



Class Newsletter: Year 4 Buzzard Class Term 3

Date: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

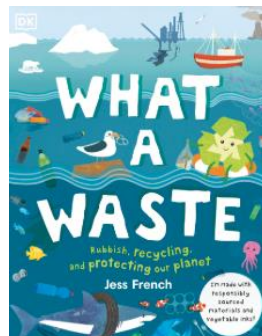
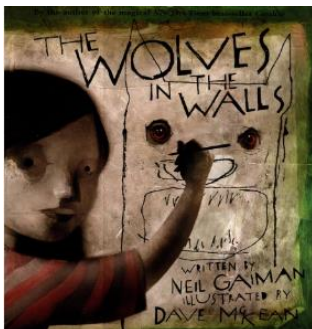
Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge well done to the children for another fantastic term. They are settled into the routines of the classroom and continue to demonstrate excellent attitudes to learning.

The children completed a range of wonderful learning across all subjects. In Reading, we loved our class text 'The Firework-Maker's Daughter' and information about Asia and Volcanoes. The children wrote super character descriptions based on The Barnabus Project, followed by excellent persuasive letters to Father Christmas from the Elf that did not want to be a gift. In Art, the studied surrealism before completing some beautiful paintings inspired by Salvador Dali. In Science, we focused on sound, and lots of time in Maths was devoted to triangles and quadrilaterals then mental strategies for addition and subtraction. Handball was a new team sport for the children and they enjoyed learning to play as well as taking the opportunity to referee some games too.

Inspiration for our writing this term is;

Wolves in the Walls (Fiction - to retell part of the story)

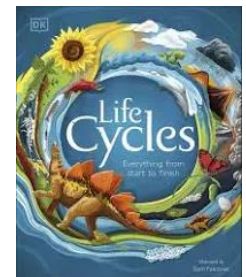
What a Waste (Non-fiction – non-chronological report about litter)

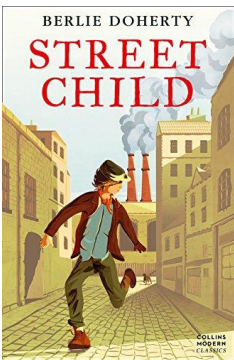


Reading texts that we will study this term are;

Charlotte's Web. (Fiction)

Lifecycles. (Non-fiction)






To see what the rest of our learning will be in Term 3, you should receive a Topic Web and Knowledge Organiser alongside this letter. Our class text will be 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty, and fits in seamlessly with our study of the Victorian era.

This term, on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January, we will be visiting the Steam Museum as part of our Victorian Topic. Children will need a packed lunch (school meals will be organised for those who usually have a school lunch) and to wear school uniform. The trip takes place within school hours.

Our Values this term are 'Tolerance' and 'Freedom'. We will also continue to put the children's mental and physical wellbeing at the forefront of all we do. As always, we will also continue to make sure our three school rules of 'Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Respectful' are upheld.

Thank you for your support with the children's home learning in Term 2. Home Learning, will continue to be set each **Monday**, to be handed in and marked the following **Monday**. It will be based on prior learning and used as a way of consolidating what the children have already been taught, including weekly spellings and should practice their times tables at home. It remains our expectation that the children read regularly at home and record what they read in their Reading Records; thank you again for your support with this (twice a week of reading with an adult at home is still vital to reading comprehension). Please see the end of the letter for some recommended reads for Year 4 children.

PE will remain on Monday afternoon and Friday morning. Children should continue to come into school in their PE kits on this day. Children should wear PE uniform only (Blue/Black Tracksuit Bottoms/Shorts, White PE Top, Blue or Black PE Track-Top/School Jumper and Trainers). Children will also need to bring in a refillable water bottle each day, that can be refilled using our class drinking water tap.



Finally, another huge well done to the children for such a fantastic first third of the year. I am very much looking forward to another super term ahead. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me via email ([habrown@rodbournecheney.swindon.sch.uk](mailto:habrown@rodbournecheney.swindon.sch.uk)) or the school office if you have any questions or concerns. I am always happy to have a chat or a meeting with you. For class updates, follow the class Twitter page - I always love sharing the children's work here!

Best wishes and looking forward to Term 3.

