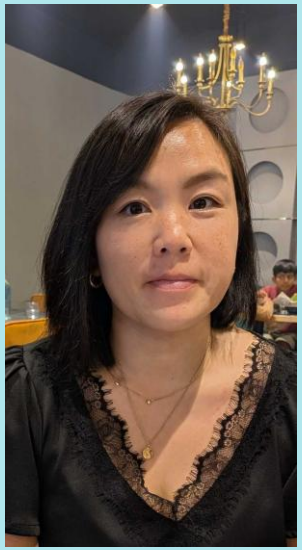
WELCOME
to Year 4

Class teachers: **Mrs Ovchynnyk Mon-Weds**

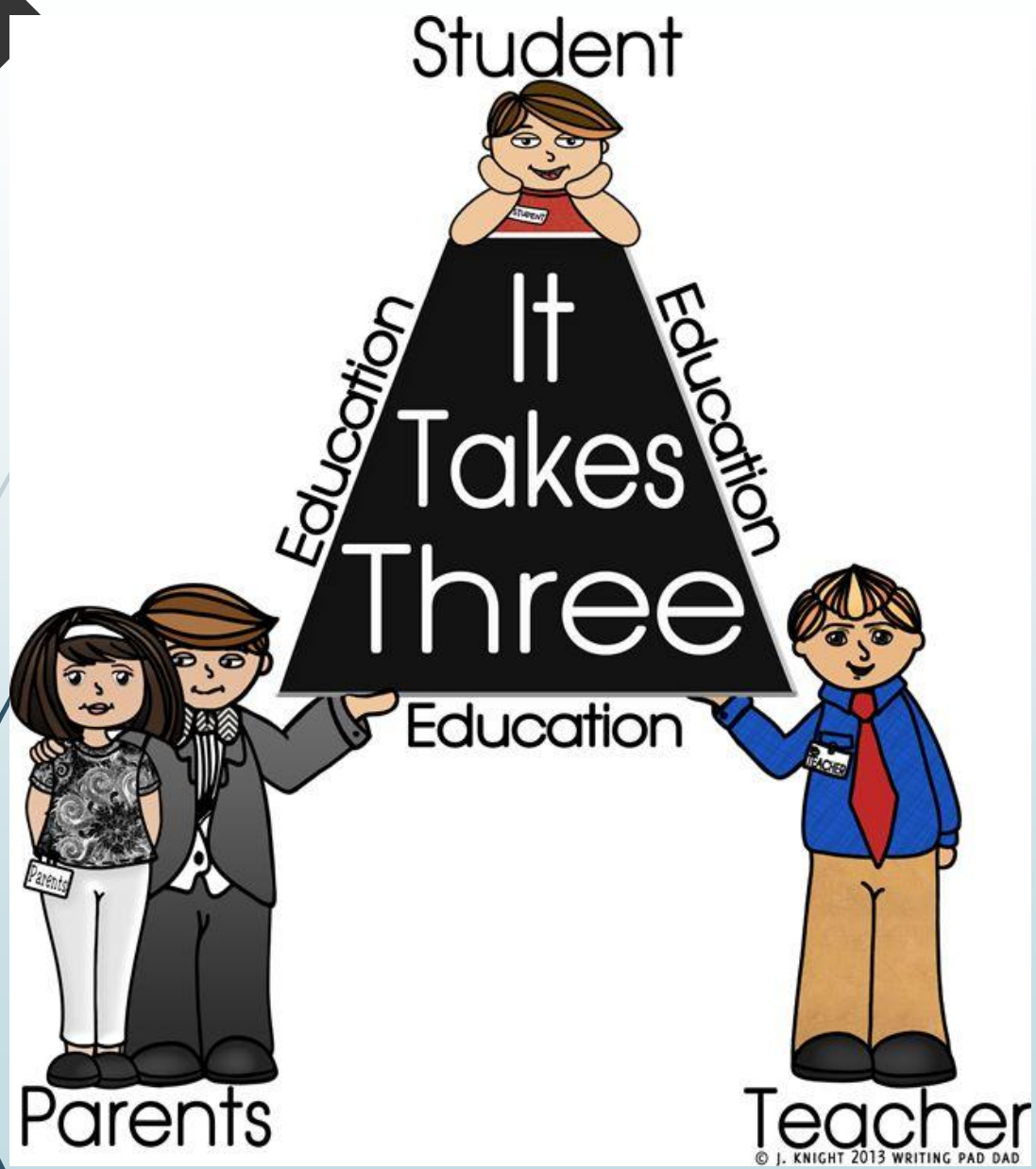
Ms Nim Thurs-Fri



Year 4 Classroom assistant: **Miss Reed**

Aim of this meeting:

