

Welcome to Year 4!

4S

Miss Savage
Mrs Hewish

4L

Miss Lockwood
Mrs Cole



School uniform

- Shoes must be black or brown, 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 – Outdoor

Wednesday afternoon – Indoor

Wednesday afternoon - Swimming- Term 3 and 4.

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 Monday on Dojo.
- Spellings, reading and challenges will be set on either Purple Mash or MyMaths.
- We will have a spelling test every week using the homework spellings. They will be based on the year 3 and 4 words.
- We will check whether these have been completed online.



**** Year 3 and 4 Word List ****

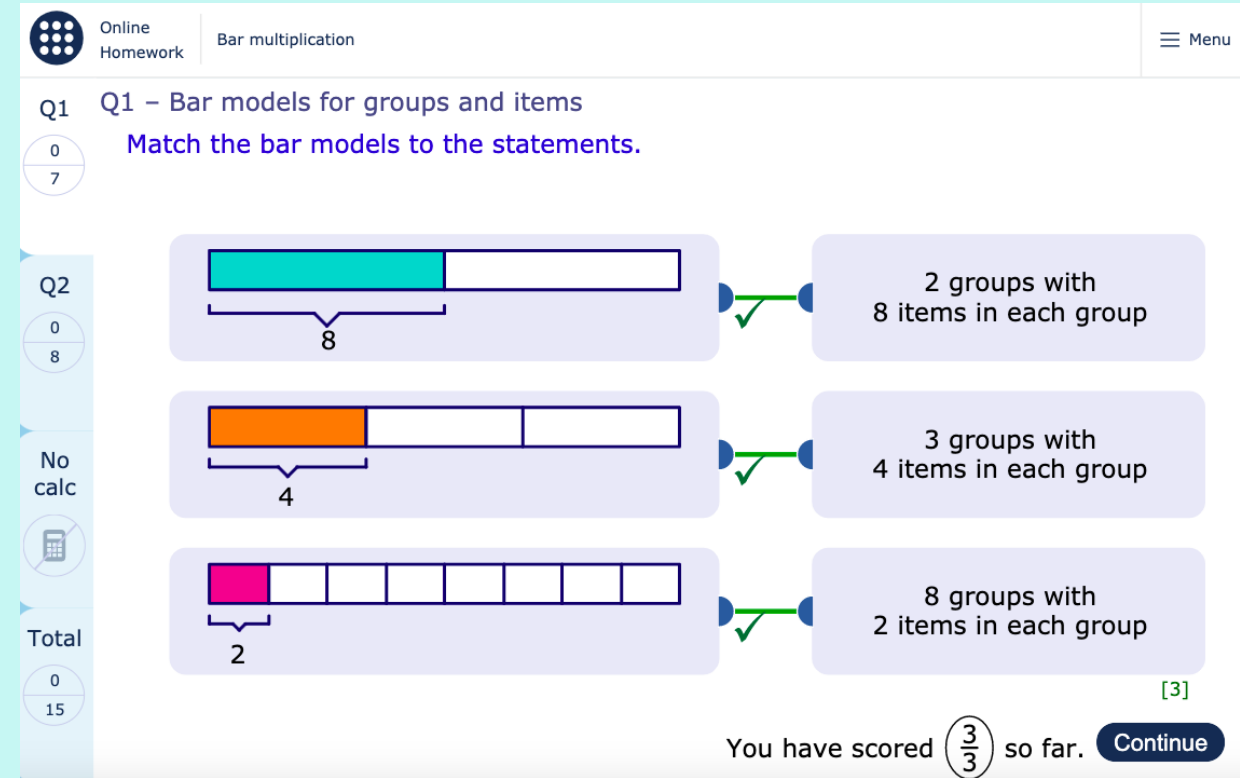
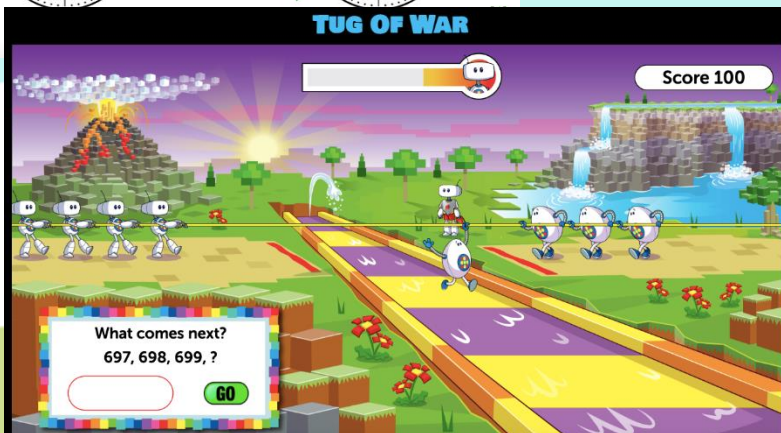
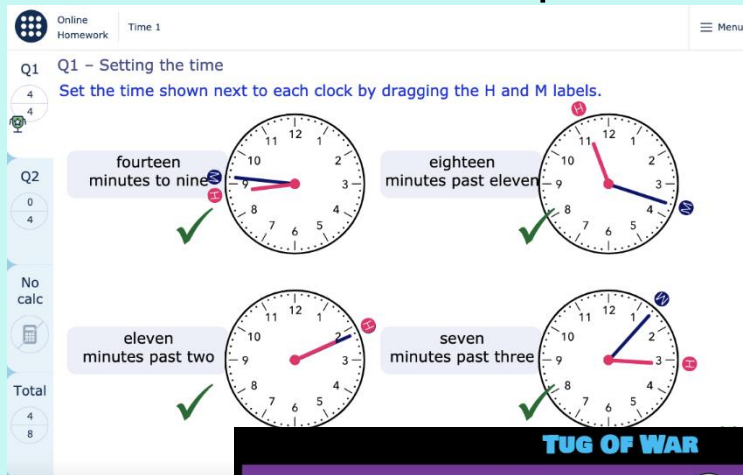
Use this list for *ideas* and to *check* your spelling!

