

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the summer term at St. Andrew's! It has been lovely to hear about the children's happy holidays and see them returning to school full of memories and fresh enthusiasm!

Our creative curriculum theme this term is '**Our Strength Within**' with the key question: What does it mean to be resilient? This new curriculum theme will have a focus on World War 2 local history and the changes in Plymouth at this time. There will be two themed days in school including a VE Day party and celebration. We hope to visit the Plymouth Museum and are currently looking into a possible steam train evacuee experience. The curriculum poster overleaf will give you an overview of the subjects taught this term and can be found on the school website too. Our class story this term is Friend or Foe by Michael Morpurgo.

Daily Routines and Reminders

Our daily routines remain the same as the previous term:

- Clubs will take place after school from 3.15 - 4.15pm and will commence next week. Places will need to be booked via the school money system. Details will be posted regularly on newsletters.
- Please make sure that your child has a water bottle in school – active brains need plenty of hydration!
- Children loved the ongoing homework task last term and we had some absolutely AMAZING homework examples, so this term we will give an optional grid to be completed over the course of the term. Look out in the homework book for the optional homework grid – it will be there in a few weeks time! We have included details of the WW2 costume homework with this letter. Arithmetic and reasoning papers will be sent home on a Friday, so that you can see your child's score. Please spend time helping them to correct any errors, ready for the next weeks test. Spellings and times tables will continue to be ongoing homework activities. Spelling tests will take place every Monday morning and K21 multiplication and division facts every Thursday morning. TTRockstars is a brilliant resource for learning times tables. We use this in school and I would love the children to continue to use this at home as much as possible.
- At the start of June (straight after half term) all the Year 4 children will be taking the government Multiplication Tables Check. We will be sending some good website links that will help the children to prepare for this test. In the meantime, additional practise on TTRockstars and for weekly tests will be of huge benefit.
- Spellings are always set on Spelling Shed, as well as in the yellow folders. We regularly use Spelling Shed in school but please encourage your child to use it at home too – it really does have a significant impact on many children's weekly scores. <https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb>
- Reading: Encourage your child to read at home on a daily basis because children who regularly read at home generally make excellent progress in school. Books can be changed any time of the week – just get your child to leave them in the reading books box at the front of the class.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

With very best wishes from the Year 4 team, Miss Mann, Mrs Dean and Mrs Duboisson.