- Highlight the importance of strong school–parent collaboration in supporting student success
- Provide an overview of our curriculum and learning goals for the year
- Share our expectations and approach to homework
- Discuss upcoming field trips and opportunities for parents to volunteer, including accompanying us to Mass
- Clarify updates to the school uniform policy and what families need to know



- Students thrive when teachers and families work as a team
- Open communication builds trust and consistency for children
- Parents' involvement boosts motivation, confidence, and achievement
- Together, we create a supportive community where every child can succeed

General

- Children are welcome to bring in their own pencil cases from home
- **PE** days will be on **Tuesday and Friday** - Children must come to school in their uniform and get changed in school. We have put in place separate changing arrangements for the girls and boys. PE tops are now white only.
- The children can bring their own water bottles and a **healthy snack** (no crisps or chocolate) for their break.
- If your child is attending after school club regularly, please let me know their days via email.
- Please ensure all uniform, coats and PE kits are labelled.
- Please adhere to our school uniform policy, inclusive of jewellery. After October half term, we say goodbye to Summer uniform and hello to Winter.
- Please inform/update us with any allergies, intolerances and medicines.

School Uniform

All uniform and PE kit must be labelled with the student's name.

- **Our School Uniform, Reception to Year 6**
- White, short or long sleeved shirt/blouse
- Grey tailored long trousers (school uniform trousers, not jean style).
- Grey pinafore or skirt.
- Navy V-neck jumper or cardigan (*), no hoods please
- Navy blazer (optional)
- **Light blue school tie** (*), unless blouse is open neck
- Grey socks for trousers
- White socks for skirts or grey or navy tights
- Black or navy shoes
- Black or navy coat (plain)

Summer variations

Short grey tailored trousers
Black or navy sandals (closed toes)
Plain light blue or white polo shirts
Blue & white check or stripe dress
School logoed sunhat, alternatively, plain navy or black sunhat

(*) Navy v-neck jumpers and cardigans with the school logo are available from the school office as well as school ties, school bags and summer hats.

- **Topic overview for this half term**
- English: Tar Beach and Varmints
- Mathematics: Place value and addition and subtraction.
- Science: Animals including humans
- RE: The Bible
- Geography: Importance of rainforests
- PE: Outside adventure activities and Hockey
- PSHE : safety , caring ,resilience, friendships and me and my relationships.
- Music: External deliverer
- Computing: (use of Purple Mash, online safety, coding)
- Spanish: Introducing myself
- Art and DT – Drawing: Power Prints

Year 4 Reading

- We would ask that the children bring in their reading records every Thursday so that we can check with the children to see what they have been reading and monitor reading progress. Feel free to write comments into the children's reading records as they will be checked every Thursday.

Key areas to help reading with your child at home

Vocabulary : Give/explain the meaning of words in context

Infer : Make inference from the text/ explain and justify using evidence from the text.

Predict : Predict what might happen from the details stated and implied.

Explain : Identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to the meaning as a whole.
Identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases. Make comparisons within the text.

Retrieve: Retrieve and record key information/key details from fiction and non-fiction.