accident	century	experiment	interest	particular	remember
accidentally	certain	extreme	island	peculiar	sentence
actual	circle	famous	knowledge	perhaps	separate
actually	complete	favourite	learn	popular	special
address	consider	February	length	position	straight
answer	continue	forward(s)	library	possess	strange
appear	decide	fruit	material	possession	strength
arrive	describe	grammar	medicine	possible	suppose
believe	different	group	mention	potatoes	surprise
bicycle	difficult	guard	minute	pressure	therefore
breath	disappear	guide	natural	probably	though
breathe	early	heard	naughty	promise	(although)
build	earth	heart	notice	purpose	thought
busy	eight	height	occasion	quarter	through
business	eighth	history	occasionally	question	various
calendar	enough	imagine	often	recent	weight
caught	exercise	increase	opposite	regular	woman
centre	experience	important	ordinary	reign	women

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.

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.

This year, the organisation of these challenges has been updated to best support children in preparation for the multiplication times tables check (MTC) in Year 4.

Progression has been carefully mapped across the school in line with the national curriculum:

- 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 12×12
- Year 5/6 - multiply and divide whole numbers and those involving decimals by 10, 100 and 1000

Y1- 3mins 10 questions 12 questions 15 questions 18 questions	Y2- 3mins 18 questions, building to 20 questions	Y3- 3mins 20 questions building to 25 questions	Y4- 3 mins 25 questions building to 30 questions	Y5- 3 mins 30 questions building to 35 questions	Y6 - 3 mins 30 questions
Bonds to 5	Bonds to 10	Bonds to 10	X2	Bonds to 100	Bonds to 100
Bonds to 6	Bonds to 20	Bonds to 20	X5	X2, x5, x10	X2, x5, x10
Bonds to 7	Bonds to 100 (multiples of 10)	Bonds to 100 (multiples of 10)	X2, x5, x10	Divide by 2,5,10	X2, x4, x8
Bonds to 8	X2 in order	Bonds to 100 (multiples of 5)	X3	X2, x4, x8	X3, x6, x12
Bonds to 9	X2 mixed up	X2	X4	Divide by 2,4,8	X7, x9, x11
Bonds to 10	X2 division	X10	X8	X3, x6, x12	Multiplication all
Mixed addition bonds to 10	X10 in order	X5	X2, x4, x8	Divide by 3,6,12	Division all
Bonds to 20	X10 mixed up	x2, x5, x10	X6 in order	X7, x9, x11	Missing numbers x
Bonds to 11	X10 division	+2, +5, +10	X6 mixed	Divide by 7,9,11	Missing numbers +
Bonds to 12	X5 in order	X3 in order	X3, x6	Multiplication all	Missing numbers x, +
Bonds to 13	X5 mixed up	X3 mixed	X9 in order	Division all	X100, x1000
Bonds to 14	X5 division	+3	X9 mixed	Missing numbers x	Decimals x100, x1000
Bonds to 15	2s and 10s x	X4 in order	X11 in order	Missing numbers +	+10, +100, + 1000
Bonds to 16	2s and 10s +	X4 mixed	X11 mixed	Missing numbers x and +	Squares, cubes
Bonds to 17	2s and 5s x	+4	X7 in order	X100	Decimals (0 with 1 $\square.\square$) x any table
Bonds to 18	2s and 5s +	X8 in order	X7 mixed	X1000	Decimals (0 with 1 $\square.\square$) + any table
Bonds to 19	2s, 5s and 10s x	X8 mixed	X12 in order	Decimals x100	1 digit numbers 1 $\square.\square$, x any table
Mixed addition bonds to 20	2s, 5s and 10s +	+8	X12 mixed	Whole numbers/ decimals	1 digit with 1 $\square.\square$, + any table

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%.

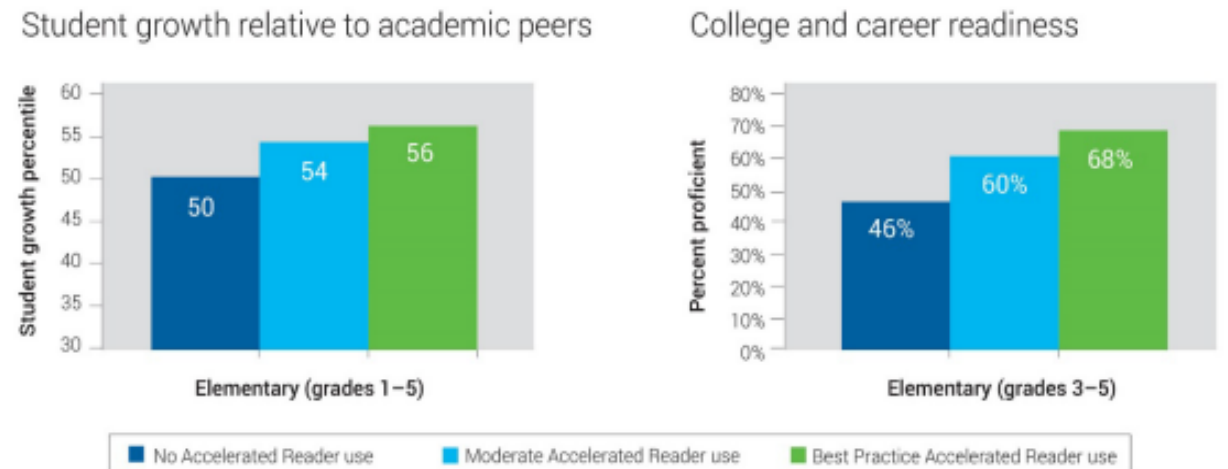


Why use Accelerated Reader?

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!

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].

Curly Caterpillars

c a d e s g f q o

Ladder Letters

l i u t y j

One-Armed Robots

n m h k b p r

Zig-zag Monsters

z n w x

More complex letters from the 4 families:

f j y

Digits 0 - 9

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

In Year 4, children will continue to develop the consistency and quality of their joined handwriting by learning further correct diagonal and horizontal strokes and understand which letters are best left unjoined.

