

Spring: Term 1 Year 4

Happy New Year!

We hope children are well rested and ready for a busy half term ahead!

Year 4 staff:

Badgers: Mrs Arrowsmith (Monday-Thursday) and Mrs Bailey (Friday's)

Foxes: Mrs Phillips (Tuesday-Friday) and Mrs Gell (Monday's)

TAs: Mrs Deller, Mrs Micek-Bettison, Mrs Gibbons, Mrs Greenfield, Miss Williamson and Mr Cocks
Miss Daling (PE) will also join us on Tuesday afternoons.

Our topic this half term is called: **How did life change for people after the Civil War?**

History	The English Civil War
Science	The Human Digestive system incl. Teeth
Art	The Human Form
Computing	Sound Engineering
PE	Outdoor- Adventurous Activities Indoor- Dance
English	Poetry / Fiction: A Warning Story – The Canal / Grammar skills
Maths	Number sense, Multiplication and Division, Length and Perimeter
PSHE	Keeping Safe
French	My Family
Music	Musical Contrasts
Reading	Our class text will be Varjak Paw by SF Said

PE will be on a Tuesday (outdoor) and a Wednesday (Indoor)

Please ensure that your child **comes to school dressed in their PE kit on their day**. They should have the appropriate PE kit in accordance with the school PE kit policy. Please note that jewellery is **not** permitted in PE lessons for safety reasons. If your child cannot take their own earrings out, please make sure they have been removed before school. Children with long hair should wear it up during PE lessons so please ensure they have a bobble.

Reading – Our class text will be: Varjak Paw by SF Said

In Year 4, we expect the children to **read 3 or more times a week at home** and should be recorded in their organisers. While listening to them read, you could also ask questions about something they may have seen or heard to improve their comprehension skills. e.g. explaining the meaning of a word; summarising what they've just read in 10 words; asking what might happen next; or, asking about a character's feelings and actions. Each half term we work towards a reading reward. Signed reads in children's reading diaries are added to the whole class total. A class total of 1000 reads will earn that class a special reading treat.

Spellings

Children will continue to receive a set of spellings each week. It is important that children bring their organisers to school each day so that they have their spelling lists with them during practice time. The spellings will be stuck in the organisers on a Friday.

Each Friday there will be a test of the week's spellings and every half term we will test children on about 15 words linked to the spelling rules we have learnt over the half term. If your child learns them quickly, please practise putting the words into sentences.

Times Tables: How can I support my child in maths?

By the end of Year 4 children are expected to know all of their times tables up to 12x12. A multiplication table check (MTC) for children in Year 4 takes place in June 2026. The times table check relies on children being able to recall times table facts in 6 seconds, with a 3 second rest before the next question. Please support your child to help them learn their **multiplication tables** at home. All children have a Times Table Rockstars login – using TTRS helps track their progress and determine where more support and practise is required. Children will be completing a **Soundcheck** 'TTRS version of the Yr4 test' weekly. A heat map identifying specific times tables they need to practice will be sent home.

Number sense

We will be continuing with daily Number Sense sessions, consolidating times tables knowledge and recall following on from the teaching sessions we have had. Some children will be having additions support and will be bringing resources home to practice with.

Important Dates

Trip to National Civil War Centre 11th February

INSET day Friday 13th February 2026

Residential trip – Camp Redwood 2nd June – 3rd June

Times Table Check – June 2026

Please see the school website for term dates and other INSET days.

Communication with your child's class teacher

We will continue to post regularly on class Dojo to share class information and what we have been doing in class.

Any urgent messages should always be phoned through to the school office as Class Dojo may not be checked before/during the school day. Teachers will aim to respond to messages within three working days.

Class teachers are available at the end of the day on the school playground for any quick conversations or to make an appointment for longer chat. TAs are also available on the playground in the mornings to pass any messages on directly to class teachers.

Year 4 Team