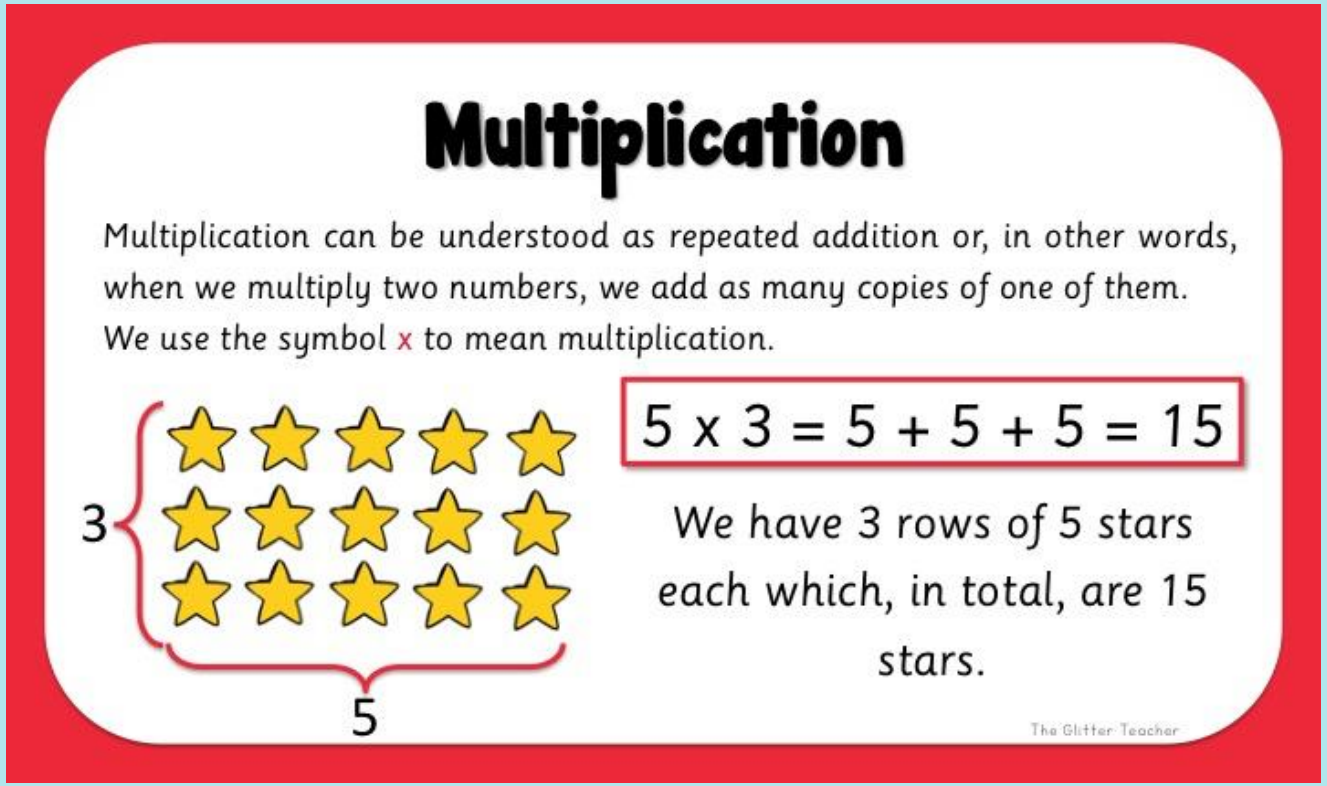
Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph

Spellings and Times tables

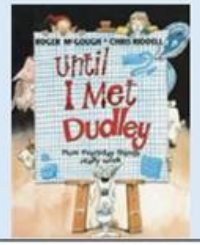
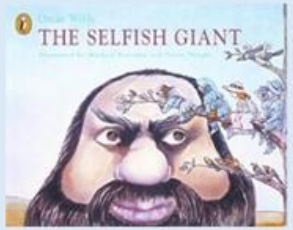
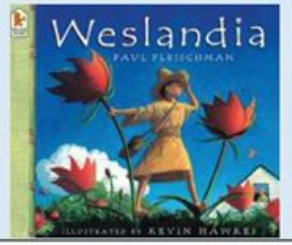
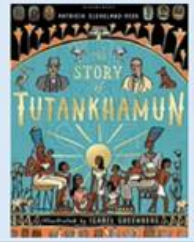
- The children will be sent home spellings and times tables/number facts weekly which will be handed out on a Friday and then tested the following Thursday.
- To help prepare for Friday spellings - 'say it , spell it , check it' rule
- Children should also look up the meanings of any unknown spellings in the dictionary and use in sentences.
- Need to know times tables up 12 times tables - Times Table Rockstars