Children should join their handwriting during independent writing.

Spelling in Year 4

- Children are taught to consolidate and continue their phonic understanding through Spelling Workshop lessons (including etymology, root words, prefixes, suffixes and syllables).
- Your children will also be working on the following spelling patterns and rules this year including:
 - Adding suffixes -er, -ing to verbs, for example: 'beginner' and 'beginning'
 - Words containing 'y' where it sounds like 'i', such as 'myth' and 'gym'
 - Words containing 'ou' where it sounds like 'u' such as 'young' and 'touch'
 - Words containing prefixes (groups of letters added to the start of a word) such as mis-, dis-, im-, il-, ir-, re-, sub-, inter-, super-, anti-, auto-
 - Words containing suffixes (groups of letters added to the end of each word) such as -ation, -ly
 - Words ending -sure and -ture (such as 'measure' and 'creature')
 - Words ending -sion, -tion, -ssion, -cian (such as 'confusion', 'rejection', 'permission' and 'musician')
 - Words ending -ous (such as 'dangerous' and 'courageous')
 - Words containing ch where it sounds like 'sh' or 'k' (such as 'chef' and 'scheme')

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 over a one-week period from Monday 6th June 2021
- 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.

Music

Each Tuesday a music teacher comes into school to teach the children how to play the Ukuleles. They continue to learn this instrument throughout the year with a concert at the end of the year.



