



**Abbey Road  
Primary School**

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November 2018

Dear Parent/Carers,

**What's going on in Year 4?**  
**Autumn Term 2 – 2018**

Welcome back to school. It was great to see all the children relaxed and rested after half-term. Everyone seems to have grown. The highlight of this term is of course our trip to Hathersage. Everyone staff and children all very excited about it. Just to remind you staff accompanying us on the trip are: Mr Marshall, Mrs Lovett, Mrs Coore, Mrs Heginbotham and Mrs Fenwick with 4M and Mrs Avery, Mrs Lovett, Mrs Fenwick and Mrs Mc Neill with 4A. Mrs Toom will be travelling up to Hathersage with 4A on Wednesday morning and back with 4M on Wednesday afternoon along with Mrs Coore and Mrs Heginbotham.

Our trip to Hathersage supports many elements of our Geography and Science topic this term: Help our Habitats: Town and Country.

**Specifically we expect to be covering:**

- Maths** Written and mental methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and length and perimeter.
- English** We will be looking at the following genres: Persuasive letter writing and fiction. Punctuation and grammar sessions will form an integral part of our lessons. We will continue to look at, investigate and practise our spellings during our spelling sessions on Thursday afternoons.
- Music** The Arts Council of England are continuing to support all of the children in Year 4 with their weekly ukelele lessons. We will have a year group concert to showcase the fruits of their labours on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> December at 2:45pm.
- Science** **Animals:** Living things and their habitats, linked to both our Hathersage trip and Geography topic. Children will be learning how to classify animals as well as how to recognise dangers and potential threats in our local habitats.
- Humanities** **Geography:** Trip to Hathersage: developing our location knowledge and map reading skills, as well as learning about land use and the changes to environment over time.
- PE** Children need to bring the correct PE kit into school on Mondays and keep them in School until Friday. PE for this half-term will be on Tuesdays and Fridays, when the children will be developing their creative dance and orienteering skills respectively. They will need both indoor and outdoor PE kit this half term. Lots of layer please.

We also have planned activities for **DT**, **ICT** and **Art** this term that will link with our Humanities and Science topics.

**Homework**- will usually be given out on a Friday and expected back in the following Thursday.

The following homework list is meant as a guide line/suggestion to help you support your child in the work they do out of school. Actual times may vary according to the ability of your child and you should use your judgement to gauge their individual needs.

- Daily reading – ideally to an adult for a minimum of fifteen minutes
- Reinforcement of spelling strategies which will be checked at school. We recommend visiting spellings daily for a short period of time rather than cramming the night before or morning of a spelling test. Spellings will be checked on Thursdays.
- Times-tables – tested weekly in a timed test (5 minutes on Mondays). Your child will be informed which table to learn. Please be aware that your child may come home with a times-table you believe they have already learned. We are aiming to consolidate the children’s learning as well as their knowledge of the related division facts. Fast and accurate recall of all times-tables is essential so that children do not get bogged down in calculations when learning the mechanics of formal written multiplication and division methods.
- Weekly paper-based task/activity based on either our topic, Maths or English work (20-30 mins per week).

It is anticipated that your child’s homework diary will be used as a 2-way channel of communication between school and home. We would therefore be grateful if it is **signed** by a parent/carer on a weekly basis, adding anything you wish to tell us. We aim to check and sign diaries once a week. If you do write a note to us in the diary, please ask your child to let us know there is a message for us.

Please can you also make the Year 4 staff aware of any instances where your child will be collected by someone other than their primary carer. This includes times where you would like your child to meet you somewhere other than the classroom door. You can write this information in their homework diary.

If you have any expertise that you can share with the class, then please let us know. We are looking forward to the term ahead and thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Avery, Mr Marshall, Mrs Coore and Mrs Heginbotham  
**The Year 4 Team**

