

# Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

We thought that you may be interested to learn about some of the varied and interesting work planned for the spring term in Year 4.

**English** – This term in our English lessons we will be covering the following units:

**Fiction:** playscripts and adventure narratives

**Non-Fiction:** persuasive writing, recounts and chronological reports

**Poetry:** odes and insults

As well as this, we will be continuing to develop our reading and comprehension skills, and applying our current and new spelling, punctuation and grammar knowledge throughout the curriculum.

**Maths** – During this term, our maths work will cover a range of units including: measuring and calculating perimeter, measuring and calculating area, multiplying and dividing by 0, 1, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12, fractions including adding and subtracting fractions, finding equivalent fractions and finding fractions of quantities and decimal numbers including counting up and down in hundredths, recognising decimal equivalents and recognising the effects of dividing one or two-digit numbers by 10 and 100.

**Science** -The Year 4 Science topics this term are States of Matter and Electricity. During the 'States of Matter' topic, the children will learn more about solids, liquids and gases. They find out how solids and liquids can be separated when they become mixed and explore reversible changes. We will end the unit by learning about the stages of the water cycle, creating mini water worlds and an interactive water wheel to represent the different stages. During the 'Electricity' topic the children will learn about what electricity is and how it was discovered. They will identify which appliances use electricity in their homes and how to keep themselves safe. Children will then construct circuits, start to create pictorial circuits and conduct an investigation into how easily different types of switches can break and reconnect a circuit.

**Cross-curricula Work** - The main focus of our cross curricula work this term is Norton. This will consist of a study over time tracing how several aspects of national history are reflected in the locality.

**Design and Technology** – During our DT topic, children will evaluate different types of slippers before designing and making their own slippers. Children will decide upon the design criteria for their slippers by considering who will wear it and when they will be worn. Finally, children will complete a detailed evaluation of their final product.

**Art and Design** - Our art and design work this term will also be linked to our topic of Norton. We are studying the artist Claes Oldenburg and using his work as inspiration for our own sculpture and thinking about where it could be placed around Norton.

**Personal, Social, Health Education** - During these lessons, the children will learn about the importance of setting measurable goals and learn some basic first aid skills. They will also learn what growth mindset is and how to positively influence their own mindset. We will also be taking part in RRSA work, Fairtrade Week and E-safety Day where the children will consider their role in creating a better internet.

**Religious Education** - In RE, this half term, we will be learning about The Mosque and why it is an important place of Worship for Muslims. In the second half of the term, we will be looking at why Easter is important to Christians.