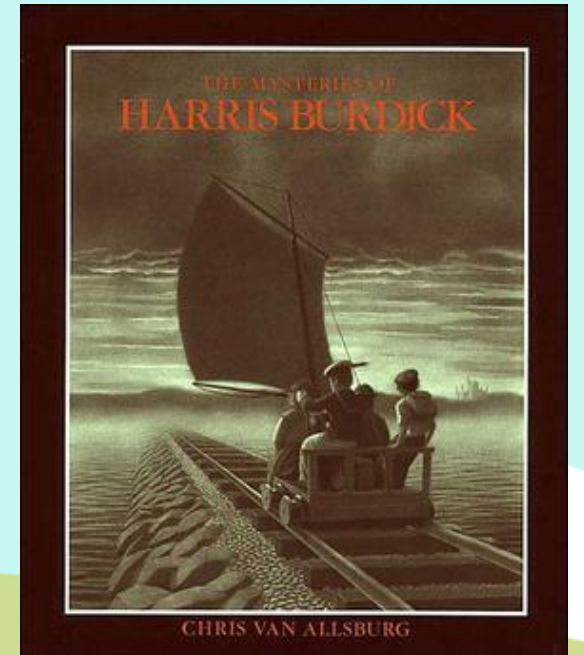
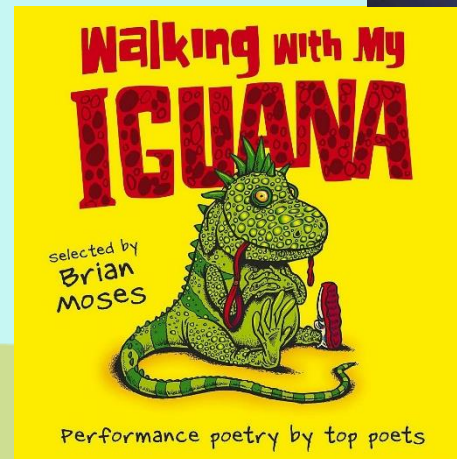
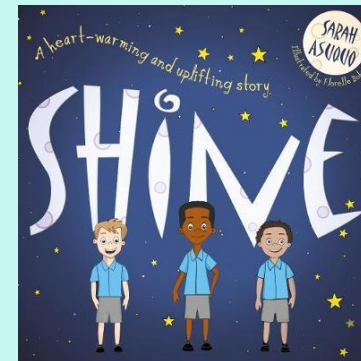
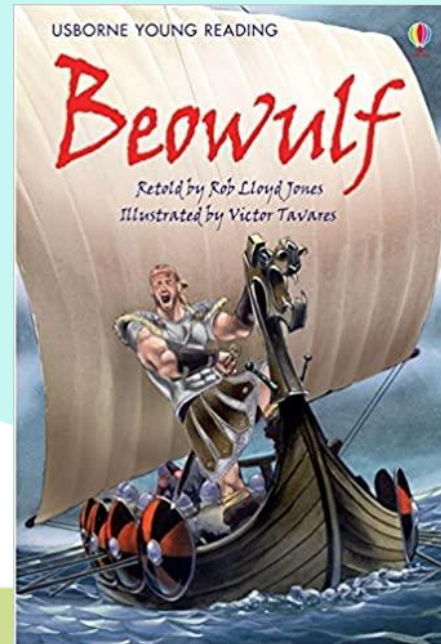
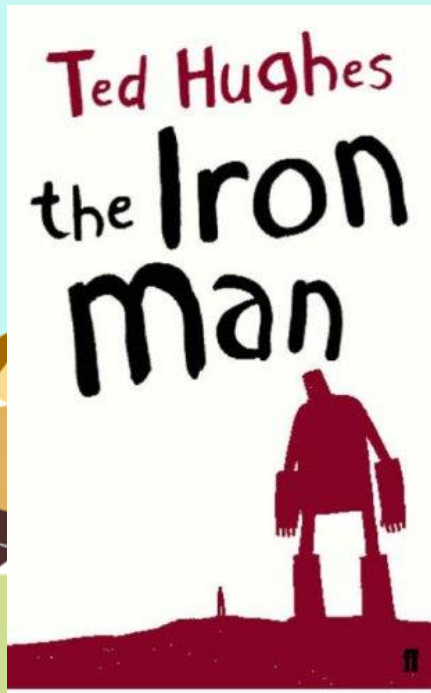