Times tables screening June 2026

Times tables screening



Year 4

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Theme: Finding Freedom	Theme: Invention and innovation	Theme: Darkness and light	Theme: Taking courage	Theme: Unearthing civilisations	Theme: A window to the world
Tar Beach	**Until I Met Dudley** 	**The Selfish Giant** 	**The Baker by the Sea**	**Weslandia** 	**Granny Came Here on the Empire Windrush**
Main outcome: Narrative retelling as a play script	**Main outcome:** Two explanation texts	**Main outcome:** Own version narratives	**Main outcome:** Tourist brochures	**Main outcome:** Non-chronological reports	**Main outcome:** Factual reports
Writing Opportunities: Poetry, setting descriptions, formal letters, dialogue (as a script	Writing Opportunities: Letters, short explanatory paragraphs	Writing Opportunities: Letters, first person recounts, diaries, letters, posters, reports	Writing Opportunities: Job applications, advertisements, setting descriptions, letters in role	Writing Opportunities: Retellings, character descriptions, book reviews	Writing Opportunities: Informal letters, statements, aspirations, postcards, diary, a speech, quotations
Varmints	**The Iron Man**	**Cinnamon**	**Odd and the Frost Giants**	**The Story of Tutankhamun** 	**Jabberwocky**
Main outcome: Explanations of a life cycle	**Main outcome:** Mystery narratives	**Main outcome:** Own version fables	**Main outcome:** Retellings	**Main outcome:** Tutankhamun biographies	**Main outcome:** Nonsense poems
Writing Opportunities: Diary entries, instructions, letters, descriptions, speeches	Writing Opportunities: Character descriptions, news bulletins, letters of advice, diary entries,	Writing Opportunities: Diaries, informal letters, dialogue, adverts, limericks and other poetic	Writing Opportunities: Narrative recounts, character and setting descriptions, letters, short	Writing Opportunities: Reports, instructions, character descriptions, diaries, newspaper,	Writing Opportunities: Performance poetry, explanatory descriptions

Becoming confident and independent in learning

- Overall, perhaps the single most important aspect of this year is children's increasing independence and confidence in what they can achieve at school. Your child will be encouraged to start to think about their own learning. They need to make decisions on how to present work, how and when to complete homework, and also how to learn best. We will be encouraging the children to have a 'give it a go' attitude towards their learning.
- Children often ask questions, and we will encourage them think for themselves too: Could they answer the question themselves? Can they make that choice? If they can, then they are learning skills which are vital for Year 5, Year 6 and adult life. That is how their learning changes from the beginning to the end of the year!
- This can be a year in which we will work to nurture and encourage the feelings of independent thinking, learning and decision making. There will be a number new things introduced this year in both literacy and numeracy however we will be building on prior knowledge from Year 3 whilst developing and deepening understanding and knowledge. This means that the expectations and workload will be increased, therefore it is critical that your child is punctual every morning and has a strong attendance throughout the year.

What the children will need daily

- Reading book and Reading Record Book daily
- Named water bottle with water only – No squash or fizzy drinks please
- Healthy Snack – No crisps, chocolate, sweets etc
- Coat/light jacket
- PE kit to be left on peg at school
- **Please ensure all items of clothing and footwear are clearly labelled**

Trips

We’re excited to share that our first trip of the year will take place on **15th October 2025**. We’ll be visiting the **Royal Academy of Arts** to experience the work of Kerry James Marshall—one of America’s most important contemporary artists. His powerful paintings celebrate and highlight the lives of Black Americans, and we’re thrilled to give the children this opportunity.

To help cover the cost of the exhibition, we kindly ask for a **voluntary contribution of £2.00**. Unfortunately, we won’t be able to run the trip without these contributions, so we’d be very grateful for your support.

We will also need **three parent volunteers** to accompany us on the day. If you’re available, please let us know.

Thank you as always for your support—we’re looking forward to a wonderful visit!

Experts needed

As part of our current science topic, we'll be learning all about **teeth**. If you are a dentist—or know someone who is—and would be happy to come in and talk to the children about their work and the importance of looking after our teeth, please let me know. We'd love to give the children the chance to learn from an expert!

More generally, if you feel your profession or skills could inspire the children, we'd love to invite you in to share your expertise. We're always looking for ways to make the children's learning as **fun, engaging, and meaningful** as possible, and real-life experiences make such a difference.

Important dates for your diaries

Monday, 29th September - trip to the woods - TBC

Wednesday, 1st October- visit to Mass

Wednesday, 15th October - trip to the Royal Academy of Arts

Monday, 20th- Friday, 31st October - HALF TERM

Wednesday, 19th November - visit to Mass

Wednesday, 3rd December - Celebration of the Word

Friday, 19th December - last day of Autumn Term

Contacts:

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Mrs Tumilty (Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator SENCo)