



Welcome to Year 4

Mrs Margery Ellwood

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All about me

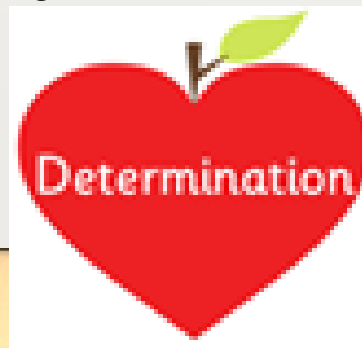
- I've been teaching for 12 years and held various subject lead positions within this time.
- I joined ARFS in June 2024 and have spent the year with the current year 4 pupils.
- I have worked closely with Miss Armstrong since January and have spent this time getting to know your children too.

School vision and values

- We will encourage the children (and each other) to

Be courageous, be strong. Do everything in love.

- **Whole school 'love' and 'determination' certificates** – children are awarded and celebrated each week in our Celebration Worship on showing an act that relates to our school values.
- **Handwriter of the week** – each week a child will be selected who has tried very hard with their handwriting and ensuring their work is neatly presented.
- **Class Dojo** – children can be rewarded and earn dojo points for being kind, helpful, for listening well, following instructions or trying hard. When children have 100 dojo points, they can go to the dojo shop and 'buy' something eg. Keyrings, pencils, fidget toys etc.



ClassDojo

Overview of information

- The Year 4 curriculum
- Supporting your child
- School information
- Upcoming diary dates



Your child will have these sessions **daily**:

- **English**
- **Maths**
- **Grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS)**
- **Handwriting**
- Afternoon **foundation** lessons including RE, Science, PE, Geography/History, Computing, PSHE, Art/DT and Music
- **Multiplication tables**



Maths

- Number and place value
- Addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and division – practising the 2-12 times tables (**Times Table Rockstars** is a great app to use!)
- Length and perimeter
- Fractions
- Decimals
- Money
- Time
- Geometry (properties of shapes & position and direction)
- Statistics

English – vocabulary, grammar and punctuation

Children will learn:

- The grammatical difference between plural and possessive –s
- Standard English forms for verb inflections instead of local spoken forms [for example, we were instead of we was, or I did instead of I done] learn how to use sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command
- Noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases
- Fronted adverbials [for example, Later that day, I heard the bad news.]
- Use of paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme
- Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun within and across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition
- Use of inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech
- Apostrophes to mark plural possession
- Use of commas after fronted adverbials



English – writing

Children will be taught to;

plan their writing by:

- discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar
- discussing and recording ideas

draft and write by:

- composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures
- organising paragraphs around a theme
- in narratives, creating settings, characters and plot
- in non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices [for example, headings and sub-headings]

evaluate and edit by:

- assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggesting improvements
- proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences

proofread for spelling and punctuation errors

read their own writing aloud to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear

English – handwriting



- Formation of capitals and lower-case letters should now be familiar and secure.
- Children have been introduced to the two basic join types:
 - Joins from the baseline, known as diagonal joins
 - Joins from the cross bar, known as horizontal joins
- Break letters (i.e. letters which are not joined from at this stage) include **g**, **j** and **y**. Letters which are never joined to or from are **x** and **z**.
- By this stage, children should be secure at joining and able to use joined up writing for most of their word.
- Opportunities will also be provided for children to practise writing at increased speed so that they can produce longer pieces of writing with greater ease.
- There is continued emphasis on using the movements of handwriting to support spelling through the revision of common letter patterns.
- Children will be introduced to the print alphabet for purposes such as captions, headings, labels and posters.

Spelling

- Spellings will be sent home each Thursday and will include 5 spellings that follow a specific spelling rule and 3 spellings taken from the Year 3/4 common exception word list.
- **Spelling Shed** is a brilliant website to support spelling practise! Weekly 'assignments' are set on **Spelling Shed** that match the spelling rule taught in school during that week. There are also assignments that match the Year 3/4 common exception words.



Aa	breath	consider	enough	grammar
accident	breathe	continue	exercise	group
accidentally	build	Dd	experience	guard
actual	busy	decide	experiment	guide
actually	business	describe	extreme	Hh
address	Cc	different	Ff	heard
although	calendar	difficult	famous	heart
answer	caught	disappear	favourite	height
appear	centre	Ee	February	history
arrive	century	early	forward	Ii
Bb	certain	earth	forwards	imagine
believe	circle	eight	fruit	increase
bicycle	complete	eighth	Gg	important

Reading



- Children select their own reading books from the library. Reading books and reading records should be taken home each afternoon; please make a short comment each time you hear your child read. This should be daily, please.
- Whilst many children are confident readers already, reading aloud is an important skill to practise as well as sharing books and stories. To support your child's comprehension skills, you can ask them questions, discuss characters, plots and facts. Question prompts can be found in the front of your child's reading record.
- On some occasions, children may be asked to re-read a book to increase their understanding and build fluency.

