



# Year 4 Newsletter

## Summer 2, 2024

### Welcome back!

Welcome back to the final half term of the year! It is going to be packed with lots of amazing topics and events. We are going to make the last half term in Year 4 one to remember!

## Year 4 Curriculum

This half term, we will continue to deliver some exciting topics.

In **English**, we will be immersing ourselves into **Ancient Greece and The Greek Myths**. These texts are always enjoyed by the children, and they will become hooked into the magical world created by them. We will be writing in a variety of genres based on a range of myths throughout the half term.

In **Maths**, we will be diving into **shape, position and direction and statistics**. We will develop our mathematical skills in these areas linking our prior knowledge to new concepts.

In **Science**, we will be exploring **Scientific Investigations**. The children will look into variables, fair testing and recording results. The excitement created around physical experiments is always a highlight for the children. This unit will further develop their scientific vocabulary and reasoning.

In our **DT** lessons, we will be **sewing**. This topic is linked across the curriculum as we will be creating our own Greek arm bands. We will create our products based on a set design criteria, develop our sewing skills and evaluate our work.

In **Music**, the children continue to build on their **keyboard skills** and they are becoming increasingly more fluent. They are working on their dexterity and pace.

In **History**, we are looking at the highly anticipated topic of **Ancient Greece**. This topic has links with English and DT and we will delve into the Ancient Greek time period. We will identify the Gods

and Goddesses and explore why they were important to the Ancient Greeks. Additionally, we will look at how this time influenced the modern world and how life has changed over time.

In **Computing** this half term, children will be focusing on the units called **Animation and Effective searching**. The children will learn how to animate an object using different tools and code. They will create their own animation using stop motion software. Additionally, we are going to be building on their understanding of searching effectively and safely to find reliable information.

In **RE** this half term, we will be learning about **The Bible**. We will build on our understanding of Christianity and the importance of the Bible to them. We will explore different parts of the Bible including the old and new testament.

In **PSHE**, we will follow the unit entitled **Changing Me**. This topic builds on their understanding of changes within and outside of our control. We will be discussing puberty, menstruation and transitions in life.

## Reading

We are very grateful and value your support with reading at home. Practising comprehension skills at home is essential to supporting your child's progress.

### R is for Retrieval



Retrieval is a crucial skill to master. It requires them to locate key pieces of evidence to support their comprehension of a text.

Here are some questions you could ask your child when reading together at home:

- When did they ...?
- Who was ...?
- Why were they there?
- Write two different things .... did/said etc.
- Find 3 clues to tell us that ....

Ask your child to show you evidence from the text each time (e.g. where they found the information).

**Thank you for your support!**

## How can you help?

Any topic related discussions or activities at home will support your child's progress. Here are a few pointers to get you started!

1. Read Greek Myths to your child (they can read to you too) and discuss your favourites.
2. Encourage children to create a treasure map around your home/garden using their knowledge of position and direction.
3. Encourage your child to create comics based on Greek Gods to keep their writing skills fresh.
4. If you know how to sew, get your children to join you. If you don't, teaching your child to tie knots would be fantastic.
5. Support your child to use search engines and how to effectively search on the internet.
6. Have a discussion about 'changes' with your child (puberty, transitions etc).

## Enrichment

Our residential is fast approaching and we are very excited!

We have sent out the details of what to include in your child's belongings for the trip. Please pack the bag alongside your child to enable them to become familiar with their items and how to use them.

### Top Tips:

- Pack the bag as a team so your child knows what items they have to use (please remember to pack all items into a soft bag that your child can carry themselves).
- Label all clothing please so we can ensure all items are returned to the owner.
- Practise folding clothes together (This is a great opportunity to have some helping hands around the house too!)
- Practise rolling up their sleeping bag and putting it back into its bag (we all know how challenging this can be!)
- Have a conversation with your child about their behaviour on a residential (we know that your children are amazingly behaved but it's always good to have a refresher 😊)
- Get excited with your child so they can prepare for their stay away feeling confident.

As always, we are more than happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the residential so please do contact us on the Year 4 email account and we will respond ASAP.

# Physical Education

PE will continue to take place on the following days this half term:

	Fletcher Class (Miss Birmingham)	Wilson Class (Miss Major)	Larwood Class (Miss Bastiani)
1	Wednesday	Friday	Friday
2	Wednesday	Friday	Friday

Mr Smyth and Mr Elkington will teach the children both PE sessions. Please ensure that your child arrives to school already dressed in their full kit, including black plimsols or trainers, on the above days. Also, in wet weather, please ensure that children have appropriate outdoor footwear.

## Library

Our library session is a well anticipated part of our week and the children enjoy this time to relax, read for pleasure and enjoy sharing books together.

Our Year 4 children have become well practiced in recommending books to others and love to share their enthusiasm for texts they have read.

They particularly love finding topic books related to our learning. Children who are 'free readers' are allowed to select 2 library books as these replace their banded reading book.

Wilson: Monday

Fletcher: Tuesday

Larwood: Thursday



# Value of the Month

June: Hope



July: Freedom





# Homework

We love the enthusiasm and effort put into the Homework.  
We are continuing to place them on display in the classroom.

