

Year 4



Dear Parents/Carers,
It has been wonderful to welcome the children back after half term. They have returned to school with excellent attitudes to learning and have settled quickly back into our routines. We have been very impressed with their enthusiasm and readiness to learn.
In English, the children have been using descriptive language to write setting descriptions inspired by the rainforest. We have focused on helping the reader to picture the sights and sounds of this unique environment through carefully chosen vocabulary.
In Maths, we have been learning about area and exploring how to calculate the area of different shapes by counting squares and applying our understanding to a range of problems.
In Science, we have begun our new topic on electricity, identifying mains-powered and battery-operated devices and considering the advantages of each. The children enjoyed discussing the electrical appliances they use in everyday life.
In History, we have been exploring how children's lives have changed over time, comparing aspects of childhood in the past with modern-day experiences and discussing how society has evolved.
We both enjoyed the opportunity to meet and discuss your child's progress so far this year. Thank you as ever for your continued support.
We hope you have a lovely weekend.
The Year 4 Team
Mr Jacobs & Mrs Wills

Important Dates
Saturday 14th November (Afternoon) – Choir Event: Farnham Christmas Lights Switch On.

Homework
Homework is set on Friday and should be completed by the following Friday.

Reading
Please continue to read for at least 15 minutes each day and ensure that Accelerated Reader quizzes are completed promptly after finishing a book. Regular reading remains one of the most effective ways to support learning across the curriculum.

https://login.renaissance.com/12d2c82e-5d71-4f43-b9a3-32d66f06dfcf?state=177a343e-a15f-4a7e-87ab-598de07b6ef7

Maths
Please complete the tasks set on Maths.co.uk.

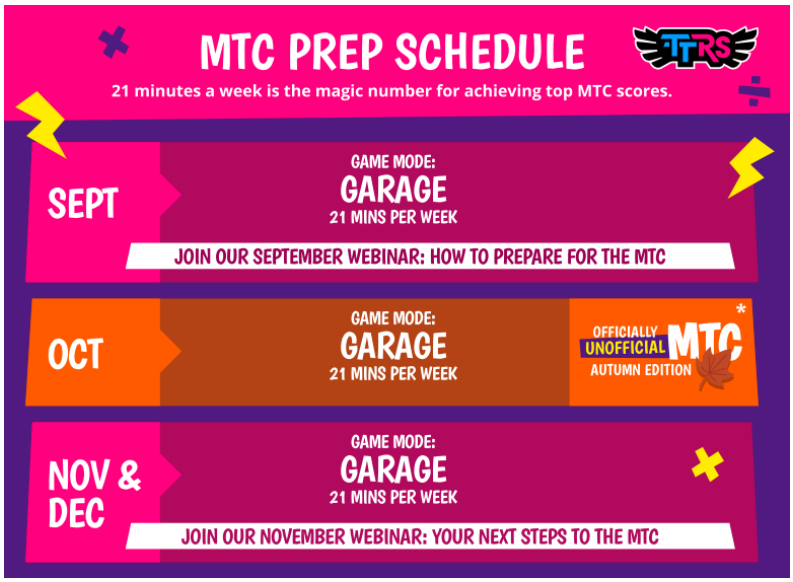
Spelling
This week's spelling unit in Year 4 is Suffixes.
Alongside this, we have been practising the following Year 3/4 statutory (orange) words:

Accident, accidently, actual, actually, address, answer

Your child will bring home a spelling logbook each week containing words they have identified as tricky. Please spend some time practising these words, alongside the statutory words, at home. Regular revision will support your child's spelling progress and help to build confidence with spelling. These words are intended for practice and consolidation and will not be formally tested.

Times Tables

Children should continue to practise on Times Tables Rock Stars and aim to complete **21 minutes on Garage Mode each week**. Little and often is the best way to build confidence and fluency.



Challenge (Optional)

Save the Rainforest Project

This half term, we would like you to become a rainforest expert!

Create a project about the Amazon Rainforest in any format you choose:

- Poster
- Fact file
- PowerPoint
- Model
- Leaflet
- Artwork with information labels

You could research:

- The layers of the rainforest
- Animals that live there
- Indigenous tribes
- Why rainforests are important
- Threats to the rainforest
- How we can help protect them

Challenge: Can you include at least five surprising facts that might teach us something new?

We look forward to seeing the fantastic projects you create!

Homework
Homework is not set over half term, but if the children wanted to work on TTRS that is something to encourage.

Choir – Christmas Lights Switch On 2026
Saturday 14th November
Poly's Polyphonics will be performing at the **Farnham Christmas Lights Switch On 2026** at Gostrey Meadows.
This will be an afternoon performance, although exact timings will be confirmed nearer the event. Further details will be shared via email in due course.
In the meantime, please encourage your child to rehearse using Muse Class Primary: https://www.eemusicclass.co.uk/shared/g4Yhq2yLI3W4gFIL
Please find the songs**'Pat A Pan', 'Hear the Sleigh Bells'** and**'One More Sleep 'til Christmas'**. Click on**'View Song'**, then scroll down to**'Available Learning Resources'** and access the interactive content by selecting**'Lyrics'**.
Children may also find the **Audio** resources helpful, particularly the **Accompaniment (backing track only)** option once they have become familiar with the lyrics.

Changes to Spelling Teaching in Year 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

From September, we will be using Read Write Inc. (RWI) Spelling across Years 2-6 and will no longer be using Spelling Shed (EdShed).

Children will take part in daily spelling lessons, which provide a clear and consistent approach to spelling, building on the phonics and handwriting programmes already used in school. Research shows that frequent practice and consistency help children to remember and apply spelling patterns more effectively in their writing.

There will be no formal weekly spelling homework or tests. However, we recommend regular practice at home. Your child's weekly spelling words will be shared in the newsletter, and additional activities (in Spelling Extra Practice Zone) can be accessed through the RWI Spelling Portal: https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-pupils/pupil-home

Username: polysyear4
Password: y4polys

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Vardy & Mrs Edgell
English Leads

Reading in Key Stage 2

Handy Hints



- Make reading part of your daily routine.
- Short sessions – **15 minutes per day.**
- Continue to read out loud to an adult as well as independently.
- Try to read a range of books including fiction and non-fiction.
- Complete the Accelerated Reader quiz at home, ideally within 24-48 hours of finishing the book.

How can parents help?

Reading improves with practice.

Encourage your child to read at home, share your own books, discuss books, ask questions about the book they have read and visit the local library.

Check that your child is completing the reading quiz – this is part of their weekly homework.