Reading



- In school, all children will be listened to reading; we have our own record system.
- This year, we will be continuing with the current home reading records. They are to be dated weekly and have a daily section for book title & comments. The expectation is that you listen to your child read daily, 10-15 minutes is enough, and make a short comment. Thank you.

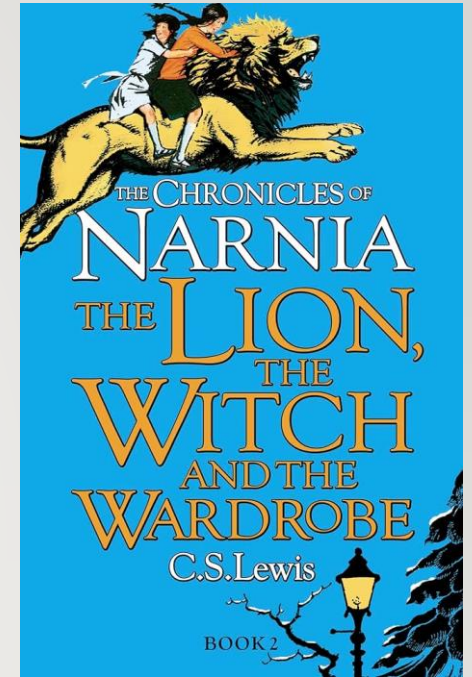
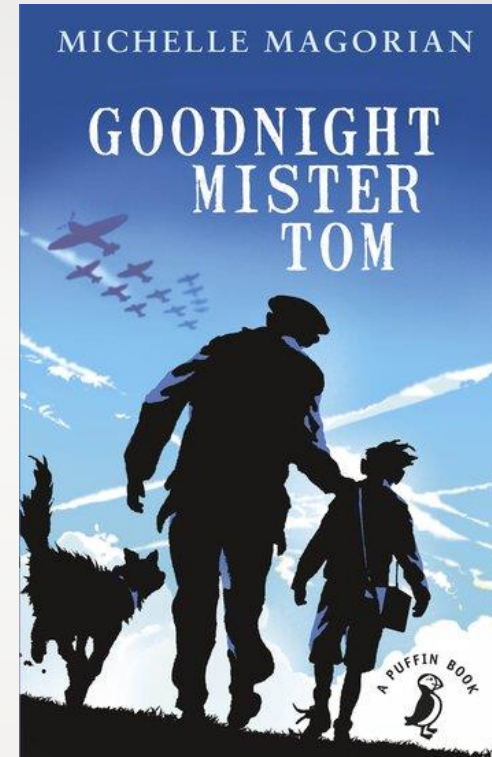
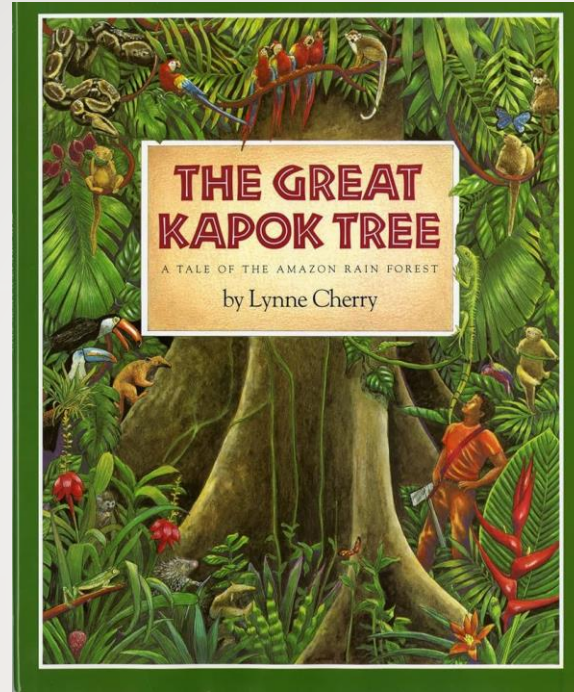
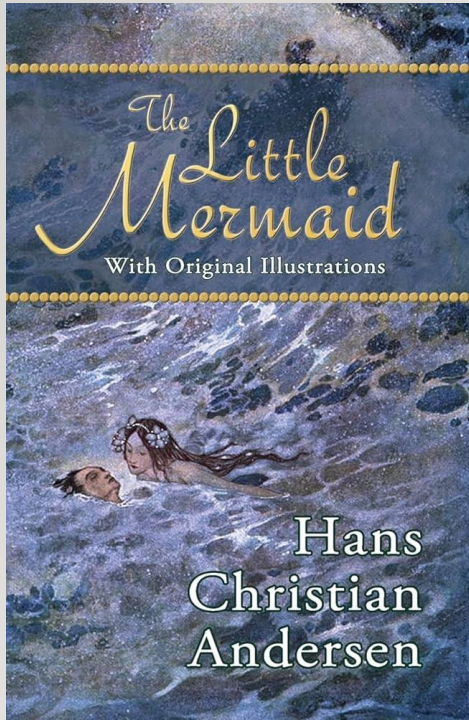
Date <small>Week beginning:</small>	Title of book and pages read	Comments
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		

