

Dear Y4 Parents and Carers,

We are very pleased to welcome your children back to school and we hope that they are excited to be back. We have lots of amazing learning planned for this half term!

Below is information which we hope will be helpful to you:

Outdoor clothing and indoor pumps

There is no such thing as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing! At The Ellis we love to learn outside and in Y4 we will be using our outdoor classroom and wider school environment as much as possible. This means that your child will need appropriate footwear and coats every day. Indoor pumps will be needed in school to protect our classrooms from the inevitable mud!

Reading Books

Your child will be bringing a reading book to share with you at home. This will have been one of our amazing 50 Books to Read in Y4, which we have recently invested in as a school. It is your child's responsibility to look after this book and return it to our class library when they have finished reading it. If a borrowed book is lost or damaged while on loan to your child then we would seek your support in replacing it.

Please support your child to record the reading they do at home in their reading diaries (this can be reading of their book from school or a different text at home). If reading diaries are filled then we will send home a second diary free of charge, however if it is lost then we ask that a new one is bought from the office at the cost of £1.

Children should aim to read at home at least 3 times per week and reading raffle tickets will be awarded for reading.

Home learning

Your child will be given a spelling book to bring home, in order for them to be able to practise their spellings at home. They will write in their new spellings on a Monday and they will have a short assessment of spellings learnt the following Monday. Please support your child in learning their spellings. They will have a Spelling Shed log in their reading diary.

Times table fluency will be a focus of your child's learning in Y4 and in order to support their recall of key multiplication facts we ask that you encourage your child to access TT Rockstars on a regular basis. The log in for TT Rockstars will also be in their reading diary.

Last year, your child will have completed their homework on Mirodo. We will continue to use Mirodo throughout Y4 and your child will be set a short English and Maths task weekly. The log in for this platform will also be in their reading diary.

We will be running a weekly 'Homework Club' at lunchtime, which children can choose to come to if they wish or will be invited to if we notice that they are not completing their homework.

PE

Our PE days are **Thursday**.

Thursday will be indoor PE and children will need their PE kit.

Friday will be swimming for the children and they will need their swimming kit (if your child is swimming will have received other information regarding this).

Class Dojo

We will be sharing lots of photos and information about the learning we are doing in Y4 on Class Dojo (instead of Twitter or X). We hope you enjoy being able to share your child's learning journey in this way.

Autumn 1 learning overview

English

We will be using the book 'The Gorilla' by Anthony Browne to inspire our writing. We will be learning how to identify the audience for and purpose of writing, organise paragraphs around a theme with a focus on grammatical structures, including: expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials.

In our reading lessons, we will develop our comprehension skills while reading 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. In these lessons, the children will engage in fluency lessons to further develop their oracy, which includes reading speed and vocabulary.

Maths

We will be focusing on place value in our first maths unit, followed by securing our understanding of formal methods of addition and subtraction. We will be learning how to make mathematical choices and developing of precise mathematical vocabulary.

Science

Our science learning will focus on 'Living Things and their Habitat'. We will be planning and completing a range of scientific investigations and experiments to explore a variety of different living things in and around our school.

Geography

In geography, we will be exploring the question 'Why are rainforests important?'

We will be learning about why the Amazon rainforest is so important, considering who we can protect and preserve it. As part of this learning, we will be completing a field study at Elsecar Park to explore the differences and similarities between our local environment and climate to that of a rainforest.

RE

In RE, we will be exploring the question Judaism.

We will be looking at the Jewish faith and exploring their practices within the faith, agreements which Jewish people hold as well as the story of Moses.

PE

We will be focusing on football, whilst also engaging with swimming in Y4. Our PE **Thursday** and swimming will be on a **Friday**.

Computing

We will be learning about data logging, focussing on what this includes and several different methods to do this effectively. We will also learn about online safety.

French

We will be learning how to describe portraits and people in addition to learning body parts.

Music

We will be learning about body tuned percussion which follows the theme of 'rainforests' – which is a wonderful cross-curricular link to our geography learning.

PSHE

We will be thinking about keeping ourselves safe around water with our unit of learning being titled 'water safety'.