

Welcome to Year 4

Ash and Elm

Ash- Miss Baker



Elm - Mrs Fox (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)

Miss Wilson (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)

Learning Support Assistants:

Mrs Gomez

Miss McCauley

Mrs Burt

Ms Lowe

Mrs Roberson

Miss Taylor

P.E. Days

- Mondays and Tuesdays wear P.E. kit to school. On a Monday it is Tag Rugby- the children could potentially get very muddy therefore, please bring an additional pair of shoes if possible as well as a plastic bag.
- Please make sure they are dressed appropriately for outside weather at break and lunch time (jumpers and joggers in winter).
- Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays- wear usual uniform.

Uniform

- Grey trousers or shorts, skirt or pinafore
- white shirt or blouse
- Bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan with or without school logo
- Tie - available from the school office
- White, black or grey socks, black or grey tights
- Simple gold or silver stud earrings- aware lots of pupils have recently had their ears pierced.
- Functional hairbands/ clips that are a discrete or school colour

Summer variations:

- Green gingham or striped dress/ shorts

Footwear:

In the interests of safety as well as appearance, please help us by providing secure and suitable footwear for school. Shoes should be:

- enclosed toes
- black



Earrings and hair

Earrings should be silver or gold coloured, plain studs. Please no hoops, flowers etc.



Hairbands and clips should all be in school colours. Please no large bows.



A typical day in Elm and Ash:

- SODA (Start Of the Day Activity)

 - Guided Reading

 - English

 - Break

 - Maths

 - Topic

 - Lunch

 - Topic/PE

 - Collective worship

Maths

- **White Rose** scheme of work (used throughout the school).
- Place value within 4-digit numbers and written methods for addition and subtraction.
- This QR code is for free workbooks that follow our scheme.
- Additional support can be found on our school website:
<https://www.elsenham.essex.sch.uk/maths/>



Multiplication

- There will be a nationwide test in June for Year 4 children on multiplication.
- It is a timed test on an iPad.
- To support this the children need to increase usage of TTRS at home and we will also make sure they do this more at school.
- Olympic timestables

English

- Our focus this term is poetry and discursive letters.
- We are reading Varjak Paw by S.F. Said and our next literacy learning will be based around this.
- Grammar will focus on word classes (noun, adjective, verb) as well as extending sentences using adverbials and conjunctions.
- For more support at home-check out the QR code.



Topics

- Science- We will be focusing on 'animals including humans', looking at how the body works, looking after our teeth and how animals are grouped.
- History- Anglo- Saxons, Vikings and the Tudors. We will immerse ourselves in this latter topic with a full Tudor Day experience in the Spring Term.



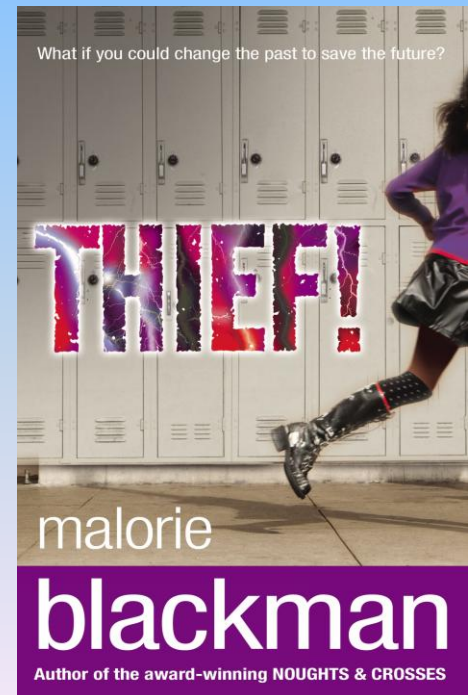
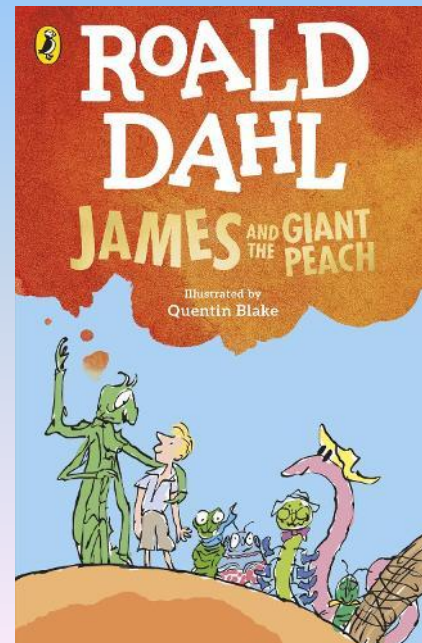
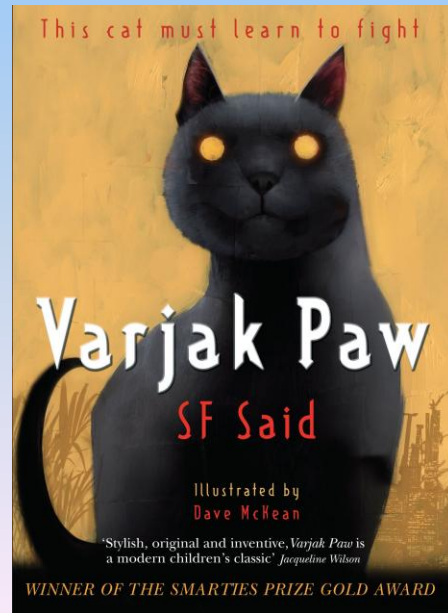
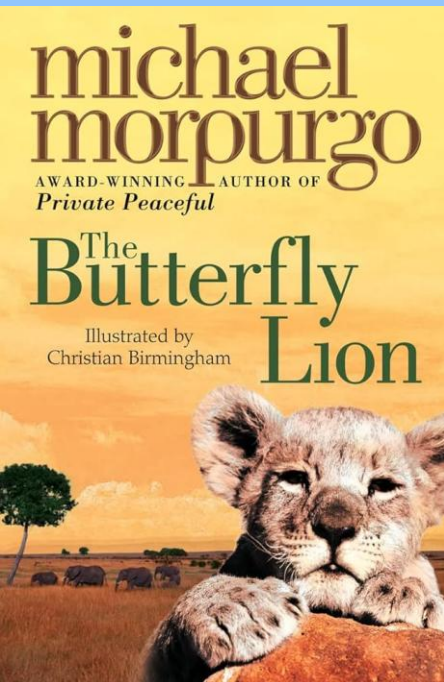
Class Trips

