



Dear Parents/Carers,

Hello and welcome to the start of a new year!

I am thrilled to be teaching your children and cannot wait to get started on this exciting year. Year 4 is a fantastic year full of interesting themes, where we work on building the independence of the children and helping them think deeply about the world around them and their place in it. There is a strong focus on developing as young people and thinking about the kind of people they want to be as they grow up. The most important thing for me is that your child feels safe and happy at school (as well as progressing with their learning of course!) and I will do everything I can do achieve that.

Curriculum Information

Our theme for Term 1 is '**Our Blue Planet**'. This theme follows on from their last topic in Year 3, where they focused on rivers. This term we will look specifically at oceans and we will discuss the importance of oceans to our planet and the impact that climate change and human activity is having on them.

We will be examining the **UN Sustainable Development Goals** throughout the year and thinking about the ways that the different goals interact. We will be discussing how all our different themes are linked through the various goals and how it is more important than ever that we are working together as a global community to support one another and protect the planet.

In **English**, we will read *The Giant and the Sea* by Trent Jamieson. It is a story about a giant who warns people that the sea will rise, teaching a lesson about caring for the Earth. We will be completing a range of writing tasks, including setting and character description, before writing a sequel to the text. We will then spend the second half of the term studying nonfiction skills and writing persuasively as characters from the book.

Our second class text (which we will use for our reading lessons) is *Song of the Dolphin Boy* by Elizabeth Laird. If you want to buy a copy of this text to help support your child in class as we read it, that would be really beneficial:

[Song of the Dolphin Boy by Elizabeth Laird, Peter Bailey | Waterstones](#)

In **Maths** this term, we will learn about place value and addition and subtraction. Throughout this year, our key focus will be multiplication in preparation for the Year 4 Multiplication Check in June. I will explain more about how to help your child with this at our Meet the Teacher meeting next week.



Reading

We are having a really big push on reading five times a week and filling in the yellow reading records this year. I will go through the expectations with the children but it would be great if you could remind them at home too! I will be hosting a Reading Information event on **Monday 5th October** in the afternoon to talk more about how best to support your child with developing their reading.

P.E

Starting next week, on Wednesday and Thursday children will need to come to school in their PE kits. Please ensure that their kits adhere to the PE kit uniform as much as possible (as stated in the school newsletter).

Plants

I am attempting to fill our classroom with plants to make it as inviting as possible for the children. (And to see if we can attempt to keep them alive as a group!) If you have any house plants going spare that you would like to donate to the class, I would really appreciate it 😊

Trip to Brean

To support our learning about our theme, we will be going on a trip to Brean beach on **Thursday 24th September**. A letter with more information will follow next week, but please pop it in your diaries! We will be looking for parent helpers too so if you would like to join us that day, please drop me a message on Seesaw.

I look forward to properly meeting you all at our Meet the Teacher session on **Tuesday 8th September** straight after school.

More information on that to follow on Seesaw.

Kind regards,

Rosie Beck