Date <small>Week beginning:</small>	Title of book and pages read	Comments
Friday		
Weekends & Holidays		

Homework sticker

Teacher's comments

Reading record
layout

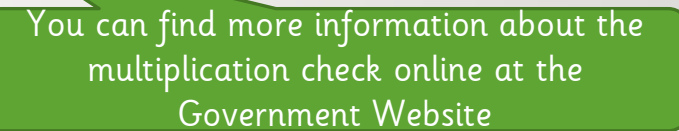


These are some of the books we will be reading in Year 4 as class novels and stimulus for our English lessons.

Multiplication check

Children in Year 4 will be completing the multiplication check next year, June 2026.

This is a statutory assessment that all year 4 pupils across the country must take.



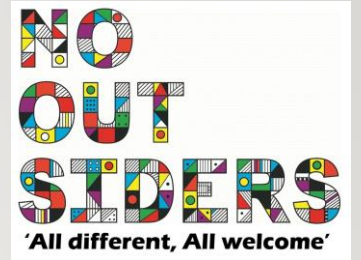
You can find more information about the multiplication check online at the Government Website

There will be another meeting held prior to these taking place.

Afternoon lessons

Our broad and balanced curriculum offers a range of different lessons, including:

- Religious Education (RE)
- Science
- Humanities – History and Geography (one subject per half-term)
- Music – drumming with Newcastle Music Services and in class
- Personal Social Health Education (PSHE)
- Physical Education (PE) ***P.E. will be a Tuesday***
- Computing – Coding, e-safety and computing skills
- Art and DT



Long term plans are available to view on
our school website



Medication

- **KS2 Medication lead** - Mrs Norman
- We can only administer medicine that has been prescribed for 4 times a day (1 to be administered during the school day) or your child is going to ASC.
- Paracetamol & antihistamine stocked in school but we need permission so we can avoid sending children home

Snacks/Lunch

- **School meals or packed lunches** – Please commit to one choice. If you would like to change this choice, please inform the office. 2 weeks notice will be needed. School lunches will need to be paid for via parentmail.
- **Snacks** – We ask that children in Year 3 bring in fresh fruit and vegetables for their snack, daily.
- **QR code for FSM -**



How can you support your child?

- Homework is set, matching the learning covered in class that week, on **IXL.com**. Children can complete additional tasks to support their learning if they would like, they can choose from any Year 4 maths or English tasks.
- **Easimaths** is an online website that can support maths.
- Using the **Spelling Shed** to practise spellings.
- Using **Times Table Rockstars** to practise all times tables.
- Daily reading and encouraging independent reading for pleasure.

All login details can be found in your child's reading record.



Awards and certificates

- **Whole school 'Love' and 'Determination' certificates** – children are awarded and celebrated each week in our Celebration Worship on showing an act that relates to our school values.
- **Spelling Shed** – children earning lots of points (earned from practising, not correct spellings) on Spelling Shed will be recognised and awarded with a certificate of achievement!
- **Times Table Rockstars Leader board** – children can work their way up the class leader board for increased time / points earned whilst playing games.
- **Handwriter of the week** – each week a child will be selected who has tried very hard with their handwriting and ensuring their work is neatly presented.
- **Dojo points** – children can be rewarded and earn dojo points for being kind, helpful, for listening well, following instructions or trying hard. Once children have reached 100 points, they will choose a prize from the dojo shop on the Friday of that week!

Parent Communication

- **Email** – margery.ellwood@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk

Please feel free to email me with any questions and concerns. I will reply to emails within 5 working days.

- **Parent Mail** – This is the main platform of communication. If you are having any issues with Parent Mail, please speak to Mrs Coates.
- **Social media** – We will post about our learning on Facebook – Please like our posts!
- **School website** – Here you will find information such as curriculum dates, holiday request forms, complaints policy etc
- **School Office** – Please keep us updated of any changes of address, email etc



Diary dates

As well as finding dates in the school newsletter, here are some important dates:

- Beginning of school year – Tuesday 2nd September 2025
- Staff training day – Friday 24th October 2025
- Autumn term – Morpeth Fieldwork visit (Geography) - TBC
 - Ancient Greece workshop (Durham University outreach) - TBC
- Year 3/4 nativity performance (afternoon) – Wednesday 17th December
- Year 3/4 nativity performance (evening) – Thursday 18th December
- Year 3/4 nativity performance (morning) – Friday 19th December



Thank you!

Please feel free to email me if you have any questions or queries: margery.ellwood@archbishop.newcastle.org.uk