



Autumn Term in Year 4



"We put our hope in the LORD; he is our protector and our help. We are glad because of him; we trust in his holy name". Psalm 33:20-22:

Welcome back! We hope you have had time to rest and relax over the Summer holidays and are returning to school full of beans and ready to learn!

Over the Summer, Mr. Shortland enjoyed going on holiday to Cleethorpes and visiting the Space Centre in Leicester and Ms Richardson enjoyed visiting Cadwell Park, going on a lovely cruise and enjoying time with her grandson.

Be sure to keep visiting our class page on the school website to see our fantastic work and comments made by the children. <https://www.stthomasacademy.co.uk/>

Remember to follow us on 'X' (formally Twitter) too- @NS_StThomas and @MsRichardsonTe as well as @StThomasBoston and @InfinityAcad for updates on future Trust events.



This year we will continue to teach each subject discretely, each having a key question that we will answer over the term. Each lesson will allow us to build knowledge and understanding to enable us to independently answer the question using examples and evidence from what is taught. Make sure you check the class pages to follow our learning journey for each unit of work. The spider diagram in this newsletter gives you a taster of each subject, but the website will give you more information.

School Visit - We look forward to enhancing our learning in History with a visit to The Collection in Lincoln. Here, the children will understand what life was like in the Anglo-Saxon era. The Collection is free to enter and offers an excellent insight into Lincolnshire's history and links to Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. The date for our visit is Wednesday 9th October.

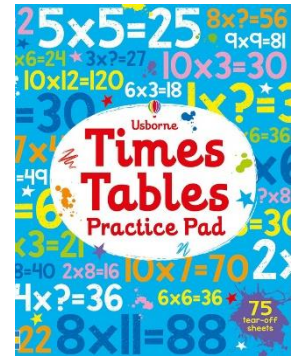


Class Worship

Year Four have the pleasure of going first with leading Class Worship for the school. **4S- Hope Class will go first on Wednesday 2nd October and 4R- Courage Class on Wednesday 16th October.** You will be welcomed into school to watch your child on the relevant date. The assemblies are scheduled to take place at 9:50am - 10:10am. We would love to see as many of you there as possible.

Times Tables never go out of fashion!

Being able to recall times tables facts ($6 \times 5 = 30$), and the related division facts ($30 / 5 = 6$) is vital for many areas of learning in Maths. Children who practise their times tables find learning Maths much easier than those who struggle to recall them. Regular practise with family at home makes a great difference – try asking your child times table questions while driving in the car or while walking to school. In June, all Year Four pupils will sit a times tables test so we will spend lots of time this year focusing on them



Reading Books These need to be in school **daily**. In Year 4 children are allowed to change their books on a Monday, and they are to be back in school on a Friday. If your child has a longer book, they will be able to keep them for longer than a week. Please continue to sign their reading record, at least weekly, and let us know anything else your child has enjoyed reading at home. **Every time your child reads at home, they will receive a house point.** Children should aim to read a little each day. To promote the love of reading, each child has chosen a reading for pleasure book from our class library. Children are encouraged to read these when they can and then change them throughout the year looking at a range of genres.

In order to help your child develop their reading skills, it would be very helpful if you could discuss the books they are reading with your child. Ask them questions to make sure they have understood the story, ask them to predict what might happen next and why characters have acted the way they have. Make links with other books and traditional tales they may have read.



Homework is important and we expect everyone to complete it and hand it in on time. It helps consolidate learning and build up your child's confidence. Homework will be set every Friday and should be completed and handed in by Wednesday. If you have any concerns about this, please see your class teacher.

Spellings will be set on a Friday and tested on a Friday. Learning spellings is not just about being able to recall them for a test. The children need to practise spellings in order to remember them long-term for use in their writing as well. Spellings are in the spelling homework book and should be practised regularly. We advise children use a Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check approach as set out on the spelling sheet. Other ways to help children learn include chanting the letters, finding words within words, and circling the letter combinations they find tricky. This makes the learning more exciting and memorable.



Our spellings this year build up on the rules learnt in Year 3 and we will be revisiting these along with any missed during the Summer Term.

