YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER

Driving Question: How can we, as your guides, promote a trip to our chosen European destination?

Aspiration Value: Belonging

Term 1 September – October 2026

Literacy

In class we will be reading the story 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. We will then use the key features of the story along with the pupil's imagination to create an interesting plot for new stories that they will write. In grammar, the pupils will be consolidating their knowledge of word classes to ensure they fully understand the difference between them. Our expectations for handwriting are high so please ensure they practise this at home.

- Noun- Person (David), place (Banbury, park) or thing (chair).
- Adjective- A describing word
- Verb- An action / doing word
- Adverb- A word that modifies or qualifies a verb (quietly, late, soon)
- Preposition- a word that tells you where or when something is in relation to something else (E.G. before, on, under)
- Pronoun- A word that replaces a name (I, you, he, she or it)

At home: There will be a big push on handwriting this term so you could do some practise of forming letters correctly using the attached letters. It would also be great if your child could read aloud daily to improve their reading speed and fluency. If you want to play some grammar games, go to https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar Remember to also practise their spellings which will be focused around the key words for Years 3/4 and the spelling rules.

Maths

This term, we will be consolidating and extending our knowledge of place value to include five digit numbers. We use place value grids to help support this such as the number 13,345 would be placed as:

Ten thousands	Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones
1	3	3	4	5

When we round, we look to the next number to see if it is 5 or higher or not. So, rounding this number to the nearest hundreds would be 13,300 but to the nearest tens would be 13,3350. We will be exploring negative numbers as well as rounding, estimating and solving real life problems. We will also continue to focus on learning all the times tables up to 12 x 12 and becoming increasingly confident at recalling these facts ready for their multiplication check at the end of the year.

At home: Practise the four functions particularly times tables and mental quick fire addition and subtraction. https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button Please also ensure that your child is using the TTRS daily to improve their scores and improve their heat maps.

Physical Education

This term we will be playing tag rugby, improving our skills and fitness ready for inter-house competitions later in the term. We will be practising our skills on the pitch whilst having lots of fun. These will be taught outside so please ensure that your child has the appropriate clothing as the weather can be cold and wet. 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. Please keep their kits in school every day.

Science

This term we will be conducting experiments looking into sound. The children will experiment with pitch and volume to help them understand how sound is made and how sound waves behave.

Geography

Our main topic this term is geography based. The children will be researching different countries across Europe looking at key cities, mountains and rivers as well as exploring the food and culture of that area. They will also be completing some map work using compass points, four figure grid references and keys. Then they will work in a group to create a presentation to persuade someone to go to our chosen destination.

At home: *Can you name the seven continents? How many countries in Europe do you know? Can you use a map to locate features in Banbury?*

History

We will also have a two week topic on history this term. Our driving question will be: *What proof is there that the Greek children's lives were different from ours today?* We will look at the Greeks and find out what things we use today that the Greeks introduced. We will look at different sources and see which are reliable and for what reasons. On top of this, we will also look into the life of children in Greek times and how they differ from our lives today.

REMINDERS AND DATES

Uniform: Please make sure that all new uniforms are clearly labelled in case they are misplaced. That way it can be returned to the correct class as soon as it is located.

Website: Remember to check the class pages regularly for newsletters, texts, updates and photos from work in class.

Homework: This will be **sent home** every **Friday** and is **due on** the **Thursday** of the following week.

https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2026/07/Term-1-dates-2026.docx.pdf

