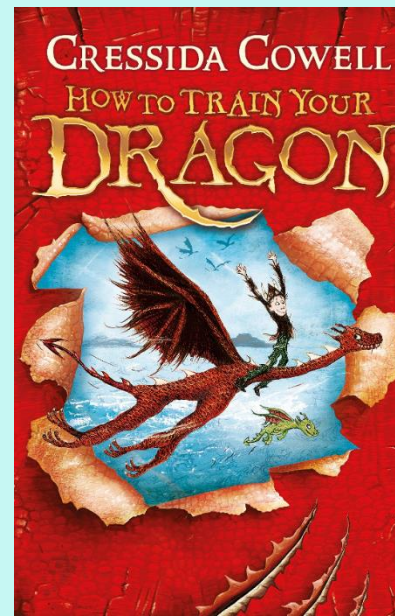
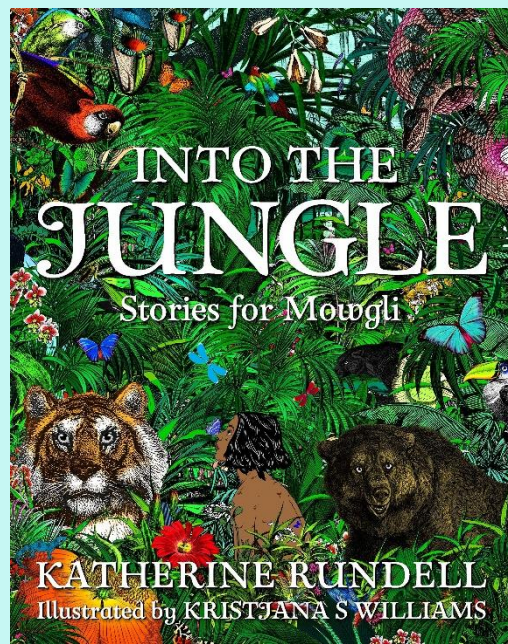
The children will still follow the four golden rules that are used across the school. If a rule is broken, the child will have a restorative conversation, with an adult to reflect on their behaviour.

Individual house points are given for good work and behaviour.

Catch me cards and positive praise are also used to encourage good behaviour.



These books  
are used in  
English across  
the year.  
Please **DO**  
**NOT** read  
them at  
home.





# Maths

Your child's Maths work, will continue from what and how they were learning in Year 3.

This includes:

- Numbers and comparing
- Division/ Multiplication
- Place Value
- Data and Graphs
- Shape and Measures

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12
Autumn	Number: Place Value				Number: Addition and Subtraction			Measurement: Length and Perimeter	Number: Multiplication and Division			
Spring	Number: Multiplication and Division			Measurement: Area	Number: Fractions				Number: Decimals			Consolidation
Summer	Number: Decimals	Measurement: Money			Measurement: Time		Statistics	Geometry: Properties of Shape		Geometry: Position and Direction		Consolidation



# Topics

## Geography

- The Environment
- Amazon rainforest
- The Caribbean
- Field work

## History

- Anglo – Saxons
- Vikings



## Science

- Living things and their habitats
- Electricity
- Animals (Including Humans)
- Sounds
- States of Matter

## Computing

- Coding
- Logo
- Internet safety
- Spreadsheets
- Effective searching
- Animation
- Online safety



# RE

- RE is currently taught using 'The way the truth and the life' throughout the school. The curriculum provides opportunities to develop knowledge and understanding of other religions and beliefs. Children are encouraged to be tolerant of others' opinions and values.
- The whole school attends three assemblies a week, two of which are 'prayerful' gatherings and prayers are said daily in class. The whole school attends Mass periodically throughout the year, with each KS2 class hosting a Mass.
- Once a year, you will be invited to join us for a time of reflection and prayer during our Year Four Celebration of the word.
- Above all, children are encouraged to grow in kindness, love and understanding of those around them and to understand that they should be treated with the same consideration.



# Housekeeping

- Please label ALL clothing and belongings.
- Please send in any cash in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and what the money is for.
- Your child needs a named water bottle in class.
- Please make sure your child is bringing in a fruit based snack to eat at break time.
- Home time collection- please inform us of any change to the adult collecting by writing in the diary.



## Communication with your child's teacher:

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**Reading Diary/Contact Book:** If you would like to pass on a message to your child's class teacher or request a phone call, please use the reading diary provided by the school. Teachers check these regularly and will respond as needed or contact you at their earliest convenience.

**Email:** For longer or more detailed communications, email is preferred. Please send emails to the school office and they will ensure it is forwarded to the teacher. Please allow up to 48 hours for a response, as teachers may be busy with classroom responsibilities. Please use the parent email [parents@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk](mailto:parents@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk)

**Appointment:** For more in-depth discussions, you can schedule an appointment with the teacher. To do this, please contact teacher to arrange a convenient time.

**Parents Evening:** These are scheduled two times a year. We encourage you to attend these meetings to discuss your child's progress and attainment. We ask that if you have concerns about your child, that you contact the teacher, rather than wait for parents evening, so it can be dealt with swiftly.

**ClassDojo:** ClassDojo will **NOT** be used to message teachers directly. Teachers will continue to post homework and inform parents of upcoming events. Teachers will only respond to queries made in the comment box on relevant posts.

**Open Door Policy:** We will continue to have an open door policy at the end of the school day. Please feel free to communicate with your child's teacher face-to-face so that issues can be resolved quickly.

Please check the website, emails and texts regularly for updates.

Look out on Facebook for pictures of our learning!

Thank you!