MathsShed homework will be set each week to allow your children to practise their times tables. You will find your child's login details on the inside of their homework book and their reading record. This will take them to their login page. Once there, you will be able to see assignments that have been assigned to your child for that week. A leaderboard system will be used in school to see which year group is taking part the most. Come on Year 4, we can be the best in the school!

Year Four Curriculum Overview

Art

How is movement portrayed in drawings?
Children will explore the artist Rembrandt as we understand his work on gestural drawing. The children will be focusing on techniques such as form, space, texture colour, line, shape and pattern.

English

We have begun Year 4 by consolidating our knowledge of noun phrases and how we can make them more exciting by adding adjectives. We dive straight into the world of 'Beowulf' written by Michael Murpurgo, who battles a horrific beast named Grendel as he tries to bring Grendel's reign of terror to the end. We will create our own wanted poster and diary entries documenting the events that take place.

Science

Where does a puddle go?
This term we work as Chemists focusing on materials and changes of state. We will identify solids, liquids and gases, their properties and particle make up. This will support us to explain the water cycle and the different changes of state.

Computing

**What is cyberbullying?
What is the internet?**
This term, we are going to look at what cyberbullying is and how it happens followed by how computers are connected by networks.

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History

How did the Anglo-Saxons develop England?
Children will explore what happened in England when most of the Romans left which will identify where they settled and why. This will lead us to discover more about the first Kings of Britain and how the heptarchy was created, leading us to understand more about their religions and the introduction of Christianity.

R.E

Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?
In RE, we are going to be looking at what happens in Holy Week and how it is celebrated in churches.

Mathematics

Our Mathematics learning this is focusing on place value and identifying the individual values of 4-digit numbers along with being able to round to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 before we look at the four main operations.

We will continue to practice and develop our times tables.

PE

Fitness
How does fitness improve health?
We will be focusing on developing our Fitness skills through a series of exercises.
Tag Rugby
What is more important: personal or team performance?
We will be focusing on rules of the game and techniques to run and pass.

Music

Why do composers choose certain musical instruments?
In Music, we are going to be looking at dynamics and the difference between major and minor chords.

PSHE

Is it ok not to like someone?
Our focus is on building relationships with others. We will reflect on what it means to be a good friend both in person and online.

PE

PE lessons will be on a Monday morning and a Thursday afternoon. Please make sure both indoor and outdoor PE KIT is in school every day so that it is always available,

If you want to support your child further, please explore the following websites. A huge range of educational websites are available online, please check that any that your child uses are suitable for their age. Remember - a great way of supporting your child's learning (and a fun one) is to play the online games with them.

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check> (Maths - practise times table check)

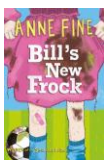
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> (Maths - number bonds, times tables and division)

http://www.earlybritishkingdoms.com/kids_Anglo-Saxons

The whole of the Year 4 team are very excited to continue to help your children to reach their potential this year, and we appreciate your support across the curriculum. Please do speak to us if you have ideas, questions or concerns about your child. We are always interested in activities children take part in outside of school, so it would be lovely to see any certificates or awards your child receives. Remember to inform of us of any change in circumstance - little or big. It can really affect the behaviour and feelings of your child and we want to offer support as fully as possible.

Mr Shortland, Ms
Richardson, Mrs Fixter, Miss
Kaye and Miss Rekasute

Reading Recommendations



A great book for Year 4's is Bill's New Frock- we have copies in school if you'd like to borrow them. One morning Bill wakes up to find he is a girl, Mum dresses him in a pink dress, can his day get any worse? Bill soon discovers things are very different for girls.

Exploring what it is like for children who are fostered and moved from home to home. Perry is soon welcomed into a loving family and quickly makes lots of friends. This was very popular last year in Year 4 as the children (and staff) really enjoyed reading this and we think that many of you will do too. Please ask if you'd like to borrow a copy!



THE ONLY
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN A
GOOD DAY
AND A BAD
DAY IS YOUR
ATTITUDE!

BeHappy