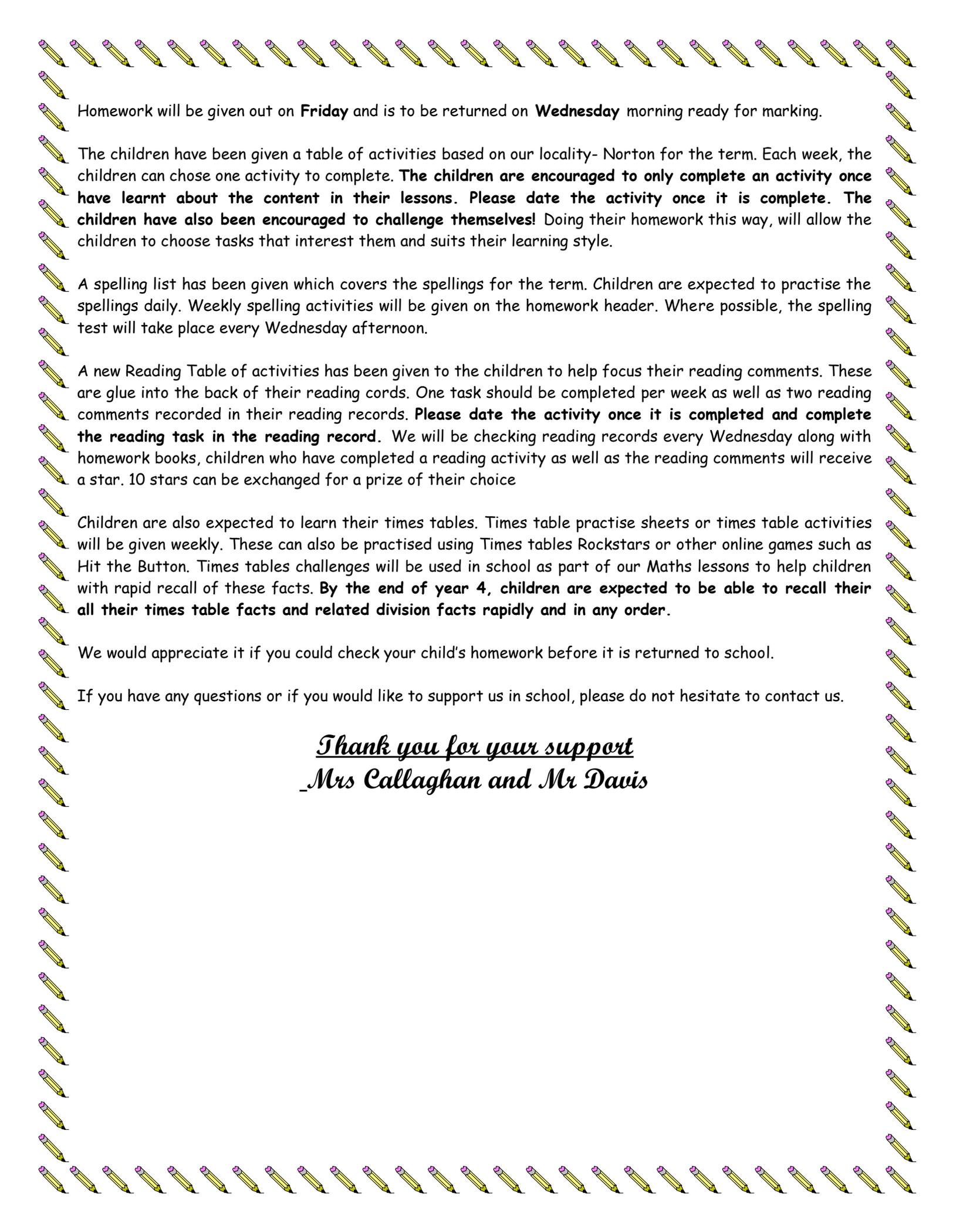
**Physical education** - We will be learning the skills involved in playing cricket and dance.

**PE kit:** white t-shirt, blue/black shorts and a change of shoes. Indoor PE shoes must be non-marking. Please also provide suitable clothing for outdoor PE lessons, jogging bottoms and a sweat top may be worn. **Our PE lesson is Tuesday afternoon however PE kits must arrive on Monday and stay in school for the week.** 4D will also be going swimming this term. A letter with further details will be sent out shortly.

**Computing** - During Computing, the children we will learn about fake news and learn how they can sort the truth from the lies, making short films to show what they have found out. The children will also continue to take part in a unit of work called my Online Life which covers all the year 4 computing curriculum requirements for digital literacy and online safety.

**Music** - This term we will take part in a music workshop based on our Norton topic. The term will end with a spring musical production which all children in years 3 and 4 will be involved in.

**Homework** - Homework has changed this term. Please read on to find out more.



Homework will be given out on **Friday** and is to be returned on **Wednesday** morning ready for marking.

The children have been given a table of activities based on our locality- Norton for the term. Each week, the children can chose one activity to complete. **The children are encouraged to only complete an activity once have learnt about the content in their lessons. Please date the activity once it is complete. The children have also been encouraged to challenge themselves!** Doing their homework this way, will allow the children to choose tasks that interest them and suits their learning style.

A spelling list has been given which covers the spellings for the term. Children are expected to practise the spellings daily. Weekly spelling activities will be given on the homework header. Where possible, the spelling test will take place every Wednesday afternoon.

A new Reading Table of activities has been given to the children to help focus their reading comments. These are glue into the back of their reading cords. One task should be completed per week as well as two reading comments recorded in their reading records. **Please date the activity once it is completed and complete the reading task in the reading record.** We will be checking reading records every Wednesday along with homework books, children who have completed a reading activity as well as the reading comments will receive a star. 10 stars can be exchanged for a prize of their choice

Children are also expected to learn their times tables. Times table practise sheets or times table activities will be given weekly. These can also be practised using Times tables Rockstars or other online games such as Hit the Button. Times tables challenges will be used in school as part of our Maths lessons to help children with rapid recall of these facts. **By the end of year 4, children are expected to be able to recall their all their times table facts and related division facts rapidly and in any order.**

We would appreciate it if you could check your child's homework before it is returned to school.

If you have any questions or if you would like to support us in school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

*Thank you for your support*  
*Mrs Callaghan and Mr Davis*