Miss Brown

## Book recommendations:

### Books for Year 4 – our recommendations

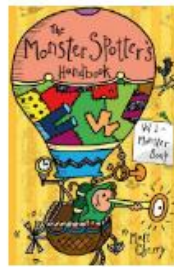
#### The Land of Roar by Jenny McLachlan

When Arthur's grandad disappears, Arthur searches the attic thinking it's a trick. But soon he realises that he's slipped through a folding bed and into the Land of Roar. This wonderfully imaginative and immersive fantasy story will draw in and grip 8-9-year-olds with a perfect blend of magic, mythical creatures, adventurous heroism and unbreakable friendships. A modern classic, this is an ideal class reading book for year 4 children.



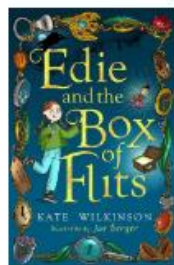
#### The Monster Spotter's Handbook by Matt Cherry

When 11-year-old Edwin receives a strange handbook, he learns that he is the last and only person alive who can catch Monsters. And so begins a unique and illustrated commentary of his page-turning adventures. With the Bogspotter, the frozen Yomp, an Dober Beast and mention of a snot-filled Platypus, children aged 8 upwards will not need to be persuaded to read this. Our prediction – The Monster Spotter's Handbook will be a runaway hit in your school library and one which readers may well devour in one sitting.



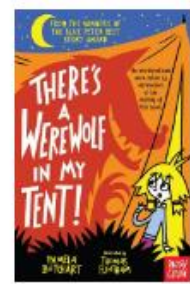
#### Eddie and the Box of Flits by Kate Wilkinson

When Eddie finds an unclaimed box at the Last Property Office, she could never have anticipated what might be inside. Opening it, she discovers strange and wonderful creatures – the Flits – and they need Eddie's help, fast. This sparkling and heartwarming adventure story with a fast-paced plot will keep readers in year 4 gripped from beginning to end.



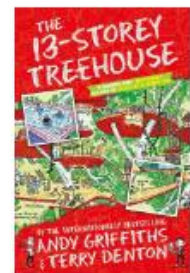
#### There's a Werewolf in My Tent by Pamela Butchart

When a group of friends decide to camp out they think it's all going to be marshmallows and staying up late. But then the peculiar noises start, things go missing, a full moon comes out and there's suddenly something very hairy in their midst. One of an extensive series of fast-paced and funny books, this is a great starting point to get your nine year old hooked on reading for pleasure.



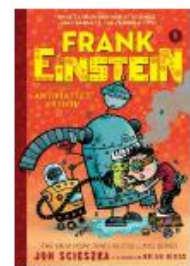
#### The 13 Storey Treehouse by Andy Griffiths

A cartoon-illustrated story about the most amazing treehouse ever. Secret science labs, catapults, and a clever marshmallow machine are just some of the unexpected things found inside. Great for reluctant readers, many eight and nine-year-olds will read this comic style graphic novel in one sitting.



#### Frank Einstein and the Antimatter Motor by Jon Scieszka

A funny and clever story about Frank Einstein, who likes to take things apart and put them back together again in new and interesting ways. A great book for children interested in science, contraptions and making things. With detailed illustrations by Brian Biggs, this is the perfect year 4 text for children who are interested in STEM.



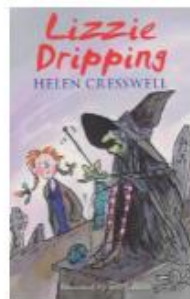
#### The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo

The spellbinding journey of Edward Tulane – a toy rabbit – who falls from a train and lives with tramps, a scarecrow and a dying child. A heart-warming, but sad, ending. With a wide-ranging appeal and relatable characters, this is a great reading option for year 4 classes.



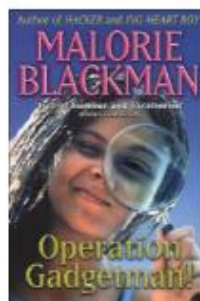
#### Lizzie Dripping by Helen Cresswell

Everyone in the small village where Lizzie lives considers her to be a daydreamer – so it's no surprise that no one believes her when she says she's seen a witch. Soon, however, they will change their minds. A powerful suspense story for year four pupils, this text is a useful impetus for atmospheric creative writing.



#### Operation Gadgetman! by Malorie Blackman

Beans calls her dad 'Gadgetman' because of the amazing gadgets he invents – everything from exploding biscuits to Spy Kits. With crazy inventions, mysteries to solve and fast-paced action, this will be a popular addition to your year 4 book corner.



#### The Great Elephant Chase by Gillian Cross

When the elephant came to town, Tad and Cissie went to the show like everyone else. Little did they know it would change their lives forever. A perfect group reader book for year 4 pupils, especially those who enjoy animal and family stories.

