



St. Nicolas' CE Combined School Taplow

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Y4 Pine Class Curriculum News Spring 2025

Happy New Year! We hope you had a fantastic Christmas and wish you the very best for 2024. We have another exciting term ahead of us in Year 4.

This half-term we will be learning all about the Romans! We will be finding out about the size of the Roman Empire, and we will be joining the Roman army, role-playing battle formations, and finding out about the many attempts to conquer Britain. We will be exploring what life was like living in Roman Britain and learning about the Celtic tribe led by Boudicca in her rebellion. We will also be studying volcanoes, building on our knowledge of 'active planet' from year 3, and learning about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79AD.

A highlight of this term will be our residential trip to Upton Court from 27th to 28th March. More details of this will be released shortly and there will be an information meeting on Wednesday 22nd January after school.

The children should wear PE kit to school on **Wednesdays** and **Thursdays** ready for our PE lessons. Please make sure that if your child is wearing footwear with laces, they can tie them independently and ensure earrings are not worn on PE days.

Essential Information

Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home learning due in • Spelling test • Planners are checked 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please bring in your Home Learning books and planners.
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home learning and spellings out 	
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library day • PE day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring in your library books. • Please ensure earrings are not worn or are covered by tape.
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please come dressed in PE kit. • Please ensure earrings are not worn or are covered by tape.
Every day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading books and planners in school. • Ensure you have a named jacket appropriate for the weather. • Labelled water bottles in school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We go outside for breaktimes even in the rain! • Please make sure that if your child is wearing footwear with laces, they are able to tie them themselves. •

Reading

Reading is an essential part of your child's education. It is important that they read a wide range of books (fiction and non-fiction) to develop their understanding and vocabulary. Please ensure they are reading for a minimum of 20 minutes a day. They need to record what they have read in their planners, including any comments about the book. Reading should be enjoyable and exciting.

Spellings

Spelling lists will be sent home each week to support their learning in school. The children will be tested on these the following week. It is important for your child to practise their spellings – and to be able to understand the spelling rule - to ensure good spelling in their work and the development of their vocabulary.

Art and DT

This term we will be doing a range of art projects. If you would like to donate any magazines or newspapers to support these projects, it would be much appreciated. Please could your child bring a large (adult sized), named old t-shirt or shirt to keep in school to protect their uniform.

Water bottles and snacks

Please make sure your child brings a **named** water bottle every day and a **fruit or veg snack** for break time.

Home learning expectations

We expect home learning to be handed in on time. Please make sure children spend the allocated time and ensure they are presenting their work neatly. If your child has any issues with home learning, please make sure they speak to the teacher about it so that we are able to help them prior to the completion date.

What will we be learning this term?

English	Personal recounts, imagery poetry, playscripts, diary writing, letter writing, and historical narratives.
Grammar	Developing our use of adverbials and noun phrases, complex sentences, using the apostrophe for possession and speech punctuation.
Reading	'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Q.Raul, The Firework Maker's Daughter by Phillip Pullman, The Romans by Moia Butterfield.
Maths	Multiplication and division, times tables, length and perimeter, fractions and decimals.
Science	Electricity and a 'Big Science Event' to coincide with Science Week.
History	The Romans – How they invaded Britain and their legacy, Julius Caesar and Boudicca.
Geography	Mountains, earthquakes and volcanos.
RE	Is a holy journey necessary for believers? Why do Christians call the day Jesus died Good Friday?
Music	Instruments of the orchestra, Roman musical instruments and songs, marching music, keeping the beat. making music using different materials, experimenting with sound.
PSHE	Healthy Minds, Keeping myself safe and Rights and responsibilities.
Art and DT	3d form and modelling, clay lamps, Roman shields and helmets.
Computing	Online safety, Programming – Repetition in Shapes, Data and Information – Data Logging
PE	Netball, dance, football and badminton.
French	Gone shopping, Where in the world?

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have anything you wish to discuss. You can catch me on the gate or for a longer appointment request a telephone call or meeting before or after school, via the office.

Mrs Bunce