- We are planning a new Year 4 trip this year with an RE focus
- We will be going to Neasdon Temple in North London
- 1st December 2026



Class Guided Reading

This year we will explore a rich variety of texts including: Butterfly Lion, Varjak Paw, James and the Giant Peach, Thief, A street in Time and Ottoline and the Yellow Cat.





- Learn Times tables
- Reading daily
- Spellings
- ATOM learning weekly



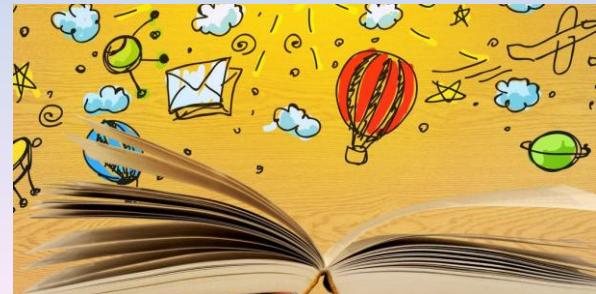
Homework - Spellings

- Spelling words will be sent home on a Friday to practise alongside being taught and practised in school.
- There will be a **list of spellings to learn every week:**
From the Statutory Spelling Lists
Following the rule taught in school.
- These will be stuck in Reading Records by the children and assessed the following week.
- Tests will be on **Friday** for both classes.



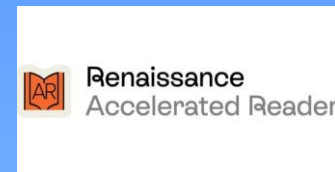
Homework - Reading

- Reading is a **necessity**.
- The children will be expected to read everyday at home and log this in their reading record. As the children are now in Year 4, they can log this independently but an adult needs to sign it.
- Children will begin the year continuing on their previous accelerated reader level range.
- They will take a quiz half-termly to reassess levels and check progress.
- Library Books



Too Easy	ZPD: Just Right					Too Hard
2.8	3.2	3.8	4.8	5.0		5.4
						

Renaissance Reading



In School

Star Reading is a computer-based assessment used to determine your child's reading level. It continually adjusts the difficulty of questions based on your child's responses

This then gives our child a reading age which is used to allocate a ZPD (zone of proximal development) range. This indicates the range of books that are suitable for your child's reading level.

This ensures that your child is choosing books which support progression and offer challenge while not reducing confidence or enjoyment.

At Home

Your child should complete an Accelerated Reader quiz after finishing every book.

