

# Class 4 Spring Term Newsletter 2025



**Welcome back to another fabulous term. I hope you all had a very merry Christmas and that you are rested and ready for all the fantastic learning that awaits you.**

**Teaching in Class 4:** Mr Dean continues to be the lead teacher in Class 4. Additional lessons are taught by Mrs Farraday. PE this term is supported by Robbie from Sportivos. The class is supported by Mrs Matheson, Mrs Court & Mrs Crowder.

**PE Lessons** are scheduled to take place on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** and students must wear full PE kit for lessons – this includes removing all earrings, jewellery and wristwatches. It is helpful if PE kits remain in school throughout the week as session timings occasionally must be changed at short notice. All students may continue to wear their PE kits on a Friday, but this term we are stepping back from Barrow Raiders and trying some new Feelgood Friday activities led by Mr Dean.

**Equipment:** Students in year 6 only continue to be permitted to bring their own pencil cases to school, ensuring that it contains the essentials of writing pencils, handwriting pen and ruler. Toys, 'fidget' items, trading cards, stuffed animals, sketchbooks, scissors and other similar items often cause distraction and disruption within the class so please support us by leaving these at home. Please also note that while we make the utmost effort to assist pupils in looking after their belongings, we cannot take responsibility for lost items. Clearly naming all items (particularly clothing) helps us return items efficiently if lost.

**Reply slips & payments** continue to be collected in class each morning – children are encouraged to place their items in the collection box by 08.50. Please note that any letters which miss the collection time may not be processed until the following day. Parents can support by checking book bags periodically for any letters which may have been forgotten!

**Homework** will continue to be set and checked regularly. All homework is recorded in blue homework diaries – please ensure these are brought into school every day as we use them often! Homework diaries also contain login information for IDL, TTRockstars and Mathletics, which students can access at any time. Furthermore, students are expected to regularly practise their spellings (which are now also set and tested on a **Friday**) and read, both alone and with an adult.

**Presentation Focus:** This term, we're putting a special focus on handwriting and presentation skills across the school. We believe that neat and legible handwriting is essential for clear communication and helps children feel proud of their work. Furthermore, well-chosen layouts and clear presentation enable students to return to previous learning and quickly recap key information – a key skill for secondary school and beyond!

**The Edinburgh Residential** is fast approaching – many thanks to all of those who have finalised their payments. We would like to invite all involved (parents and children) to an information evening on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 5.30PM**. We will share an overview of the trip, travel & accommodation arrangements and our expectations. There will also be time for parents to ask any questions they may have.

**Contact:** If you have any questions, queries or concerns, please feel free to speak to me – the best time to do so is at the end of the day when your child is collected. Urgent queries or information, including drop-off and pick-up arrangements, **must** be by telephone or sent to [office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk). You can also keep up with our learning by visiting our blog at [levens.cumbria.sch.uk/school-blog](http://levens.cumbria.sch.uk/school-blog), as well as looking out for text alerts and checking the school calendar at <https://www.levens.cumbria.sch.uk/calendar/>.



**A very chilled Class 4 at our Relax-Kids workshop last term.**

## Curriculum information

**Maths:** Maths in the spring term will continue our work on fractions, including multiplying and dividing fractions. We extend this knowledge by looking at decimals and percentages, exploring how these relate to fractions and how they can be used independently. We also study area, perimeter and volume, looking at making these measurements and calculations with a variety of different shapes, including measuring the volume of cuboids.

**English:** Our writing this term begins with a unit on 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. Using this text as our inspiration, we write across a range of genres, including descriptive narrative, letters and newspaper reports. Following this, we focus more precisely on narrative style as we read a selection of Rudyard Kiplings "Just So" stories. Our history topic also inspires our narrative writing, as we learn and re-tell the Mayan creation story.

**SPaG** continues to be interwoven throughout our English lessons where appropriate, with additional focussed sessions throughout the week. This term, we will develop the use of advanced punctuation including dashes, hyphens, semi colons.

**Guided Reading:** The arrangements for guided reading remain the same, with Mr Dean & Mrs Farraday teaching specific groups of children. All children begin the term by continuing their in-depth study of carefully selected novels. Following this, Year 6 move on to looking at test technique exam preparation for their reading test in May while year 5 study different types of non-fiction texts, locating and retrieving key information.

**Science:** Spring term is marked by two separate topics. We begin by studying evolution and inheritance – examining how things change over time, adaptation to specific environments and variation within species. In the second half of the term we move on to studying living things and their habitats, applying our knowledge to classify living things.

**History & Geography:** Using our residential trip to Edinburgh as a basis, we will make comparisons between Edinburgh and our local area using maps and field sketches. We will also learn how to read OS maps, including the 8 points of the compass and how to use digital mapping.

**Art:** During the spring term, Class 4 will be inspired by the artist Sandra Pearce, as we explore monoprinting using foliage and flowers as our starting point. We will look at the detailed work of Georgia O'Keefe's close-up flower studies to inspire our own watercolour creations. We also have another clay-based project planned for later this term with Nigel Edmondson.

**P.E.:** In the first half of this term we complete the second part of our gymnastics unit as we develop synchronisation and begin to incorporate apparatus. Alongside this, we will also develop skills in basketball, growing our understanding of defensive strategies.

**R.E.:** Our Christian value for the Spring term is Respect. We begin the term by studying the life and character of Jesus, exploring parables about his teaching and applying these to the modern world. As we move towards Easter, we consider this important date in the Christian calendar and examine it through the context of a victory.

**SCARF:** To coincide with our Christian value of respect, we study respect in two contexts in our SCARF lessons. In the first term, we consider how to show respect to others in our "valuing difference" unit of work. Following this, we learn how to respect ourselves through our "being my best" unit.

**Computing:** This term, we examine databases and how they work to store and organise information. We will compare physical and digital methods of achieving this. We also study simple video editing, using a range of techniques to manipulate recorded footage.

**Design & Technology:** Following our visit to Edinburgh and focus on mapping in Geography, we apply our design and coding skills to build a simple device to help us navigate the world around us. We also study bridges, and the techniques which can be used to reinforce and strengthen structures.

**French:** This term our French lessons include numbers, time and places in town.

**Music:** As well as continuing to learn a range of songs and hymns in worship, in music lessons we explore how music can teach us about our community.