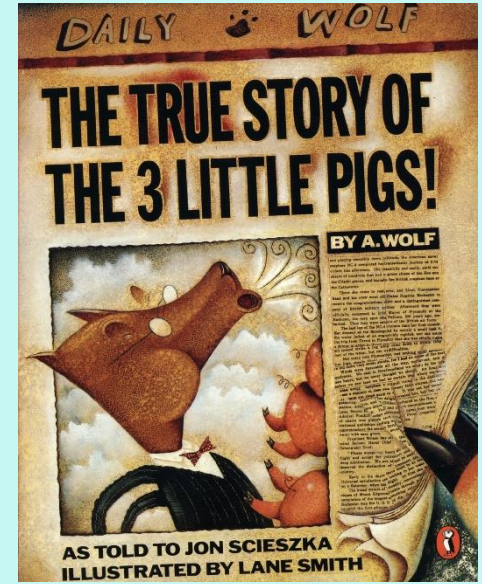
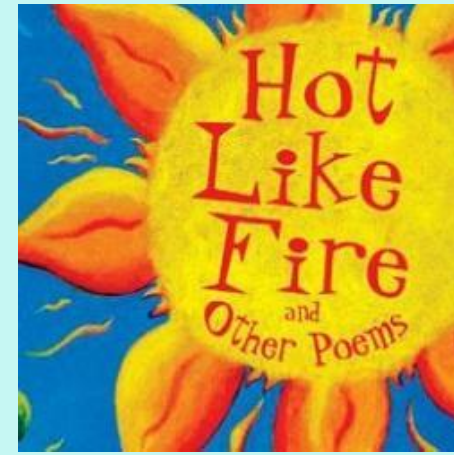
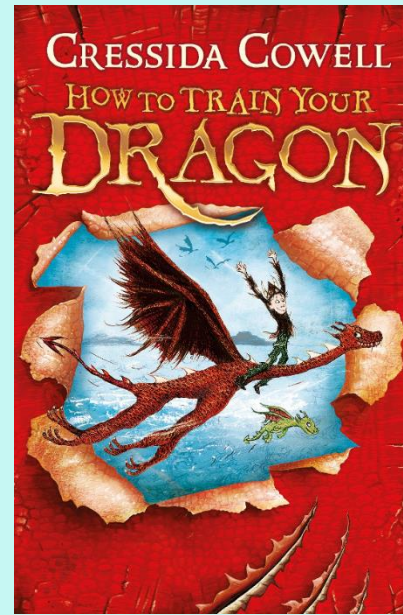
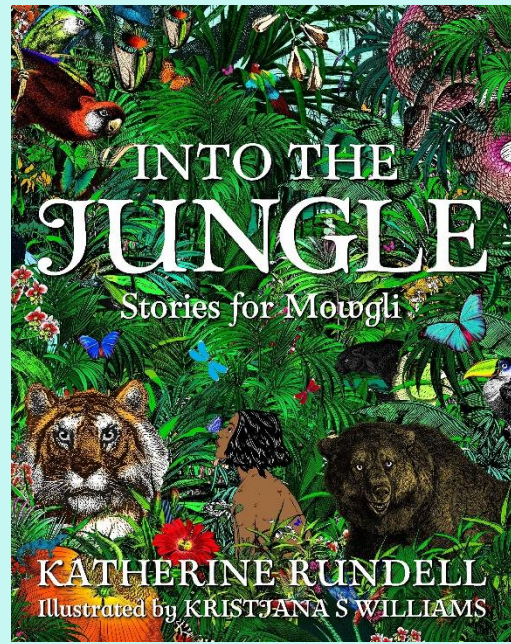
Behaviour

