

Key Dates for Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January - School Opens - Spring Term 1
Tuesday 11th February - Safer Internet Day
Friday 14th February - PTA Wear what you love day - £1 donation
Friday 14th February- Midterm Reports out and books go home
Friday 14th February - School closes for half term at 3.15pm
Monday 24th February - Inset day - no children to attend
Tuesday 25th February - School Opens - Spring term 2
Tuesday 4th March and Wednesday 5th March - parents evening
Wednesday 5th March and Thursday 6th March - Quarry Bank Mill trip
Friday 7th March- World Book Day
Friday 21st March- PTA Pizza and quiz Night 5pm-7pm
Friday 11th April - School closes for Easter break at 3.15pm
Monday 28th April - Return to school - Summer term 1.

Core Values

We strive to incorporate all our six core values—resilience, challenge, creativity, independence, aspiration and enjoyment—in the open-ended activities across the Year 4 curriculum. We encourage children to take ownership of their learning through revisiting, independently identifying areas for improvement, and setting themselves personal targets to up-level their work.

In The Winter, when the weather is very cold...



Except in the event of extreme conditions, we take the children outside whatever the weather at playtime and lunchtime to allow them to have fun and burn off some energy! Please ensure children have a warm, hooded coat in school every day. Please label all items with your child's name and class to avoid mix-ups.

We update Class Dojo regularly with messages for you and pictures of the children's lovely work in class—so please check the 'Class Story' often!

Year 3/4 Spring Term Newsletter



ETCHELLS
Primary School

3/4C
Mrs Collins

3/4TL
Mrs Townend and Mrs Lambert

3/4VC
Mrs Vedvik

Topic

Our topic for the term is to learn all about the continent of Europe and whether it is the same all over. We will try to learn the countries and capital cities, find out about the mountains and landmarks, revisit our work on the water cycle to explore the rivers. We will compare contrasting environments and make links to English by writing a holiday brochure on a European place and looking closely at France as the children will be learning French in Modern Foreign Languages.

English

We will continue to work through our Age-Related Expectations in Reading, Writing and SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar). We will begin with stories based on The Boy, The Fox, The Mole and The Horse followed by some non-fiction writing on holiday brochures. For this we 'travel' to Nice in France to explore what it is like there. In lessons, we work on carefully crafting sentences using a range of techniques including fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases. See if they can tell you what these are!

Maths

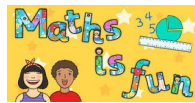
We will begin the year by learning to multiply and divide whole numbers by 10 and 100; we will then move on to written methods for tackling multiplication and division calculations. We will then learn about Length and Perimeter.

Next half term we move on to Fractions then Decimals. These are tricky topics and it really helps if children understand division so extra work to understand this will help—drawing it out helps the children to see what they are doing.

Multiplication Tables Check

In June, all Year 4 children will be required to sit an exam on the times tables, up to 12x12. The test will take place on a tablet and the children will have six seconds to read each question, type in an answer and press 'Enter'. We practise in school as often as possible but it is imperative that the children also spend time at home working on this.

The children were expected to know the 2, 5 and 10 times tables by the end of Year 2 and the 3, 4 and 8 times tables by the end of Year 3. Chanting and singing help; there are absolutely lots of fun songs to sing along with on YouTube. There is also TTRockStars for the children to play and many other online games besides. Those children who do know their times tables always say the same thing: that they practise 'little and often' with their parents/carers — e.g. on the walk to school or while doing the washing-up!



PE

All classes will have **outdoor PE** on **Fridays** and indoor sessions covering gymnastics and dance over the term.

Please send the children to school wearing outdoor PE kits (joggers/leggings, a white t-shirt, trainers and school jumper) on the correct days.

Remember no jewellery, especially earrings.

On PE days, pupils often are more hungry! Please ensure they have an extra healthy snack, like a piece of fruit with them.



Reading

We cannot overstate the importance of reading regularly with your child. Studies repeatedly show that regular reading correlates with increased academic attainment. Regular reading supports children in writing, spelling and grammar—but across the Curriculum, too: for example, lots of the 'reasoning' work in Maths requires children to have good comprehension skills to break questions down and understand what is being asked of them. Reading is also fun, it is a perfect thing to do before bed, and it's a lovely way to spend time with children. Who doesn't fondly remember sharing their favourite childhood book with a loved-one? Home-school diaries must be brought into school each day and books will be changed when we can see that children have read at home. Please do try to make time to do this at least three times per week. Thank you.

