

Welcome back

I hope you had a great summer and are looking forward to the new term. We have lots to look forward to and I plan to make sure your children feel both motivated, enthused and challenged in their learning throughout the year.

**Equipment:**

In class 4, the children are encouraged to have their own writing equipment in a small pencil case. **Blue gel or ink pens only please** and a **coloured biro for editing**. They also need pencils and highlighters. Coloured pencils and pens are useful but we do have a good stock of these in class.

As always, the children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to keep them hydrated and help their concentration. As we are enjoying the prolonged summer weather this is especially important!

The children will have PE twice a week (**Tuesday and Wednesday**) but should always have their **labelled** PE kit in school. It is important that they have the correct clothing and are responsible for it.

**Homework:**

The children will receive Spelling and Maths homework every week. Weekly spellings will be set on Monday and tested the following Monday. Maths homework will also be set on Monday and due that Friday.

Many of the expectations and additional responsibilities they are given in class 4 are in preparation for secondary school where they will of course be expected to be independent. Parents of **year 6** children should now have the information for secondary places applications.

If you have any concerns or worries please come and speak to me or another member of staff, or send a brief note in with your child.

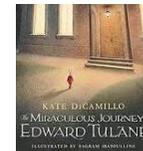
Mrs Patel

**Autumn Term Overview**

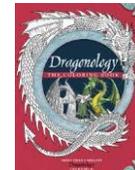
**Maths:** Our main focus this term is to develop a sound understanding of Number through **problem solving and reasoning**. Reasoning is a critical skill that we develop to help children to make sense of concepts in Maths. We achieve this by using mathematical ‘super powers’: conjecturing and convincing; specialising and generalising; organising and classifying and imagining and expressing. This term’s topics include: number and place value; written and mental methods across all four operations, fractions and algebra. **Ask your child about the NEW times table challenge!**



**English:**



**Writing:** - Our Class Book is ‘The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane’. Once inspired by the author’s fantastic description of Edward, Class 4 will have the opportunity to write a descriptive piece about their own toy.



Calling all ‘Dragonologists’! As part of our myths and legends topic, this term Class 4 will be researching everything there is to know about dragons including how to keep one as a pet! The topic will include non-fiction writing opportunities such as an Explanation piece on ‘How to Look after your Dragon’ and an Information piece on a particular breed.

Pupils will also have the opportunity to write a formal persuasive letter that could save a particular creature’s life if she chooses to listen!



\*It is worth noting that there will be a heavy focus on **Grammar, Spelling and Comprehension** throughout the year to support Year 6 in the lead up to SAT’s.

**Reading:** Although many of the children are confident readers, it is important that they continue to develop their skills of reading, understanding and questioning. An hourly-guided whole class reading session will take place once a week alongside focused guided group discussions. During this time children will read an age appropriate book and be expected to answer questions and uncover meaning such as the author’s motives. **Weekly reading homework will also be given on Mondays from the 17<sup>th</sup> September.**

The children will be expected to have a free-choice reading book. Please support your child by checking that they are reading **every day**, including to an adult as often as possible. **Ask your child about our new 'reading challenge!'**

**Science** – This term Class 4 will be investigating forces!

**Design and Technology** – In relation to forces, Class 4 will be designing their own 'running' parachutes. Further, in keeping with our Literacy topic, once we have become 'dragonologists', we will be creating our very own soft toy dragons!

**RE** - The Autumn term will be spent helping children to understand and compare key religious leaders across major world religions. We will also be visiting the Buddhist Temple in Great Gaddesden to understand what life is like for Buddhists in the twenty-first century.

**History:** This term's topic is Mayans. We plan to consider similarities and differences between ancient religions and different religions today; to discover facts about the Maya Civilisation; look at the characteristics of Maya gods and to find out what Maya people grew and ate.

**Geography:** To understand more about Mayan Civilisation, we will be locating central America on a world map and outlining where the Mayans lived. We will also look into what 'Mesoamerica' means and create a tourist information sheet about Chichen Itza.

**Art:** In keeping with our Mayan topic, Class 4 will be learning to weave like the Maya, make Mayan masks, experiment with Mayan codex and create model houses of their homes.

**PE:** The children will be taught by a sports coach on Wednesdays and a class teacher on Thursdays. For this term they will be take part in Hockey and Ball Games. There may be sporting opportunities through the term and I will pass on details as they arise.

**PSHE:** Our theme is New Beginnings. We will have regular assemblies to support this and explore how and why we 'get on' or 'fall out' with one another and how we can deal with it. Current topics and areas that call for understanding will be covered as they arise.

**MFL:** will mainly involve speaking and listening and writing basic words and phrases.

**Computing:** At Little Gaddesden School this is integral to teaching and learning. This term class 4 will design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals. They will also have the opportunity to solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts and use sequence, selection, and repetition in programs. The children will also have many opportunities to make use of the Laptops and IPADs across the curriculum.

## Class 4



*"...curious and creative thinkers,  
independent and enthusiastic learners  
confident individuals..."*

