

# YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER

## Why should humans work harder to protect habitats and the environment?

Non-fiction: Explanation text

### Literacy

We are beginning this term by focussing on a non-fiction explanation text about Jellyfish. We will be improving our writing by changing grammar and vocabulary to ensure consistency. We will also be using our knowledge of clauses to compose sentences which vary in their structure. Later in the term, we will be looking at our Talk for Reading text 'How to help a hedgehog and protect and Polar bear'. We will spend time looking at more features of non-fiction texts including the index, glossary and contents page. Then we will be creating our very own class information book on animals of the oceans and rainforests. If you are working from home we will print your work off and add it to the class book or you to see when you return

### At home you could:

Carry out your own research about jellyfish to support your understanding of the text

- [http://www.softschools.com/quizzes/grammar/phrase\\_or\\_clause/quiz2825.html](http://www.softschools.com/quizzes/grammar/phrase_or_clause/quiz2825.html)

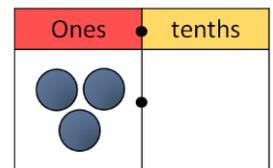
### Maths

This term we will be focussing again on our times tables and monitoring the childrens progress on Times Table Rock Stars. The children need to know these times tables by heart so practise at home will be very beneficial. This in preparation for the Nationwide Year 4 Times Table Check in the summer. We will be continuing our topic on Decimals and then looking at Money and Time. We will be using place value grids to enable the children to get a good understand of decimal numbers.

### At home you could:

- Practise on Rock Stars for 3-4 minutes every day

$$3 \div 10 = 0.3$$



### Physical Education

Cricket will be our main sport this term. We will be practising essential ball skills and learning basic tactics to engage in a game of cricket. This will be taught **outside** so please ensure that your child has the appropriate clothing. PE Kit is **white t-shirt, black shorts or jogging bottoms and trainers**. Please ensure that your child has a **black sweatshirt**. For your child's safety,

earrings must be removed before any PE lesson.

### Science and Geography

This term we will be looking at sorting animals based on their habitats. We will also look at food chains and how animals live together. As we progress through the term, we will integrate some PHSE into our lessons and look at how humans are impacting these habitats and what we can do to make a difference. We will create an advert to show the rest of the school and parents on what they can do to protect the world we live in.

### Dates

25th April – Start of Term 5

27th April – Celebration assembly

28th April – Dashwood's got Talent

13th May – Homework Projects Due

25th May – Year 4 Camp Night

## How a jellyfish stings

Jellyfish are invertebrates- this means that they do not have backbones. They have circular bodies without a head and paralyzing tentacles that hang down into water.

They live in water and swim or drift with the currents in the sea. They are found throughout the world (though they prefer warmer water in tropic climates).

They attack their food with tentacles that are covered with tiny stinging threads known as nematocysts. If any creature touches one of the threads, the nematocysts explode outwards. The threads, with sharp tips, stab their prey. Most nematocysts inject a poison into their victim; this stuns or kills their prey preventing it from escaping. Once bound, it is then hauled upwards through the central opening, which both intakes food and discards waste.

### **Further facts**

The man-o'-war is one of the most feared jellyfish in the world due to its excruciatingly painful sting. Its tentacles can grow up to 20 metres in length. Its body is an unusual bluish shape.