



# Year 4 Summer Newsletter



Dear Parents & Carers,

**Welcome back to Maney Hill for the Summer Term!** ☺

The children have returned upbeat and enthusiastic for their final term in Year 4 with many exciting activities and events to look forward to.

Here is a brief outline of what we will be learning this term:

## English

We will begin this term looking at the popular David Walliams book, 'Gangsta Granny', completing activities using this text. We will develop reading skills over the course of the term including how to identify information from fiction and non-fiction, inferring detail from a text and making suitable predictions. We will write in a variety of different styles including recounts, descriptive writing, reports, play scripts and stories, learning and applying the features of each text type. Handwriting practice will continue, ensuring that all letters are formed correctly and suitable joins are consistently used.

## Maths

In Maths we will be focusing on the following:

- Decimals (including ordering, comparing, rounding and equivalents).
- Measurement (time and money)
- Geometry (shape and position and direction)
- All four operations and a range of problems involving all of our skills

In each area of Maths, we will continue to complete fluency, reasoning and problem solving activities.



## Science **POWER IT UP!**

This term we are looking at **electricity!** We will be focusing largely on circuits, how we build them, what the components are and which symbols represent each component. We will use our investigative skills throughout looking at how we can make a bulb brighter, how circuits change depending on the components and which materials are insulators or conductors. We will build on our scientific knowledge and vocabulary by having detailed discussions and write-ups of our experiments. This unit will also include looking at mains and battery powered items and thinking about any dangers that can arise when using electricity.

## Topic

Our topic for this term is 'Village Life'. We will begin by exploring what a village is and how villages compare with other settlements, developing map work skills in the process. We will discover how a village in another part of the world compares to a UK village and will look at how early villages were different to the villages we have nowadays. Furthermore, we will design, build and evaluate our own model village and will look at some village-inspired artwork by David Hockney, creating our own version in a similar style.

## P.E.

P.E. will take place on Tuesday and Thursday for 4M and on Monday and Wednesday for 4GB. This term we will develop skills in tennis, athletics and cricket.

*Children will also have regular R.E. and French lessons.*

## **Homework, Spellings and Reading**

- Homework and spellings will continue to be set online via Google Classroom.
- Homework will be available from 3:30pm each Friday and should be submitted no later than the following Wednesday. It will usually alternate between English and Maths although a piece of Science or Topic may occasionally be set instead. The homework books that were sent home at the start of the school year can continue to be used to complete homework – please let us know if you require another book. Once homework is complete, please take a photo of it and upload it onto Google Classroom for it to be marked.
- Spellings will be available each Friday, to be learnt for a test in school on the following Friday. As a way of learning spellings, we would recommend getting your child to use them within sentences which can be written in homework books. Not only does this help with spelling the words, but also puts the words into context, builds your child's vocabulary and develops their sentence structure.
- At school, we listen to the children read regularly and encourage reading for pleasure during twice-weekly BEAR (Be Excited About Reading) time. Alongside Homework, children should also be reading at home during the week. Please ensure that children have the opportunity to read aloud to an adult regularly and continue to record this in their reading diaries. Reading diaries will be checked weekly in school and children have the opportunity to change their reading books on Tuesday and Wednesday in 4GB and Tuesday and Friday in 4M.

## **Times Tables**

- During the summer term, all children in Year 4 were due to complete the multiplication check, a new statutory assessment to determine whether they can fluently recall their times tables up to 12 x 12. Due to the school closures, this is no longer statutory but schools can choose to complete it optionally, which we will be doing. The check will last for up to five minutes and will involve 25 times tables questions that children have six seconds to provide the answer for. Information for parents can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/multiplication-tables-check>. To support children, we will continue completing regular activities in class to develop proficiency with all times tables and it would be helpful to continue practising these at home too. Each child has a Times Tables Rockstars account (see inside front cover of Homework books) which supports with improving times tables recall in a fun and engaging manner. On TTRockstars, the 'Soundcheck' option has been designed to be similar to the multiplication check so it is a good idea to practise using this once confident. Please speak to us if you require these login details again.

We are so grateful for your support and look forward to a wonderful Summer Term in Year 4!

Mr T. McNicholas, Miss J. Green and Miss I. Brown