



# Year 4: Summer 1 - Survival

## What's our focus this term?

This half-term, the children will begin the first part of their Survival topic. This is a Geography-based unit where children will explore Antarctica and the distribution of its natural resources.

Alongside that, they will begin to learn about Shackleton's exploration of Antarctica during his Endurance mission.

This will be a very exciting half-term as children will also participate in a whole school Geography week learning about Africa as well as a whole school PSHE week exploring one of our new values—integrity.

The half-term will finish with a Year 4 sleepover where both the children and teachers will take on the challenge to spend a night sleeping at school!



As a team, the Year 4 teachers would like to thank you for all your support helping your child/children with their times tables. There has been a dramatic improvement in the scores the children have been achieving and, in turn, this has helped them develop greater fluency in maths lessons. As you are aware, by the end of Year 4, children should be able to recall all of their times table facts up to 12 x 12. Consequently, the government require that all Year 4 children sit in June to benchmark their ability and ensure they are prepared for the increased challenge within the Year 5 curriculum.

## Summer 1 (5 weeks):

Stimulus: Survival sleepover

Geography: A study of North America (Antarctica) and its natural resources

English text: Odd and the Frost Giants/ Shackleton's Journey

Class reader: Odd and the Frost Giants/ Greta and the Giants

Computing: Using Excel

RE: Enlightenment (Buddhism)

PSHE: Emergencies in Control

Science: States of Matter

Indoor PE: Gym

Outdoor PE: Crickets

French: Animals and Adjectives

Music: L2M music program (Keyboards)

## KEY DATES

**25th April:** INSET day

**26th April:** First day back for children

**3rd May:** Duck and Chick eggs arrive in Year 4

**25th May:** House times table event

**26th May:** Year 4 sleepover

**27th May:** British Values day

We will also be holding a Bronze, Silver, Gold assembly. We hope to be able to invite you to this - watch this space!

## HOMEWORK

The children have got off to a good start with their homework but please be aware that we will now be ensuring that this is always completed, as part of their preparation for Upper school.

In Year 4, homework consists of a weekly Mathematics (online) and an English task (paper sheet). Both are set on a Monday and due in the following Monday.

5 'rule breakers' or tricky words will be sent home on a Monday in their spelling book and via text to practice. We also ask that you continue to practise times tables recall with your children regularly and continue to use TT Rockstars.

Finally, we ask that you ensure they are reading either a school book or a book from home at least 3 times per week and that this is recorded in their reading record and signed by an adult.

## Reading challenge

After the success of our last reading challenge, we will be starting a new reading competition. Reading aloud with an adult regularly helps children to develop their reading fluency, spelling accuracy and ability to write grammatically accurate sentences. Each week children's reading records will be checked and a prize will be given to the child in each class who has read the most.



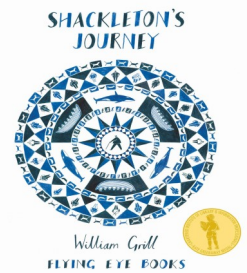
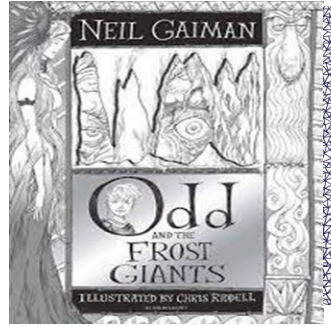
## Arbor

You should have received a letter last half-term instructing you to set up an Arbor account. This platform has now replaced Scopay and parentmail. Please ensure this is up and running as letters will be being sent out to Year 4 parents the first week back. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office.



# Year 4 Summer 1: Survival

Have a sneak peak into some of the exciting texts we'll be reading this half-term across our core and foundation topics.



## Trip: Runway's End

Please be aware you will very shortly be receiving a letter regarding our end-of-year 4 survival trip. Although the trip is not until July, due to its adventurous nature, much more preparation is required. Please ensure this letter is read fully as there will be specific information about payment and specific travel arrangements for your child.



## Online safety

Please make sure that you are continuing to support your child's online safety by ensuring you are aware of the content that they are consuming online. If you have any questions about how to keep your child safe, please talk to their class teacher or Miss Coombs.

Although many games our children play have safety features, please take extra care and ensure that you are actively discussing with your children how to stay safe and what they do to ensure they understand what to do when they feel uncomfortable. Our recent safety survey highlighted that some children in our year group do not feel safe when online at home.

Please also monitor their use of apps such as WhatsApp to ensure that conversations are age-appropriate, respectful and safe **even when talking to friends from school**. As a school, it is vital that any issues are dealt with promptly to ensure they do not affect children's learning and relationships with their peers in the classroom.

We thank you so much for your continued hard work to keep your child safe in an ever-changing online world. If you require additional support or advice, please book an appointment to speak to either Mrs Webb or Miss Coombs (Year Leader and Computing Lead).