Term 2 Newsletter (Hedgehog Class)

Dear Families,

We hope you have had a lovely break and are all adjusted from the clock changes! As the nights draw in and we are on the countdown to Christmas, we have lots of exciting learning planned and it's going to be a busy term. If you have any quick questions or concerns, please feel free to chat to Alice or Sam at the door, or for a longer discussion, please email info@somerdaleet.org.uk and we will arrange a time. We are here to help!

The Year Four team:

Alice Owen	Sam O'Regan	Jan Smith/Lisa Garasto	Becky Howell
Class Teacher	Class Teacher	LSA	PPA
Mon-Weds	*Thurs-Fri*	*Mon-Fri*	*Weds 2-3:30*

Enquiry Questions this term:

"What happened during the Roman Invasion of Britain?"
"How do we hear?"

This term we have a history and a science focus. In history, we will be looking at the Roman invasion and why the Romans were successful despite the opposition they faced. We will explore the achievements of the Romans, what they brought to Britain and what remained when they left. As scientists, we will be exploring sound.

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus in particular at these rights:

Article 14: Children can choose their own thoughts, opinions and religion, but this should not stop other people from enjoying their rights.

Article 19: Children have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind.

Teaching and Learning This Term

Our medium term overview is now available on the class page of our website.
Please click here to view the overview for this term. (Y4)

Home Learning

Reading
It is our recommendation that children should be reading daily where possible. The expectation is that children read **a minimum of 4 times a week**.

Spelling
Children are expected to log in to Spelling Shed and play the games set as Assignments by their teacher. A new spelling list and set of assignments will be set each Monday after followed by a spelling quiz the following Monday in school.

The focus for spelling patterns are found on our medium term overview (see above link). Please follow the link on the overview to see the word lists for each week.

Spelling Shed Home Use (For weekly spellings including interactive games)
Access Letter Join at home to practice letter formation and spelling. Available on desktop, laptop and tablet.

Maths

Children are expected to practise key number facts at home regularly. In Key Stage 2, the expectation is that children practise their time tables at home. In Year 4 we learn 21 facts and are introduced to the 4x, 6x, 8x, 7x, 9x, 11x, 12x

TTRS for Key Stage 2

Your child has a log-in for Times Table Rock Stars so that they can practise their time tables at home.

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise number facts at home. https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. They also have downloadable workbooks that can be used at home.

Year 4

Free Downloadable Workbooks for Year 1 – 6

Busy Things also have some good games for times table recall practice, particularly miner birds.

Other important information/notes for the time ahead

Class Page

You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.

Reading Records

Please date and sign yellow reading record when your child reads at home. Children reading 4 times or more get a golden ticket for a chance to win a book.

School Clothing Guidance

Please see the page on our website for more information on appropriate clothing for school.

Library Day

Our Library Day is on **Friday.**

Please ensure your child has their book on these days. Automated emails are sent for overdue books. If you feel a book may be lost or damaged in your care, we ask for a donation to cover the cost of replacement.

PE Day

Our PE days are **Tuesday** and **Friday.**

On these days, please ensure your child is wearing a loose-fitting top and shorts/jogging bottoms which allow them full movement of their bodies. Children should also wear suitable footwear such as trainers. Ear studs should be removed or covered with medical tape for health and safety purposes.

Key dates:

- Year 4 trip to Roman Baths: *Thursday 5th November 2026*
- Assessment week: *w/b 30th November 2026*
- Year 4 class assembly: *Monday 1st February 2027*

Please read the whole school newsletters regularly as they include other important dates.

What does my child need to bring into school every day?

- Bookbag with reading record and reading book inside. (Bookbags are then put into children's drawers. If you need a replacement bookbag, contact the office for the price.)
- Filled Water Bottle
- For Year 3 - 6, a piece of fruit or vegetable
- Library book on library days (Friday)

Healthy Snacks for Playtime

In Key Stage Two, children need to bring a piece of healthy snack for breaktime. This should be a piece of fruit or vegetable.

Ultra processed snacks are high in sugar, even those that are advertised as '1 of your 5 a day'. NHS advice states children aged 7-10 should have no more than 24g of free sugars a day. Due to the processing, reconstituting and reblending of ingredients to create fruit winders, these snacks contain high amounts of free sugars.

For example, Bear Fruit Yoyo, strawberry contains 8g of sugar. This equates to one third of the recommended daily allowance.

For this reason, with consideration to Article 24 (children have the right to healthy food) we ask that these are not brought to school as they are not considered a healthy snack due to the high sugar content. It also creates littering problems with the excess packaging.