

Dear Narwhal class children, parents and carers,

Welcome back to a new year!

As we head into our first term in year 4, our new topic is community (you can see our topic web on the website and on Class Dojo.)



Drop off and pick up

There have been slight changes this year with the school timings.

Children should be arriving for the gates to be opened between **8:40-8:50** to ensure they are on time for the register and their learning to promptly start.

The gates will be opened for pick up between **15:10-15:20**. The children will be collected from the Astro closet to the gates.

Class expectations

- We will be continuing our practice in the Redfield Way this year, ensuring we always aim to be kind, ready and safe.
- Please ensure no toys, stationery and other items aren't brought in from home – we have all that is needed in school. If a child requires a fidget or other items to aid in learning, this is something that will need to be agreed and arranged within school.
- Children in year 4 shouldn't be bringing in phones or other devices.

PE

Please see below for our PE slots this term:

- Tuesday afternoons will be our PE slots this term, with a focus on dance and cooperative learning.

Spelling

- We are continuing to use Spelling Shed to set spellings this year and you can access this via the following website - <https://www.spellingshed.com/> .
- Your children will have spellings and activities set on this platform weekly. If you are unable to access Spelling Shed, there has been a

paper copy of the term's spellings sent home instead.

- Spelling tests will take place on a Friday mornings.
- Each week's list of words will be linked to a particular spelling pattern, which will be taught in lessons throughout the week.

Reading

- Reading at home can have a huge effect on children's progress, as well as encouraging them to read for pleasure.
- We use accelerated reader in school, and encourage children to complete quizzes on the site once they have finished their book. They will have an opportunity to do this in school, but can also complete this at home using the log in they have been given.
- All children can bring reading books home from school and they may have books of their own choice from home or the public library that they choose to read.
- Children should read independently or to an adult at least 5 times a week for 10 minutes.

Times Tables

- **Year 4 will complete in a Multiplication Assessment later in the year.**
- We practice times tables daily in school but any extra practice at home is always useful – they provide the building blocks for lots of our maths, so it really builds children's confidence to be fluent in their times tables.
- A little practice each day makes a huge amount of difference. Please use Timetables Rockstars - trockstars.com as well as flash cards.
- If you have lost your log ins let us know and we can get you a new log in.

Communication

- Dojo is the easiest way to contact us, and we can call you back if you

send a message. We aim to reply to dojo messages within 2 working days.

- Please don't use Dojo for emergency messages as we cannot check them while teaching or in meetings. Continue to call the office for emergency messages.
- A member of the Year 5 team will be available on the playground between 3.25 and 3.35 every day. We are happy to catch up for an informal chat then and can arrange a meeting for longer conversations – we will aim to arrange meetings within a week.
- We will send out all school messages through Dojo, so please let us know as soon as possible if you are having trouble accessing your account. We will also update Dojo with news about our learning in class and photos of the children's work.
- The school website will be updated termly to share topics maps, spelling lists and any additional resources that can support learning at home.