

YEAR FOUR'S HALF-TERMLY NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2

Miss Williams (Class teacher) Mrs Gibson PPA cover (Thursday afternoons)

Welcome back to our second half term of year 4 and a very busy one leading up to Christmas!

I hope you have all enjoyed a lovely and restful half term holiday. It was lovely to speak to you all during our parent's evening a couple of weeks ago to discuss how your child has settled in so far. The school website has key information for this half term, including spelling lists and subject knowledge organisers. You will find this information under 'Our Curriculum' and 'Parents/Carers'.

Home Learning

Reading

Reading continues to be a priority in Year 4. We have successfully implemented our new Reading Plus scheme and the children are really enjoying it! In year 4, we aim to read 160 words per minute so it has been wonderful to see the progress the children have made so far alongside their increasing accuracy with their comprehension scores. We aim for 80% accuracy in comprehension tests. Reading plus gives us detailed reports on children's reading abilities and progress.

While we understand some parents may have concerns about screentime, it's important to recognise the benefits of purposeful, educational screen use. Reading Plus is a research-backed platform designed to develop confident, capable readers – and sessions can be completed in as little as 10 minutes.

Alongside Reading Plus, we are also placing a strong emphasis on continuing reading for pleasure. Staff listen to children read regularly, although this doesn't always happen through individual 1:1 reading sessions. Teachers hear pupils read in a variety of lessons —from whole- class guided reading to subjects such as history and geography —as reading is an essential part of every lesson.

We kindly ask that your child's reading journal is still signed five times a week, with a mixture of Reading Plus and reading for pleasure. Children are frequently reminded about the importance of reading and that it is their responsibility to get their Learning Journal signed and bring this in daily in their bookbags. We fully appreciate that the children have busy schedules and extra- curricular commitments outside of school, but we instil that home learning is still completed as a priority.

Times tables

As you may know, all Year 4 children take part in the national Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term. In preparation for this, we encourage children to go on TTRS daily as part of the agreed homework policy. The Y4 multiplication check contains 25 questions with time constraints. On TTRS, **soundcheck** is reflective of this, so we encourage children to increase their speed and accuracy through playing on this game. We also take part in completing times table focused lessons in maths, games and 'beat the clock' by completing blank multiplication grids. We enjoy playing 'Around the World' and encourage children to play this with their families and friends!

Thank you for your support in helping your child secure this vital skill and feel confident ahead of the Multiplication check.

Spellings



Jesus said, 'Come follow me, live your lives the way God wants you to.'



Spellings will be sent home at the beginning of each half term; they can also be accessed on the school website. We will begin our spelling tests on Friday 14th September.

PE

Our PE lessons will still be on a Thursday afternoon. This half term we will be inside. Please ensure that children are wearing our full school PE kit on a Thursday.

Behaviour/ Star Awards

We have recently celebrated our first star award ceremony of the year and have many more awards to come!

Already, we have children who are heading for the Silver star award through their excellent learning behaviours and following our three school rules of: Be Ready, Be respectful and Show Love. As a class, we are focusing on our learning behaviours of listening carefully and demonstrating respect to all adults and peers. This is so we can create a positive environment where everyone can learn successfully. We will be setting individual behaviour targets with the children to ensure they have a clear understanding of what they need to focus on/continue and improve. Please chat to your child about their behaviour target.

Please let us know if you have any worries, concerns or just something you would like to discuss. As always, thank you for your continued support with your child's learning.

Miss Williams

**Please see overleaf for an overview about what
we will be learning this half term.**



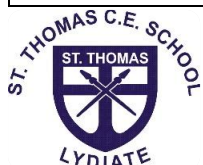
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Year Four Curriculum Map – Autumn 2

In the autumn term, we will be learning about:

Maths In maths we will be continuing our work on addition and subtraction of numbers within 10 000, using a range of written and mental strategies. We will also learn methods to help with multiplication and division (up to 3 digit numbers). Through both of these units, we will be solving word problems, understanding which calculation is required. We will also continue with lots of times table practise, ahead of the Y4 Time Tables test next summer.	English In English, we will be exploring our vehicle text ‘Leaf’ by Sandra Dieckmann. We will be creating Outsider narratives. then we will be moving on to creating non- fiction information reports.	RE In RE, we will be focussing on Christmas and exploring the symbolism of light. We will be considering how Jesus and the actions of his followers brings light into people’s lives. Some key questions we will cover include: • Why is Jesus described as the Light of the World? • Why is light such a powerful symbol? • Is light a good metaphor for Jesus? • The sun already lights the world so how can Jesus be the light?
History In history, following on from our Ancient Greece unit we will begin to look at Alexander the Great We will look at his predecessor, King Philip of Macedon, and some of the most famous battles that he led his army to victory.	Geography In geography, we will use our knowledge from KS1 regarding oceans and continents to learn about different climates and biomes and begin to compare the climates across continents. We will learn about the Equator and lines of latitude that help us understand climates.	Science In science, we will be focussing on Classification of Plants and Animals. We learn about what classification is and why it is used. We will also learn about vertebrates and invertebrates and the characteristics of the animal classes including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, insects, arachnids and molluscs. We will learn about the two main classification groups of plants.
PE In PE, we will be building on our Gymnastics skills by developing routines with our partners. We will be focusing on over and under movements, bridges and rolls. We will compose, and then perform, a sequence with	Music We will be having djembe drumming lessons this half term on a Tuesday afternoon with Sefton Music services. MFL – French We will build on our core vocabulary in French, which was taught in Year Three, throughout this half term. We	PSHE- My Happy Mind This term we will be focusing on our Celebrate module which is focused on introducing the evidence-based theory that we all have different Character Strengths and that, by understanding what they are and then using them as much as possible, we can be at our best! In this context, Character Strengths refer to those character



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contrasting and matching shapes and moves. We will learn to use the correct technical vocabulary to evaluate gymnastic performances.	will look at the topic 'As-Tu Un Animal?' 'Do you have a Pet?' We will learn the names of some pet animals and focus on asking and answering questions about pets.	traits that make us unique. We all have different characters, and this is something to celebrate! This is not about what we are 'good' at, like football or maths. It is about who we are, such as being kind or brave
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Year 4 – Home/School Spellings – Autumn 2

Below are our home spellings for this half term. The new Year 4 words will begin from Week 2, in line with the structure of our spelling scheme. Each weekly test will be based on the words the children learned the previous week, to check their recall. The first test will take place on Friday 14th November. After this, tests will continue every Friday. Copies of the spellings can be found on our class webpage.

	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
Test date	Test: Friday 14 th November	Test: Friday 21 st November	Test: Friday 28 th November	Test: Friday 5 th December	Test: Friday 12 th December	Test: Thursday 18 th December
	infusion 🌿 television explosion illusion information 📊 sensation education punctuation favourite mention	invention 🎵 action operation donation expansion 🎵 extension comprehension tension fruit grammar	discussion 🎵 impression permission admission magician 🎵 politician optician enough imagine increase	numb 🌿 climb lamb doubt sweets' cakes' children's mice's knowledge through	meat 🌿 meet missed mist rain 🌿 rein reign material busy business	Dictation expansion Extension Discussion Possession Optician Tension Permission Invasion Graduation