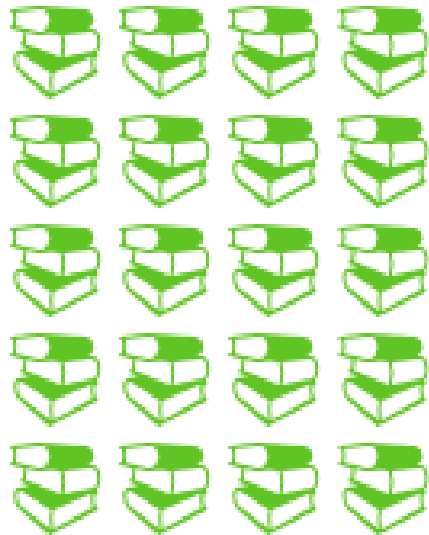
Quiz results do not immediately change a child's reading level or ZPD, but regular quizzing builds confidence, develops comprehension skills, and helps children become familiar with the quiz format before their next STAR Reading Test.

To ensure an accurate assessment of reading ability, all quizzes should be completed without adult support and on books your child has read independently. Shared reading books, such as bedtime stories, should not be quizzed.

Children grow virtual flowers by successfully completing quizzes. For every flower grown, children earn 5 marbles celebrating their reading effort.



WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
❖ Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests.

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

(Joy and Vernon, 1982.)

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.

- Atom homework will be assigned every Friday and will be linked to work we are doing in class.
- The first homework will be set on Fri 11th September
- It is an expectation that Atom work is completed every week in English and maths. Please speak to your class teacher if this will be an issue.
<https://app.atomlearning.com/>



Handwriting

From Reception through to Year 6 we use the cursive handwriting style.

The aim of the style is to increase fluency and improve speed and presentation.

You will have access to the website at home:

Username: else

Password: nham

<http://www.letterjoin.co.uk>

Social media

- Set boundaries with age restricted apps
- Set time restrictions on screen use
- Monitor closely for inappropriate content or conversations.
- Be aware of cyber bullying
- Visit the NSPCC website for further reading.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndOB-vXwXxM>



Social Media

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?

Under 13



Roblox



PopJam



FaceTime

13+



Twitter



Facebook and Messenger



Viber



WeChat



Monkey



Yubo



Dubsmash



Instagram



TikTok



Skype



Google Hangouts



Reddit



Snapchat



Pinterest

16+



WhatsApp



Telegram Messenger



Tumblr

17+



Line



Sarahah



Tellonym

Fidgets

Following a review of classroom practice and educational research, we are making some changes regarding Fidget Toys. The first change is to refer to these sensory aids as **Fidget Tools** or **Concentration Aids** instead of toys.

Over recent months, we have found that “fidget toys” are increasingly:

- a source of distraction rather than supporting learning and focus
- shared between children
- becoming toys during lessons
- interrupting concentration
- leading to disagreements between pupils

Our decision is supported by current research, which shows there is no strong evidence that fidget toys improve attention, behaviour or learning for most pupils. Some clinical studies show they can even become a distraction, and they are not recommended as an evidence-based intervention for ADHD.

We therefore appreciate your support in ensuring fidget tools **do not** come into school.

If your child had previously been allowed a fidget tool and you believe they still need it, please contact Mrs Cowell on send@elsenham.essex.sch.uk to discuss this.

Our school website

School website



Subject Curriculum Documents

Art, Computing, DT, English, Geography, History, Maths, MFL, Music, P.E., PSHE, R.E., Science

	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Painting & Mixed Media (Chilla Kumari Singh Burman)	Digital Literacy & Data Handling Unit 5.4 Databases	Multimedia Unit 5.6 3D Modelling	Digital Literacy & Data Handling Unit 5.8 Word processing	Drawing (Tels Albers)
Electrical systems: Doodlers	Non-fiction - Explanation texts Narrative - Suspense and mystery (building tension)	Non-fiction - Persuasion – adapted for different audiences - Report writing Poetry - Vocabulary building - Rhyme and repetition	Non-fiction - Recounts Fiction: - Language techniques, atmosphere development UKS2 Performance (drama)	Fiction - Fiction from our literary heritage Non-fiction - Diary entries Poetry - Vocabulary building - Structure – spoken word poetry/rap UKS2 Performance (drama)
Healthier? Non-fiction Newspaper report - Informal letter writing Poetry - Rhyming couplets - Kennings - Narrative poetry Narrative - Character voice - diary entry - Description of settings	Further places and directions	Musical instruments Numbers Opinion phrases	Breakfast, lunch and dinner Healthy and unhealthy foods	

Spring Production

As part of their music, oracy and English curriculum, Year 4 are going to put on a production at school.

Date: **TBC**- one afternoon and one evening

Scripts: Parts will be assigned before the Christmas holidays so that children can learn lines.



What needs to come to school

daily:



- Water bottle
- Reading record
- Reading book



-A snack (fruit, veg or cereal bar)

Thank you for coming.

Any questions?

The school website, Parentmail and weekly Newsletters provide all important dates and details.