

# Year 4 Newsletter



## Autumn 2

### Dear Families,

The children have made a great start to Year 4 and have settled well, meeting the high expectations and routines in place. We have had a busy half term, developing our knowledge about the Saxons, developing our narrative skills in English and learning how to classify and sort by features in science. In maths, the children have been focussed on developing their times tables as this is key learning in Year 4 which supports success throughout Key Stage 2. The children will have to complete the Year 4 times tables in June. You can use this link to find out more about this assessment <https://tinyurl.com/56ka2mct>

We are really excited for your return to school in the build up to Christmas. This term, your children have been really enjoying taking part in the daily mile. As the weather is becoming wetter and increasingly muddier, please make sure your child has a **spare** pair of shoes in their bag.

The remainder of the Autumn term brings more exciting opportunities and learning for the children.

A reminder that drop off time for Year 4 is from 8.40am and pick up time is 3.15pm.

Our school rules are in place to keep everybody safe:

- 1) Praise. No put down
- 2) Hands, feet and objects to yourself
- 3) Follow instructions
- 4) Talk quietly, stay on task



## Curriculum Theme: Folk

Our general theme for this term of 'Folk' will be focused around our local area of Thetford.

Children will learn about heritage and the history of our local community. Part of this will be learning about the importance of community and why humans have congregated and settled in this way.

In Autumn 1 we explored the Anglo-Saxons and the communities they lived in. In Autumn 2 we will be building on this as we learn about the Vikings and how they coexisted with the Anglo-Saxons.

Our class text will continue to be the story of Beowulf, which is the oldest recorded story in English and was passed down through oral traditions. We will be learning how to write recounts using our model text of Arthur's diary.

## School Value

This half term, our values are kindness and forgiveness. We will focus on the positive and will be looking out for acts of generosity and goodwill. But we also know everything does not always go to plan. We will start to look at the causes and impacts of our actions on those around us. We acknowledge that the world is not a perfect place and know that hurts will arise. We have the strength and resilience to challenge injustice.

## P.E / Forest School / Music

During Autumn term 1 Year 4 focussed on basketball and lacrosse where they developed lots of technical skills such as: passing and dribbling. Additionally, Year 4 spent sessions developing tactical skills such as moving away from opponents and acknowledging spaces to attack.

Year 4 will have PE on Tuesdays where we will be focussing on gymnastics. During these sessions we will be focusing on both technical development and muscular endurance. Please ensure children arrive to school in their PE kits on Tuesdays.

Forest School will continue after half term. These are our dates:

Maathai: 3rd Nov, 17th Nov, 1st Dec

Turing: 10th Nov, 24th Nov

The children will have weekly music sessions with a musician from the Norfolk Music Hub and will be continuing with our woodwind learning. Our music sessions run on a Thursday morning and children have been learning how to read and write sheet music.

## Home Learning

**Reading (inc reading diaries):** Read at home five times per week. Please record in your Reading Record every time you read / share a book at home. Children who read 7 times will get a star and extra merits.

**Sumdog:** You need to spend 20 mins on Sumdog maths at home, each week.  
[www.sumdog.com/en/](http://www.sumdog.com/en/)

**Spellings:** Spelling Lists are sent home at the beginning of the half term on Parent Hub. Children will be tested on a Friday afternoon.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztyr9j6>

<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/vikings/>

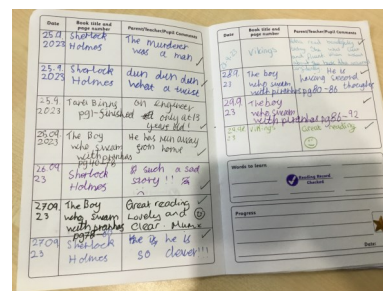
<http://www.timestables.me.uk/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> (hit the button)

## Reading Diaries

Reading is a fundamental part of our school. Children must read every day, this supports learning across the curriculum. The reading diary should be completed every time the children read, starting a new page each week.

Star example



## Important Dates

**30th October:** Return to school—Halloween Disco

**1st November:** Individual photos

**16th November:** Year 4 Cafe

**17th November:** Children In Need

**w/c 20th November:** Parents evenings

**20th December:** Last day of term—1pm finish

**Dates for Christmas events to follow soon**

## A look at our learning so far...

Look at our school website to find out more about some of our learning

Year 4 class page with photos



School radio podcasts



Year 4 timetables



## School Councils and groups

This term, eco council are reviewing biodiversity and recycling. We are starting a 'BioBlitz' project, where we aim to survey, collect data and increase the biodiversity in our school grounds. The eco councillors are also thinking about increasing recycling and reducing food waste at lunchtimes. Pond development news: <https://tinyurl.com/44jarpy9>

## Behaviour

In school, we earn merits for demonstrating our learning powers, positive behaviours and outstanding effort and achievement.

We can also earn a class marble when we work well as a class to achieve something.

Secret students are picked randomly daily. The class staff will observe the secret student throughout the day. When the secret student has made good choices throughout the day. We share these on our school website.

**Year 4 total merits this year: 2817**

**Year 4 total marbles this year: 53**

To see the secret students you can visit the year group page. <https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/year-4-secret-student/>

## Attendance

The attendance expectation attendance at Drake Primary School is 100%.

We look forward to working together to ensure high attendance across the year.

**Maathai Class attendance this year: 94.88%**

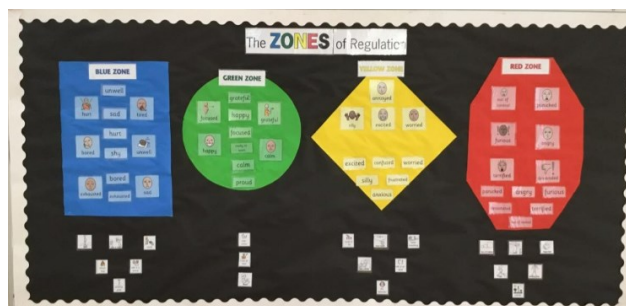
**Turing Class attendance this year: 94.99%**

## Pupil voice

Maths is really fun as we learn new things and get to practise on Sumdog-Turing Class.

We have enjoyed PE and creating our Christmas cards- Maathai Class.

## Pastoral Notice



We are continuing to use The Zones of Regulation across the school this year, developing how we implement this within our curriculum. Each classroom in school has a Zones of Regulation 'check-in' station, so that all pupils are able to express what zone they are in and how they are feeling. We are also starting to build on this work, by thinking about what strategies we can use to support us to regulate our emotions if we are feeling dysregulated. We refer to the zones throughout the school day and are beginning to use this vocabulary consistently to support our social and emotional wellbeing.

The website is a window into learning at our school. Year 4 information can be found at [drake.norfolk.sch.uk/year-four/](https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/year-four/)

If you have any questions about the classroom or any other school related issue, please do not hesitate to email the school office:, we will either email you or arrange a time to call you.

Mr Adair and Mrs Farraway

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