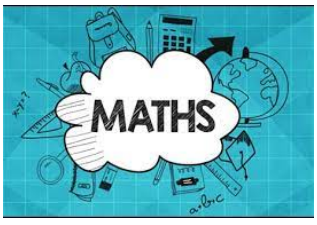
YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER - SPRING TERM

Dear families,

Firstly, I hope you all had a lovely and restful Christmas break. Spring term is upon us and for Year 4 in particular is an important one, as we rehearse and perform our Easter Performance and also ramp up our preparations for the Multiplication Tables Check in June.

Celebrating the Mass
In our first RE topic of the term, the children will be learning more about mass. They will learn about why masses take place on certain days/at certain times during the liturgical calendar, as well as learning about the different elements to a mass and where these originate from.

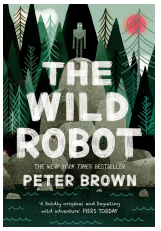
Jesus the Saviour
Alongside our Easter Performance preparations and performances, in this RE unit we will be looking in detail at the Easter story and evaluating how and why Jesus' actions were so important and influential.



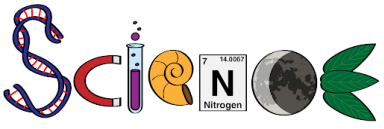
Continuing to follow the 'Thread Method', this term children will be completing their work on Multiplication and Division, followed by threads in Fractions and Decimals.

We will be covering a range of writing styles in English this term, starting with non-chronological reports - to do this, we will be focusing on the book *Myth Match*. We will then turn our attention to narrative writing using various stimuli, including picture books (*Flood*) and books written about other cultures (*Escape from Pompeii*). As ever, we will have our explicit spelling and handwriting session taught alongside this.

Children will continue to have three guided reading sessions a week and reading scheme books will be sent home. These can be returned and changed as needed. Please remember that wide reading is encouraged beyond school books and any reading to or by your child can contribute to the homework time requirements (see later).

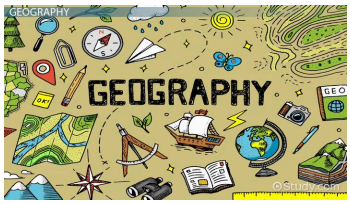


We will also continue to read and learn about a wide range of Year 4 texts. Our next class reader is *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown.



Our Science topic, stretching across the entire Spring term, is Living Things and their Habitat. In this unit, children will not only classify animals in a variety of ways but they will also look at a range of different environments and

how changes to these can impact the animals that live there.



History/Geography will continue to be taught by Miss Willoughby. This term sees a History focus, with children learning all about the Ancient Mayans. We will study where the Mayans fit into our timeline and how they have impacted life in Britain and other countries today. To compliment this, we will also have our Ancient Mayan WOW Day later in the term.

Our PE days will remain **Tuesday** and **Wednesday.** Children should come to school in their kit on these days: black or navy unbranded joggers, shorts or sports leggings; white round necked t-shirt; school jumper and trainers. **Pumps should also be kept at school.** This term's activities will include gymnastics, basketball, dance and badminton.

A reminder that children in Year 4 are required to complete **60 minutes of reading** (this can include reading to an adult, being read to by an adult and independent reading), and **Times Tables** practice (please see the letter sent out at the end of Autumn 1). Please note down these times and sign their homework diaries to confirm this has been completed. They will also receive spellings weekly. Homework and spellings should be handed in on a **Monday** please, and will be handed back out to families on a **Tuesday**. Please note, should this change or not be possible for a given reason, families will be notified via Arbor.

Finally, if you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Mackley