



Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn
Term

Welcome Back!

I hope you have had a lovely long break and are ready to get back to some wonderful new challenges! This year Mrs Wingfield and I are very excited for what is in store.

Our first topic in Year 4 is Powerful Planet, a topic that lends itself to geography activities but will also be a base for our History, Art and Design and Science projects. It is a fantastic topic with some major real world application learning. Additionally, if you have any items or knowledge relevant to this topic please let me know.

School Shakespeare Foundation

This is something I am very excited about! As you may already know, when in Year 4, children take part in a Shakespeare performance. Our play is A Midsummer Night's Dream! This year the performance is at the **Gala Theatre in Durham**. The performance is on **8th November at 7pm**. Tickets can be purchased for this event on **6th September** from the Gala box office. As part of the scheme we will also be taking part in a Cast Workshop. This will also be held at the **Gala on 27th September**. This ends at **4pm** therefore there will be a late pick up arrangement.



Swimming Time!

It is swimming time again! On **Fridays** children will need a **swimming kit including a swimming hat**. Hats can be purchased from school for £1. If your child wears earrings, they will need to be removed or tape will be provided. Please ensure your child has the appropriate kit on this day. This is particularly important as we don't want to waste this brilliant opportunity!

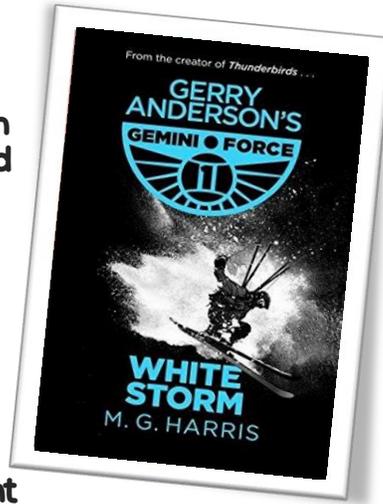


Trip Time!

This term we hope to be visiting High Force! The date of this is still to be determined as I am waiting to hear from the Education Team there. Due to unpredictable weather and the nature of the trip, please send Year 4 to school in **suitable clothing** and with **a pair of wellies or extra shoes** in a carrier bag. We will be walking and active throughout the day. Please let me know if your child needs a free packed lunch on the trip letter via parent mail that will be coming soon.

White Storm

An action packed story line begins with our main character, Ben, a 16-year-old boy who is part of Gemini Force. This secret rescue agency helps those who are in need and prevents bad people from doing evil. We follow Ben as he saves a man from a burning tunnel. Then after another 'natural' disaster, an avalanche, Gemini Force begins to realise that the two incidents might be connected and not be such an accident after all. The team need to work together and bring all their skills to find out the truth. The book is brilliant for both English and Reading use and is a perfect example of what our powerful planet is capable of.



Homework

Firstly, reading and times tables homework and rewards will be continued as last year. If Year 4 **read four times a week and practise their times tables four times a week**, they will receive **£1 to spend at Waterstones and one token to spend in the rewards shop!**

Spelling is changing! **Week one** is going to be **investigation week**. Year 4 will be given a pattern and they will need to investigate all the words they can that follow this pattern.

Week Two will become **skills week**. Year 4 will be **given some words that fit into the pattern to practise**. They may have already practised these during week one, however I will have selected the words I find most important for them to know.

Additionally, **'tricky' words** will be given to Year 4 each week. These are words that may not fit into patterns however they are commonly used or misspelt words that need practise.

To achieve rewards for spelling, the correct activities will need to be completed during the correct week. Additionally, the **presentation** and **quantity** will be considered when marking the activities. All information can be found in the front of the spelling books and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask!

Office365 will be given termly, this will remain open ended and time will be allocated for children to present their work at the end of the term. The homework will be based on our Powerful Planet topic.

PE Days

This term, not only will we be going swimming, we will also be focusing on Three Touch Ball in PE on Thursdays. Additionally, every other Friday we also have the chance to use our very own Mini Gym. This will alternate with Spanish.

Water bottles

Please ensure children come with a full water bottle each day. I do have some spare plastic cups however, these cannot be reused. I will encourage children to take them home each night to try to prevent winter colds and flu.

Names on Everything!

Can we please ask you to put your child's name on their clothes including swim kit so we can easily identify the owner if they are left behind?

Thank you!

