



Manadon Vale
Primary School

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St. Peter's Road
Plymouth
PL5 3DL

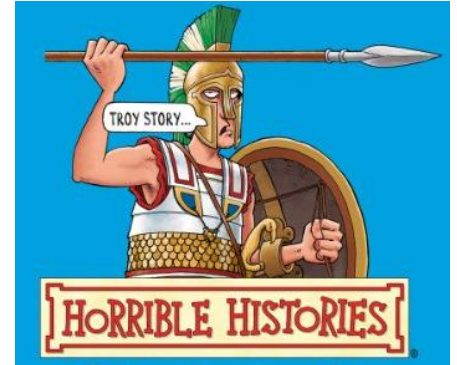


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Welcome to Year 4

Dear Children and Families,

We hope that you are as excited about joining us in Year 4 as we are about welcoming you. In September, we will begin our first topic, **The Groovy Greeks**. This is an exciting opportunity to learn about the lives of the Ancient Greeks and discover how their achievements continue to influence the modern world.



English

During the first term, we will begin by reading *Leon and the Place Between* and writing our own setting descriptions based on an imaginary world.

We expect you to read aloud as often as possible during Year 4. We ask that you read to an adult at home at least **three times per week**. We will continue to use **Accelerated Reader** as our main reading programme, but we also encourage you to enjoy a variety of other texts. We will explain this in more detail at the start of the new term.

We will be using a spelling scheme adapted from **Spelling Shed**. This allows us to set weekly spellings for you to practise, and you can play games online to help you prepare for your spelling tests. You should already have your login details. Please let us know if you do not know them.

Maths

To start the term, we will focus on **place value** and **number facts**. It would be a good idea to keep these skills sharp over the summer by playing on **Numbots** or practising them as much as possible. Numbots uses the same login as **TTRockstars**.

In June, most pupils will complete the **government Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)**, which is compulsory in all schools. By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know all multiplication tables up to 12×12 with instant recall. During the check, children are given only **six seconds** to read, solve and answer each question.

Our school has taken part in the MTC for many years, and we have seen a clear link between success in the check and regular practice on **TTRockstars**. You already have your login details, and we encourage you to keep practising over the summer to give yourself a great start to Year 4. The stronger your number facts, the easier you will find your maths learning throughout Year 4 and beyond. If you do not know your login details, please let us know as soon as possible.

Homework

As mentioned above, you will be expected to read every day and to read to an adult at least **three times each week**. You will also be given weekly spellings to learn using **Spelling Shed**, as well as a weekly times tables check.

Regular practice on **TTRockstars** will make learning your times tables much easier. We will begin with one or two multiplication tables before moving on to larger groups and, eventually, all multiplication facts. As your confidence grows, we will gradually reduce the amount of time you have to answer each question.

Year 4 Essential Information

At the moment, our PE days are **Wednesday** (indoor) and **Friday** (outdoor). These may change once we have confirmed arrangements with our external PE providers, such as District Sports and the YMCA (Barry). Please wear your PE kit to school on these days.

Jewellery should not be worn to school on PE days. Please remove earrings before coming to school to prevent them from being lost or damaged. Hoop earrings are not permitted; only a single pair of stud earrings may be worn.

Please ensure that all of your belongings are **clearly named**, especially coats, jumpers or cardigans, lunchboxes and water bottles.

You will be provided with a pencil case containing a school writing pencil, a whiteboard pen, a rubber and a purple polishing pen. You do not need to bring your own pencil case or stationery for lessons. However, if you wish, you may keep a small pencil case in your bag for wet playtimes, provided it is small enough to fit in your tray.

Meeting the Year 4 Team

As usual, we will be holding a **Welcome to Year 4** meeting on **Wednesday 9th September at 2:30 pm**. We look forward to meeting you and sharing more about what we have planned for the coming year.

We are always on the playground before and after school, so please feel free to speak to one of us if you have any questions.

All that remains is for the whole Year 4 team—Mrs Scoles, Mrs Butcher, Mrs Coupland, Mrs Ladd, Miss Gee and Mrs Waldron—to wish you a very happy and restful summer holiday. We look forward to seeing you in September!