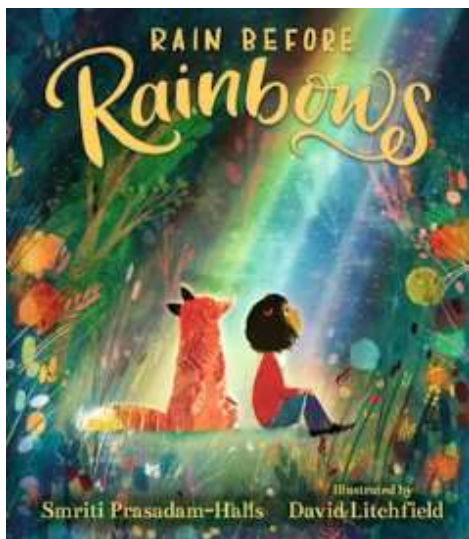
Homework will be set on a Friday afternoon and needs to be returned the following Friday. This will be set on MyMaths and on Google Classroom. Alongside this, it is the expectation that children practise their times tables each week using TTRS or Purple Mash.

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.

Thank you for your support with this!

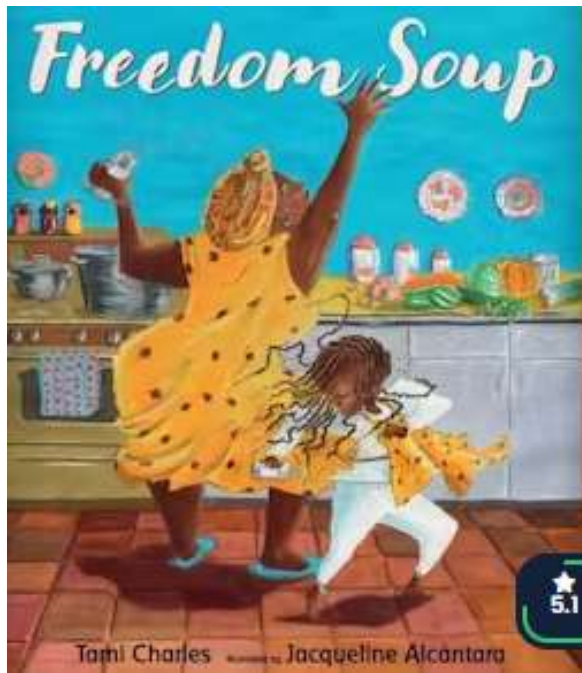


# Book Recommendations



## Rain before rainbows – Smriti Prasadam-Halls

Rain before rainbows, clouds before sun, night before daybreak—a new day's begun. In this heartfelt story about courage, change, and moving on, a girl and her companion fox travel together away from a sorrowful past, through challenging and stormy times, toward color and light and life. Along the way they find friends to guide and support them, and when the new day dawns, it is full of promise. With gorgeous, richly realized illustrations and immense hope at its heart, Rain Before Rainbows holds out a ray of sunshine for anyone looking for light.

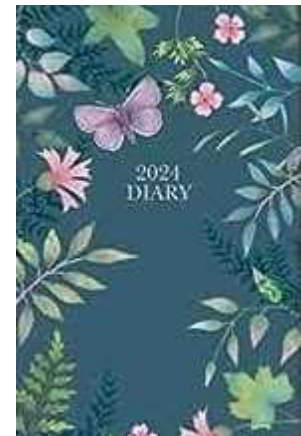


## Freedom soup – Tami Charles

Join the celebration in the kitchen as a family makes their traditional New Year's soup – and shares the story of how Haitian independence came to be. The shake-shake of maracas vibrates down to my toes. Ti Gran's feet tap-tap to the rhythm. Every year, Haitians all over the world ring in the new year by eating a special soup, a tradition dating back to the Haitian Revolution. This year, Ti Gran is teaching Belle how to make the soup – Freedom Soup – just like she was taught when she was a little girl. Together, they dance and clap as they prepare the holiday feast, and Ti Gran tells Belle about the history of the soup, the history of Belle's family, and the history of Haiti, where Belle's family is from. In this celebration of cultural traditions passed from one generation to the next, Jacqueline Alcántara's lush illustrations bring to life both Belle's story and the story of the Haitian Revolution. Tami Charles's lyrical text, as accessible as it is sensory, makes for a tale that readers will enjoy to the last drop.

## Dates for your diary

- 10<sup>th</sup> June: AI Enrichment KS2
- 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> June: Father's day breakfast
  - 25<sup>th</sup> June: Greek Day
- 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> June: Y4 Residential to Caldecotte
  - 28<sup>th</sup> June: P-Fest
  - 5<sup>th</sup> July: Y3/4 Sports Day
  - 10<sup>th</sup> July: Open Evening
- 19<sup>th</sup> July: Last day of the school year!



# Staff in Year 4

## Teachers:

Miss Major- Year 4 Leader & Wilson Class Teacher

Miss Bastiani - Larwood Class Teacher

Mrs Birmingham - Fletcher Class Teacher

## Teaching Assistants:

Mrs Awad, Mrs Knowles & Mrs Pargeter

# Thank you!

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

[Year4@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk](mailto:Year4@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk)

