



Year 4 Newsletter

Spring 2025 – Half Term 2

Spring has truly arrived and we hope you are enjoying some slightly warmer weather! We are now in our 4th half term of the year and we have more exciting new topics coming up. This is the half term known for the Priory Rise sing off and I know we are going to have a great time preparing for this.

Year 4 Curriculum

In **English**, we are using a brilliant story called ‘There’s a Rang-Tan in my bedroom’ which highlights the issues surrounding deforestation and links well with our Geography topic. We will be using this exciting text to compose our own work in different genres including: a narrative, a persuasive letter and a non-chronological report.

In **Maths**, we will begin our fractions unit. We will compare, order and convert fractions as well as find the equivalents. After this, we will focus on adding and subtracting fractions and will explore how they correspond with decimals.

In **Science**, our focus will be on Teeth and Digestion! The children will explore how the digestive system works by looking at the different parts and their functions. We will examine the different types of teeth and their jobs. This unit will conclude with a scientific investigation.

In **Art** this half term, we are learning about a famous architect from Barcelona named Antoni Gaudi. We will explore the features of his architectural art and look at his work in depth before creating our own artwork inspired by his trencadis technique.

In **Music**, children will continue their learning journey with Mrs Horwood on the keyboard. They will build on their skills from last half term and will continue to develop their hand position and reading musical notation.

In **Computing** this half term, we will be writing for different audiences. The children will explore text formatting to make a piece of writing fit for its audience and purpose. Additionally, they will interpret incoming communications and use simulated scenarios to develop their understanding of writing using software.

In **RE** this half term, we will continue our learning about Judaism. We will explore different Jewish events such as Shabbat, Hannukah and Passover. We will dive into how these are celebrated and the features of each.

In **Geography**, our topic is Rainforests. We are going to explore rainforests around the world, discovering where they are located and what their climate is like. We will discuss the layers of the rainforest and compare different types of forests identifying their geographical features.

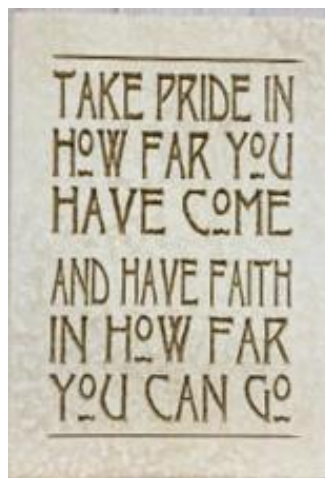
In **PSHE**, we will follow the unit entitled 'healthy me'. We will discuss the importance of positive relationships, group dynamics and how to be assertive. Additionally, we will discuss smoking and alcohol in this unit.

Value of the Month

March: Friendship



February: Taking pride



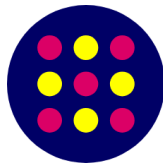
Homework

Homework will be set weekly.

It will be set on a Friday afternoon and should be returned the following Friday.
This will be set on MyMaths and on Google Classroom.

Alongside this, it is the expectation that children will practice their times tables each week using TTRS or Purple Mash.

At Priory Rise we consider homework to be extremely important as a means of continuing and developing the learning that takes place in the classroom. We welcome the support that parents provide in assisting their children with homework at home and encouraging the children to complete their tasks to the best of their ability and to the highest of standards.



Times Table Check

Later in the year, the children will carry out a national assessment on their times tables knowledge. We want to prepare them as much as possible for this.

To support them in their progress, we have set a weekly assessment in Purple Mash for them to complete. This mirrors the actual platform of the check and is great practice to build their confidence, speed and accuracy

Please encourage your children to complete this regularly.
Thank you for your support with this!

Reading!

To encourage children to read regularly at home, we will continue using 'punch cards' at school. These are small cards that are 'punched' once when the children have read at least three times each week. These will be stamped on a Friday.

After 10 stamps, the children will receive a special treat to reward their amazing reading at home.

It would be great if you could ensure you read with your child as much as you can at home. By doing this it will **significantly** help their reading progress within school. Thank you! 😊

Master Readers



We began our new Master Readers scheme at the beginning of the Spring Term and we absolutely love it! We have seen great progress in the children's comprehension skills.

To support them at home, please ask them a variety of questions on the text. We hope the handout from Parent's evening will be a useful tool to support with this.



Physical Education

PE and Games in Key Stage 2 will take place on the following days this half term.

