

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Welcome back! We hope you have had a refreshing couple of weeks off and that your children are ready and raring to go to show some fantastic work over the next few weeks.

### Science

In Science this term we will be learning about living things and their habitats. We will be enjoying a trip to the New Forest where we will get to see some animals' habitats up close and personal, and think about how the animals are made to suit the habitat/environment around them.

### DT

Our focus in DT this term will be textiles—so the children will be doing some sewing and specifically thinking about how we can apply and attach applique.

### PE

PE will be **every Friday**. Your child will need a gold top with black shorts or trousers and trainers.

Year 4 will be continuing to develop their group skills within different games - this term it will be focussed on invasion games, e.g. hockey.

### Geography

This term in our topic sessions, we are looking at Forests and Rainforests. We will be looking at what the climate is like in areas of the world where there are rainforests. We will also be linking our work within Science and thinking about the different animals that live in the rainforests and the many canopies that are created from the great variety of plants.

### Mathematics

This term we will be starting our journey through fractions, first of all thinking about what tenths and hundredths are and being really secure in those aspects, before then moving onto spending time looking at fractions in more detail. We will be making sure that we can recognise what fractions look like in many different contexts and representations and that we have a solid understanding of the value of fractions.

### Computing

This term, Year 4 will be continuing with our programming projects, but up levelling our skills and understanding to apply to different programs. This will help us with our perseverance skills and develop our determination, as it is tricky!

### Music

This half term the children will be continuing the In2music project learning bassoons, trumpets, violas and flutes and will have a focus on looking at The Blues.

### English

In English this term we will be developing our Talk for Writing skills by using a story called, 'Why the Sky is so high'. We will be using this to develop our skills of both 'reading as a reader' and 'reading as a writer'. We will also be looking at the book 'The Great Kapok Tree'. We will be using that story, plus all that we'll be learning about rainforests, as a stimulus for writing a non-fiction text. thinking about the arguments for and against deforestation.



# How can I help my child at home?



## Websites

There are lots of fun games to help with Maths and English on the internet, that can be accessed on a tablet or home computer.

Don't forget your child can use **Sumdog** at home!

### Useful websites:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/punctuation>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english>

<http://www.mathsrockx.com/>

## Read, read, read!

Please make sure your child reads to you daily. Reading helps develop their vocabulary and imagination; it helps improve their writing and concentration skills, and it calms them down at bedtime!

They will have a home-school reader book and a library book. Please remember to write in their reading logs if they have read with you so they can change their books.

We also have our new Shirley Warren reading challenge. Fill in a box for each day that you read anything at home with an adult. When it's done, bring it in. We'll keep your cards and at the end of the half term one child from each year will be chosen to win a new book from our treasure chest. The more cards you bring back, the higher your chance of winning... so keep on reading!

Remember you can borrow books from your local library and it is totally free!

## Homework, home-reading and library books

Homework alternates each week between English and Maths, supporting the work that we have been doing in class. It is sent out on a Monday in their homework books and is to come back in by the Friday of that week, when children will buddy-mark their work.

Home-reading books will be changed on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**.

Library books need to be in your child's bag ready to be changed on Library day (Y4H: Tuesday, Y4T: Wednesday)

Children need their kit in for PE every week on a **Friday**.