The children will still follow the four golden rules that are used across the school. Orange slips are given when one or more of the golden rules are broken.

In class, children have the opportunity to work together to have golden time. Individual house points are also given for good work and behaviour.



These books are used in Literacy 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**



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



RE

- RE is taught using 'Come and See', 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 Liturgy.
- 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





Outdoor Learning

OPAL

At St Thomas More, we have adopted the OPAL Primary Programme (Outside Play and Learning) to promote freedom for children to explore play in their own imaginative ways, using found and gathered resources in the natural outdoor environment during lunch times. Our grounds are fantastic but have been significantly underused during the winter /spring months due to the wet field area. As a result, we have decided to open up specific areas of the grounds during the winter months as long as children have the correct outdoor wear.

Please ensure that your child has a pair of wellington boots in school, which can be kept here permanently. Suitable coats/ rainsuits are also recommended as the weather changes.

If you have any old wellies you would be willing to donate, we would be grateful for them too.

Mrs Baxter and the Play Team are looking forward to :

- Children accessing more areas of the school grounds during the winter/spring months
- Children exploring, building dens, running, hiding, having fun and getting dirty
- Children involved in activities other than those with a sports focus
- Children taking responsibility for themselves, their games, each other, the environment and their resources

If you would like more information on OPAL, please visit their website at <http://outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk>

Muddy Puddles

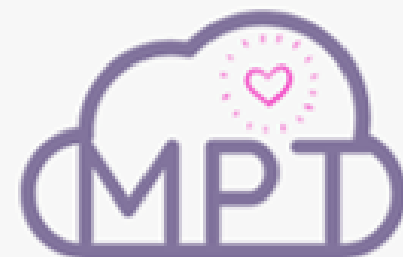
We also follow The Muddy Puddle Approach, which is a type of outdoor learning that allows the children to be outside whilst still embedding and learning academic curriculum linked subjects. So, rather than only doing number work in books we will also take the learning outside.

For example, we could make number ladders from sticks and jump up the ladders counting in 10's!

The Muddy Puddle Teacher ideas are all really fun and make the children feel as if they are playing whilst learning at the same time.

You can find out more and get free resources for home at:

www.themuddypuddleteacher.co.uk



Housekeeping

- Please label ALL clothing and belongings- use a permanent marker.
- Please send in any money in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and what the money is for.
- Your child needs a 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.
- Queries- Please write your concerns or questions in the diary and do not hesitate to contact us through the office.



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

We are updating the website regularly with pictures of your children's work.

Thank you!