	Fletcher Class (Mrs Birmingham)	Wilson Class (Miss Major)	Larwood Class (Mr Green)
1	Wednesday	Monday	Wednesday
2	Friday	Thursday	Friday

Mr Elkington will teach the children both PE sessions. This half term they are practising their tennis and badminton skills.

Please ensure that your child arrives to school already dressed in their full kit, including **black** plimsolls or trainers, on the above days.

Also, as the weather changes, please ensure that children have appropriate outdoor PE kit.



Library

All children will have the opportunity to visit the library once a week.

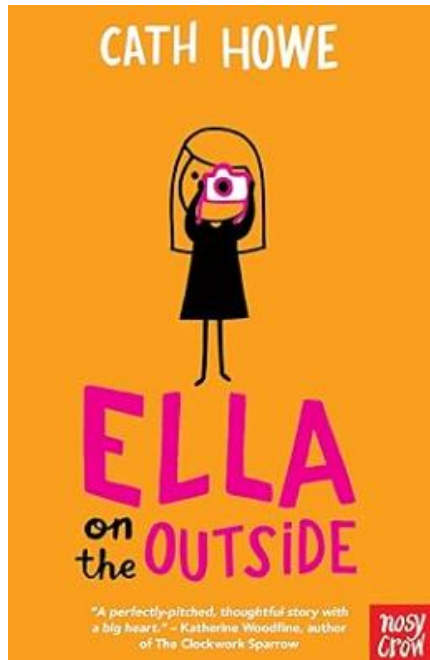
During their time in the library, the children have access to a wide range of texts.

These books are then allowed to be taken home.

Children who are 'free readers' are allowed to select 2 library books as these replace their banded reading book.



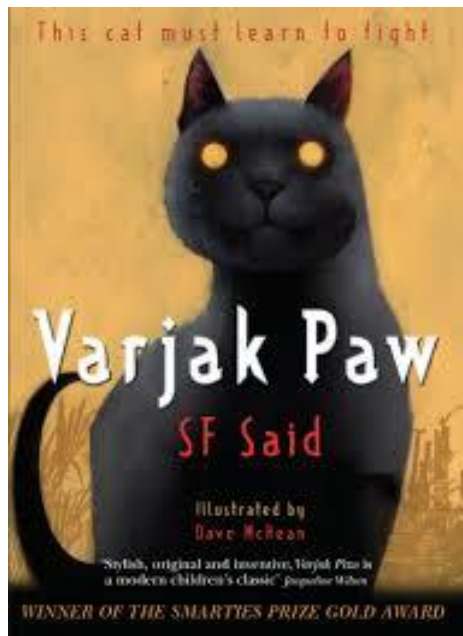
Book recommendations for year 4



Ella on the outside by Cath Howe.

Ella is the new girl at school. She doesn't know anyone, and she doesn't have any friends. She also has a terrible secret...

Ella can't believe her luck when Lydia, the most popular girl in school, decides to be her new best friend - but what does Lydia really want? And what does it all have to do with Molly, the quiet, shy girl who won't talk to anyone? Her time at this new school is a gripping story filled with secrets, lies and friendship. Howe poignantly chronicles Ella's struggle with anxiety and self-esteem and is excellent on friendship dynamics and making the right choices.



Varjak Paw by SF Said

Recommended for Podkin One-Ear lovers!

Varjak Paw is a Mesopotamian Blue kitten, who lives high up in an old house on a hill. He's never left home, until he receives a mysterious visit from his grandfather who tells him about The Way - a secret martial art for cats. Now Varjak must use the Way to survive in a city full of dangerous dogs, cat gangs and, strangest of all, the mysterious vanishings. With stunning illustrations from acclaimed graphic artist Dave McKean, this award-winning story has become a modern classic. A celebration of friendship, loyalty and difference, Varjak Paw is an adventure like no other.

Dates for your diary

5th March: Book Fair

6th March: World Book Day

21st March: Comic relief dress down day (80s theme)

27th March: Mother's Day Breakfast

4th April: Last day of the half term

22nd April: Return to school for Summer term 1

Staff in Year 4

Teachers:

Miss Major– Year 4 Leader & Wilson Class Teacher

Mrs Birmingham – Fletcher Class Teacher

Mr Green – Larwood Class Teacher

Teaching Assistants:

Mrs Knowles, Mrs Pargeter & Mrs O'Regan

Thank you!

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter, I hope you have found it useful. If you have any queries, please remember you can email

us at:

Year4@pr5d.com

