Friday 4th September 2026

Newsletter #1

Year 4 Newsletter

Welcome

We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break. The children have returned to school full of enthusiasm and have settled in brilliantly to their new classrooms, teachers, and routines. It has been a pleasure getting to know them and seeing how quickly they have adapted to the new school year. Their positive attitude and eagerness to learn have meant a fantastic start to the term. We are all looking forward to an exciting and successful year ahead, filled with new learning experiences, opportunities to grow, and lots of fun along the way.

As we embark on this new term, we encourage everyone to stay informed by reading our newsletters, which will be sent out regularly. These will contain important information about upcoming events, curriculum details, and ways you can support your child's learning at home.

Wider Experiences!

This term, our school is thrilled to offer exciting wider experiences through enriching educational visits. Year 4 will be heading to St Osyth's Priory, where they'll investigate the impact of Viking invasions on Anglo-Saxon monasteries. Through engaging activities and storytelling, they will explore the big question: Were the Vikings really that bad? These trips are fantastic opportunities to deepen learning and create lasting memories outside the classroom.

Details to follow soon!

Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) – June 2026

In June 2027, Year 4 children will take part in the statutory Multiplication Tables Check (MTC), which assesses their recall of times tables up to 12 × 12. Please support your child at home by practising regularly, aiming for at least ten minutes a day on Times Table Rock Stars. The 'Sound Check' mode is particularly useful as it mirrors the MTC format. Regular practice will help build confidence and fluency.

Homework

Home learning is an essential part of your child's learning and it will be set every Friday and is expected to be bought in the following Friday. Home learning prepares children for learning that they will be doing, or consolidates learning, they have been doing in class. Times Tables Rock Stars and spelling are an important part of ongoing home learning. Children are also expected to read five times a week.

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What's happening in ...

Year 4

This term, our topic is history-based and falls under the heading 'Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings – How have Settlements shaped Britain?' The children will be learning about key events from the Anglo-Saxon and Viking periods, including where they came from, why they came to Britain, show they settled and I influenced our country. The topic will also explore how settlements were formed and their lasting impact on Britain today. To complement this, we will be completing a geographical study of Norway to understand more about the landscape and origins of the Viking people.

In Science, Year 4 children will be exploring sound and states of matter through practical investigations. In Design and Technology, they will taste a variety of foods and create their own flavoured bread. Please ensure your child's dietary information is up to date so we can cater for any specific needs or allergies.

Year 4 Team:

4C—Miss Clark

4N—Miss Norton

4P—Mrs Palmer

Year 4 LSAs: Bedford and Mrs Baker

Reminders

Please ensure that your child always has the following items in school:

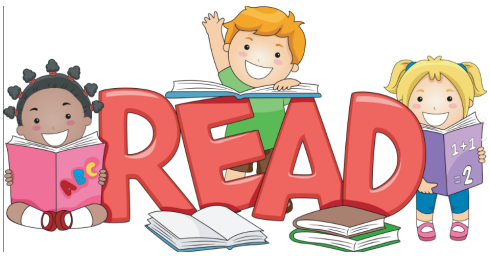
- **Coat (named)**
- **Water bottle (named)**
- **PE kit including trainers (named)**
- **Lunchbox (named)**
- **Healthy snack**
- **Book bag, or similar, with reading book.**

Naming items is especially important.

Thank you.

Reading at Howbridge!

This year, reading records will be used to record and monitor reading both at home and in school. Teachers and parents are encouraged to use the reading record to log children's reading progress and share any comments. We expect children to read at home at least 5 times per week. Children who achieve this will be entered into our weekly reading raffle, where they will have the chance to win a book.



Regular reading helps to develop fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and a lifelong love of reading.

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Diary Dates

Tuesday 1st September 2026—Non-Pupil Day

Wednesday 2nd September 2026—Non-Pupil Day

Thursday 3rd September 2026—First Day of Autumn Term

Thursday 17th September 2026—School Photos

Friday 9th October 2026—Non Pupil Day

Friday 16th October 2026—Last Day of Term

Monday 19th October—Friday 30th October 2026—Half Term

Monday 2nd November 2026—Children to return to school

Monday 10th—Friday 13th November—SCARF workshops

Friday 18th December 2026—Last Day of Term

Monday 4th January 2026—Non Pupil Day

Year 3 and 4 Spelling Words

100 words that children in England are expected to be able to spell by the end of Year 4 (age 9). How many can you spell?

accident(ally)	disappear	interest	pressure
actual(ly)	early	island	probably
address	earth	knowledge	promise
answer	eight/eighth	learn	purpose
appear	enough	length	quarter
arrive	exercise	library	question
believe	experience	material	recent
bicycle	experiment	medicine	regular
breath	extreme	mention	reign
breathe	famous	minute	remember
build	favourite	natural	sentence
busy/business	February	naughty	separate
calendar	forward(s)	notice	special
caught	fruit	occasion(ally)	straight
centre	grammar	often	strange
century	group	opposite	strength
certain	guard	ordinary	suppose
circle	guide	particular	surprise
complete	heard	peculiar	therefore
consider	heart	perhaps	though/although
continue	height	popular	thought
decide	history	position	through
describe	imagine	possess(ion)	various
different	increase	possible	weight
difficult	important	potatoes	woman/women