

Year 4



Dear Parents/Carers,
Year 4 have had another positive week and have continued to work hard across the curriculum.
In English, we have been exploring how speech can be used effectively in writing, considering how it helps to develop characters and move a story forward. In Maths, we have continued to strengthen our multiplication and division fact knowledge, helping children to build fluency and confidence with their times tables.
We have also continued our new Teachers vs Children competition. The children have maintained their excellent start through positive learning behaviours, hard work and making good choices, and they remain in the lead!
A quick apology, we forgot to set the Maths homework last Friday. It was therefore set on Monday and is **due on Friday 4th December**.
Finally, a reminder that school is closed to pupils on Friday 27th November and Monday 30th November. We hope you all enjoy the long weekend and look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday.
Thank you, as always, for your continued support with reading, homework and times tables practice at home.
We hope you have a lovely weekend.
The Year 4 Team
Mr Jacobs & Mrs Wills

Important dates:

Friday 27th November – INSET Day (no school for children).

Monday 30th November – Xavier School Closure Day (no school for children).

Monday 7th December – Christmas Art Day – children can wear Christmas jumpers on this day but please note they may get messy.

Wednesday 9th December – Final day to return gifts for the Giving Tree

Friday 15th January – Gostrey Meadow carpet bed design deadline (see below for details)

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

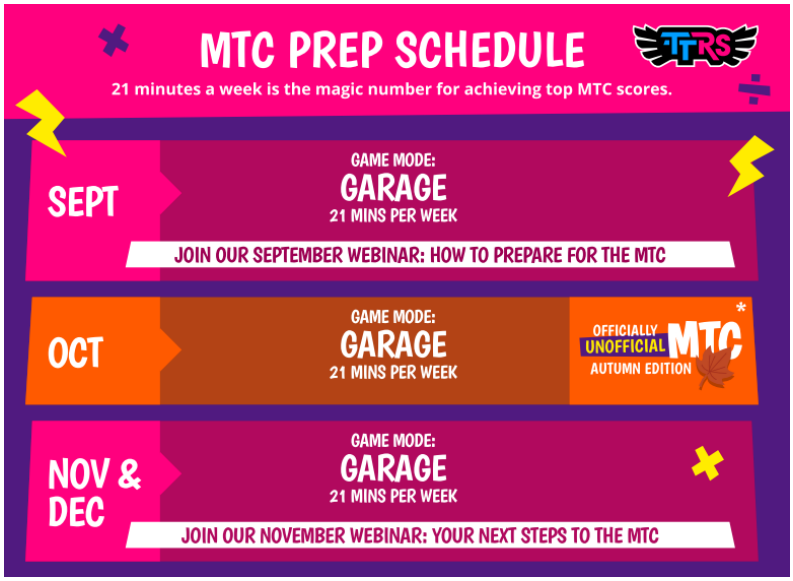
Maths
Please complete the tasks set on Maths.co.uk.

Spelling
This week we completed the spelling unit on the following Suffixes: in- un- mis-.
Alongside this, we have been practising the following Year 3/4 statutory (orange) words:

appear, arrive, believe, bicycle, breath, breathe

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!

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: polsyear4
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.

The Giving Tree

After the fantastic response to **The Giving Tree** last Christmas, we are really pleased to be supporting it again this year.

What is the Giving Tree?

The Giving Tree supports children living in refuge, some of whom may receive very little, or nothing at all, at Christmas.

Families who would like to take part can take a tag from the tree in the school office, purchase the gift listed and return it (**unwrapped)** to school. We then deliver these gifts to the charity to be distributed.

Each tag includes the name of a child and the gift they or their parents have said they would love to receive. The names are fictional to protect the children's identities, but the gift requests are real.

How to get involved:

- Tags will be available from the tree by the office from **Monday 23rd November**.
- Take a tag and purchase the gift listed.
- Return the gift **unwrapped** to school and leave it under the tree.
- Make sure all gifts are returned by **Wednesday 9th December**.
- We take the gifts to the local collection point, where they will be checked, wrapped and sent to children living in refuge in time for Christmas.

Thank you for your incredible support last year. We hope to make The Giving Tree another wonderful success this Christmas!

FARNHAM IN BLOOM

Design a carpet bed for Gostrey Meadow

Theme for 2027

To celebrate Farnham Town Council becoming a Butterfly Friendly Council, the theme is:

"Pollinators: Nature's Tiny Heroes"

Be inspired by the amazing insects and animals that help plants, flowers and trees thrive. Think of butterflies, bees, moths, hoverflies, beetles and other important pollinators, alongside the colourful flowers they depend on.

Let your imagination bloom and create a design that celebrates the beauty and importance of pollinators in our gardens, parks and green spaces.

How to Enter

- Create a square design for the carpet bed at Gostrey Meadow.
- Keep it simple - bold designs work better than very detailed ones.
- Email your entry to bloom@farnham.gov.uk or post it to the Farnham Town Council offices.
- Include your name, school, and year group.
- Deadline: Friday 15th January 2026.

What Happens Next?

- The winning design will be chosen by a panel of judges.
- It will be brought to life by a specialist planting team and Farnham Town Council's Outside Workforce in June 2027.
- The winner will be invited for a photo with the Mayor of Farnham by the display, and a press release will be shared with local media such as the Farnham Herald and Vantage Point magazine.



The 2026 winning carpet bed design featuring Winnie the Pooh alongside the original artwork

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

Building on the Foundations for our Future

YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE NATIVITY
JUNIORS PAINTING COMPETITION 2026/2027

NATIVITY SCENE WATERCOLOUR PAINTING COMPETITION

COMPETITION IS OPEN TO CHILDREN AGED 4-11 YEARS OLD

THEME GUIDE:

- NATIVITY SCENE OF OUR LORD
- WRITE BIBLE CHAPTER AND VERSE THAT BEST RELATES TO YOUR PAINTING ON THE FRONT OR ON THE BACK
- A4 OR A3 WATERCOLOUR PAINTING
- YOU MUST INCLUDE: CHILD'S NAME, AGE, YEAR GROUP, NAME OF SCHOOL AND FULL ADDRESS OF SCHOOL.



INFO

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER
(PLEASE GIVE YOUR ART WORK TO MRS ELDEN IN SWIFTS)

PRIZES

WINNER: £30
2ND PLACE: £20
3RD PLACE: £15
£100 TO THE WINNER'S SCHOOL

2025 KS1 WINNER



2025 KS2 WINNER

