

Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break. We are very excited to start the new term and continue with our fantastic learning. Mrs Harris and Mrs Wilcox are looking forward to sharing all our new topics with you. Miss Pope will also be joining the year 4 team.

Below, you will find a class timetable, to use as a guide for each week. Obviously, there may be tweaks and changes but hopefully you will find this useful.

	8.40-9.10	9.10-9.55	9.55-10.55	Break	10.55- 11.55	Lunch	12.50-1.15	1.15- 2.15	2.15-3.15
MON Mrs Simpson (AM)	Early morning work Assembly / Interventions	Reading	Forest School		Forest School		Mastering Number	Geography/History	Spellings
TUES Mrs Simpson (AM)		Maths	Writing		Reading Spellings		Mastering Number	Art/DT	Music
WED Mrs Simpson (AM)		Maths	Writing		Reading Spellings		Mastering Number	Science	RE
THUR Mrs Simpson (AM)		Maths	Writing		Reading Spellings		Mastering Number	French	PSHE
FRI Mrs Simpson (AM)		Maths	Writing		Reading Handwriting		Mastering Number	Computing	PE - Squash
Mrs Wilcox Mrs Harris Miss Pope									

This term...

Our units of study are:

Maths	Multiplication and Division Length and Perimeter Fractions and Decimals	Computing	Gaming Online friends and privacy Photo editing
Reading	George's Marvellous Medicine – Roald Dahl The Silver Swan – Michael Morpurgo The Wreck of the Zanzibar – Michael Morpurgo	History	Ancient Civilisations
Writing	Secrets of a Sun King Chocoplot Mystery Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Geography	Rainforests
Science	Living things and habitats Animals including humans	Art	Collage
RE	Hinduism - Dharma Christianity - Mission	DT	Food
PSHE	Looking forward – chores, cycling safety My Friends and Family	PE	Forest School Squash
French	Festivals and dates Numbers 31-60 Directions Weather	Music	Musical contrasts

How you can help at home...

The children are being given more opportunities to become increasingly independent. We will do everything we can to help your child progress with their learning and feel confident in the areas explored. You can help us to make the children prepared for their day of learning in the following ways:

Sleep – plenty of it! This is highly important as without the correct amount of sleep the children will lose their focus and attention by afternoon, which could have an impact on their learning. In addition to this, a healthy breakfast is invaluable.

Independence- encourage your children to get their own belongings ready for each school day and to carry them to and from school. Arriving promptly at school helps to keep the mornings calm and helps the children to prepare for the day.

A reminder that the children do not need to bring pencil cases or any other stationary into school as we provide this for them. Also, the children should not be bringing in any toys from home unless stated otherwise.

Home learning -Try to seize any small pockets of time for **spellings, times tables practice or reading**. A little and often approach is so much better than one long session and can be worked easily around normal family routines – whatever works best for you. Spellings will be sent home on a Monday. They will be informally assessed throughout the week.

The children in year 4 will be completing a times table test this year in June. It is really important that your children know as many of their timetables up to 12x12. We do practise this in school, however they also need to keep up this practise at home as they need to improve their fluency and speed to recall these times table facts. More information can be found on this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents-text-version--2>

Home Learning Projects

Have a go at one of these activities and share with the class just before half term.....

- Make a fact file about an animal that lives in the rainforest.
- Write a song or piece of music with contrasting sections. Record or perform it.
- Collect words to do with ancient civilisations (Shang Dynasty, Mayans, Egyptians etc). Write a poem and illustrate it.
- Watch Planet III and recreate your own version for a pet or local wildlife.

Crazy ideas for home learning fun:

- British Museum for Egyptians [Egypt | British Museum](#)
- Colchester Zoo for Rainforest walkthrough and animals [Rainforest Walkthrough Archives | Colchester Zoo \(colchester-zoo.com\)](#)
- Local cooking class
- Cadbury World [Cadbury World: Fun Days Out With The Kids | Day Trip Attraction](#)
- Roald Dahl Museum [Museum | Roald Dahl](#)