

Spring Term - Key Stage 2

Year 4



Welcome to the Spring Term!

We hope you found the Coffee Mornings informative and thank you to all those parents who were able to attend. Below is a range of useful information. If you have any queries, please speak to your class teacher at the end of the school day.

LITERACY

Our English learning this term will be based on the Power of Reading books *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, two poetry collections (*Poems to Perform* and *Cosmic Disco*), and we will be beginning *Oliver and the Seawigs* towards the end of the Spring term. Please do not read these books in advance to your child at home, so it allows the children to use their predictive skills in school.

We will be continuing to use the Read Write Inc spelling scheme, with children bringing home personalised lists of spellings to learn each week.

NUMERACY

This term, we will be finishing off our learning on multiplication and division, before looking at area and perimeter. The majority of the term will be focused on fractions and decimals.

To support your child's learning in this key area of Year 4 maths, please continue to focus on times tables and the related division facts. If your child is confident, encourage them to think about related times tables calculations, e.g. 20×7 .

VISITS

The life bus will be in school from 20th February to the 1st March. The children will learn about a programme of keeping healthy, as well as finding out more [about our bodies](#) work.



IPC Topics

Temples, Tombs and Treasures. Saving the



Science Topics

Electricity, Sound, States of Matter



HOMEWORK

Most children have been making a fantastic effort with their homework. However, from this term, we will not be accepting homework that is not completed according to the school presentation expectations:

- Work should be completed neatly in handwriting pen or pencil (not biro please)
- Headings and titles should be underlined
- Mistakes should be crossed out with a ruler
- Colouring in should be done in pencils, not felt tips
- Cursive handwriting must be used (unless agreed individually).

Dates for your diary

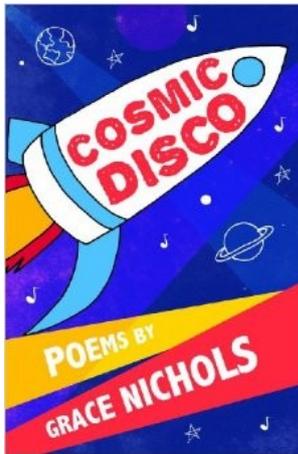
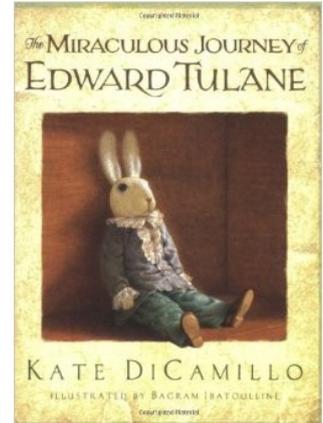
9th January	Coffee morning 8.45am
12th January	4T class assembly 10.40am
19th January	4P class assembly 10.40am
26th January	4C class assembly 10.40am
8th February	Parent 'Pop-In' at 3:15pm
8th February	Celebration lunch for children who have completed their school values passport
12th to 16th February	Half Term
19th February	INSET Day
20th & 22nd March	Parents' Evenings

Please ensure that your child hands in their homework promptly once it has been finished. Although this does not have to be every single week, we would expect to receive every child's homework book at least fortnightly. Hopefully this helps children to manage their homework meaning it is not done in a rush and we don't receive piles of homework at the last minute!

LITERACY

The Power of Reading project is about teaching Literacy through using high quality texts and creative teaching approaches (such as art and drama). This approach aims to engage and motivate children in their literacy learning. It also enables children to deepen their understanding of texts and provides a meaningful context for writing.

In literacy this term, our Power of Reading books will be *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo, two poetry collections (*Poems to Perform* collected by Julia Donaldson and *Cosmic Disco* by Grace Nichols), and we will be beginning *Oliver and the Seawigs* by Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre.



How you can help your child:

When reading books, discuss with your child how the author has presented certain characters and enabled the plot to unfold.

It is important that you encourage your child to read daily for 15 minutes and to complete their reading record sheet in the front of their homework book.

Ask for your child's opinion on whether they liked a particular book or not and ask them to explain why.

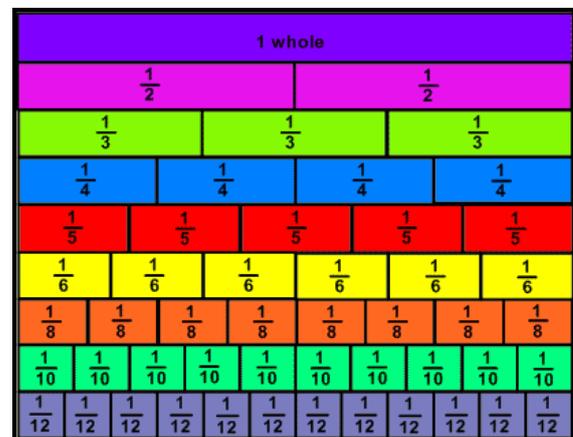
Please try to encourage your child to read a range of genres, this tends to help them in their writing when they come to approach writing in different genres.

NUMERACY

The following topics will be covered this term. They will be covered in-depth, and for several weeks.

- Multiplication and division
- Fractions
- Decimals
- Measurement—area and perimeter

Your child should have received a log-in for Times Tables Rockstars (www.trockstars.com), a fun way of learning times tables facts. We encourage regular practice on this website, and hope your children enjoy it!



You can help your child by:

- Ensuring they know their times tables and the related division facts, and can recall them quickly and accurately.
- Ensuring children can double numbers up to 50, and recall the corresponding halves.
- Practise multiplying and dividing numbers by 10 and 100, including giving answers with decimal places.
- Practising finding change and calculating amounts when shopping, as well as handling actual money.
- By encouraging them to explain the methods they have used when completing their homework .

IPC—Saving the World

In **Saving the World**, children will be developing the following scientific knowledge and understanding:

- Know about the principles of nutrition, growth, movement and reproduction
- Know about the living things that are supported by rainforest environments
- Know about ways in which animals and plants are suited to rainforest environments
- Understand the principles of protecting living things
- Know about the effects that light, air, water and temperature have on plants
- Know about the functions of leaves and the life cycle of plants
- Be able to classify plants according to their features



In Geography in **Saving the World**, children will :

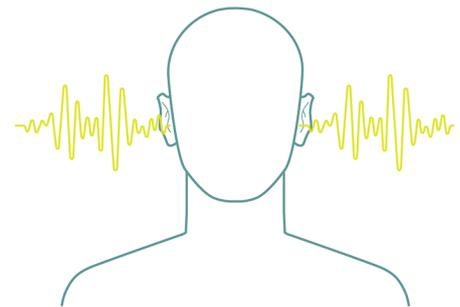
- Know how rainforests have been affected by human activities
- Know how the nature of rainforests affects the lives of people
- Be able to use maps at a variety of scales to locate the position and geographical features of particular localities
- Be able to express views on the features of an environment and the way it is being harmed or improved
- Be able to communicate their geographical knowledge and understanding to ask and answer questions about geographical and environmental features
- Understand how rainforests fit into a wider geographical context
- Understand that the quality of a rainforest environment can be sustained and improved

Science

Sound

Students will learn:

- How sounds are made
- That vibrations travel through a medium to the ear
- How to find patterns between the pitch of a sound and the features of the object that produced it, and between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it
- That sound gets fainter as the distance from the sound increases



States of matter

Students will learn:

- To compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids and gases
- To observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius
- To identify the part played by evaporation in the water cycle, and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

