

New Town Primary School
Our Learning: Year Four - Autumn Term 2026-27
Hazel and Hornbeam

	Learning at school	Learning at home
English	In term 1 we shall be using the book 'Escape from Pompeii' as a stimulus for our writing. Our focus will be on journalistic report writing, though we shall explore other genres, such as description, letter writing and diaries. We will then read FARThER by Graham Baker-Smith to write a sequel of a story based on the original text. In term 2, we will be look at narrative writing using the book Tar Beach by Faith Ringgold. We will be focussing on using a rich and varied vocabulary in our writing while we explore different types of sentences that help to engage the reader. Then we will be exploring instructional writing through Until I met Dudley by Roger McGough. There will be a continued emphasis on embedding handwriting, spelling, punctuation and grammar skills in all our writing. We will have daily comprehension lessons where we will continue to develop our skills of retrieval, inference and prediction. On a daily basis, we will dedicate some time to reading our class book, to create a community of readers.	• Challenge yourself to explore new authors or a different genre of book to what you usually choose. You could share your new discovery with a sibling or classmate. • Listening to the news: can you bring in an interesting news item to present to the class? CBBC Newsround has a YouTube channel you could enjoy! • Visit a local library (such as Palmer Park library) and borrow a book of your choice.
Maths	We will begin the term by revising our understanding of place value and partitioning numbers up to 10,000 before moving onto Roman numerals. We will learn how to add, subtract, multiply and divide four-digit numbers, using formal written methods. We will use our reasoning and problem-solving skills to answer mathematical questions relating to place value and the four operations. There will be a focus on fast mental recall and use of multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12×12.	• Revise your number bonds up to 20, 50 and 100. • Practise your times tables up to 12×12 – all children have a TT Rock Stars account to support this which can be accessed from: https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/70062 • If you are unsure about using TTRS, please contact the school and we will be happy to assist. • Use 'Hit the Button' to practice their times tables. https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button • Remember, there is a standardised times table test at the end of Year 4. This test will primarily focus on the 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12 times tables. • We will be checking weekly, to see your child's progress on TT Rock Stars.

Topic	In Autumn One, our topic focuses on Roman times. We will learn about the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain by learning about Julius Caesar's attempted invasion, the power of the Roman Army and the successful invasion of Claudius. We will also learn about the impact of technology, culture and beliefs on Roman Britain sites such as Caerwent. In Science, we will be learning about sound and how it travels through the air. Also, we will be learning about animals which looks at the digestive system and food chains. In R.E, we will be learning about Christianity. We will learn about Gods, key beliefs, daily life, rites of passage, pilgrimages and holy places. During PE lessons, we will be developing our stretching and game playing skills through gymnastics and hockey.	• Research Christianity and virtually explore a Church using the BBC Teach https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/inside-the-church-what-do-you-need-to-know/zkknrd • Practise using the topic vocabulary by sharing your learning with your family - show off your knowledge organiser and explain what you have learnt. • Research our topics using the information in your knowledge organiser, books and internet searches to find out extra information that you could share during our class discussions. • Put 'for children' after your search topic and use search engines such as Swiggle, Kid Rex or Safe Search UK to keep children safe and bring up appropriate information.
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Our class expectations

Every day	• Arrive at school on time - 8.45 • Wear the correct uniform - both school uniform and P.E kit. • Have a positive attitude to learning!
Every week	• Complete and hand in homework to your class teacher • Read at home at least five times a week, and record this in your reading record • Learn spellings and the related spelling rule in preparation for spelling test on Friday • Wear the correct school PE kit on your class PE day. • <u>Hazel – Tuesday and Friday</u> • <u>Hornbeam – Tuesday and Thursday</u> • Practise weekly times table ready for maths facts test on Friday.



Reading Expectations

All children should be reading at home at least five times per week and reading books and reading records should be in school every day. Reading books should be with your reading records and placed on your desk daily.

Parents/carers should be signing reading records at least five times per week to show when reading has been done. Parents can sign reading records to show any books that have been read or read to the children at home however, children must prioritise their school reading book.

Reading tracker and competition

We are continuing to run our whole school reading competition with prizes for those who show their dedication to reading. Teachers will be tracking daily how many times pupils in their class have their reading records signed ensuring they are meeting the five times per week expectation. These figures are then added to our reading race board and the class that has their reading records signed the most in a term wins the reading trophy and an extra 15 minutes playtime!

There are also individual prizes to be won so get reading and signing!

Reading record signed 50 times: Reading Bookmark

Reading record signed 100 times: Bookmark Stamp and Bronze Badge

Reading record signed 150 times: Bookmark Stamp

Reading record signed 200 times: Bookmark Stamp and Silver Badge

Reading record signed 250 times: Bookmark Stamp

Reading record signed 300 times: Tea Party and Gold Badge

Some questions to ask your child while reading together

- Look at the front cover. What could the book be about?
- Who is the author?
- What is an illustrator? What do they do?
- What does that word mean? Read the words around it to help you figure it out (context)
- How can you read an unfamiliar word? Can you use your Fred talk and then blend?
- Who are the main characters in the story?
- What do you think will happen next?
- How do you think that character feels? Why? How would you feel in that situation?
- Can you predict how the book will end?
- Who is your favourite character? Why?
- Is there a hidden message in the story? What is it?
- Can you retell the story in your own words?
- Do you like how the story ended? Can you think of another way the book could have ended?

On-line Times Tables Challenge- TT ROCKSTARS

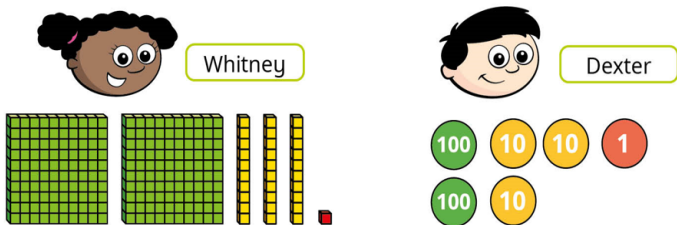
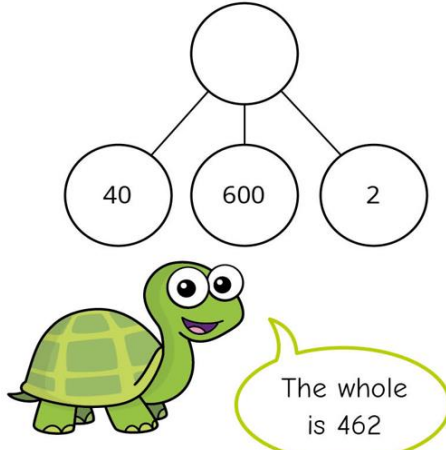
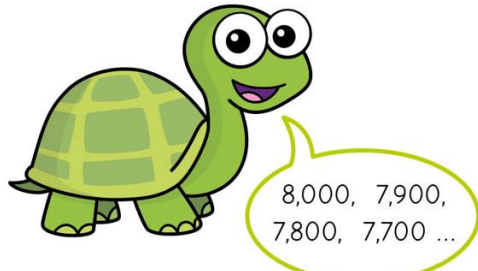
Having a really secure knowledge of times tables facts provides the foundation for the understanding of numerous mathematical concepts.

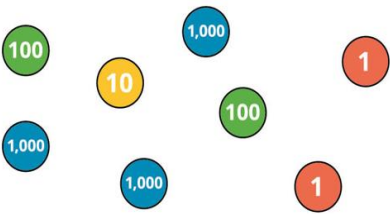
‘**TT Rockstars**’ is a highly engaging, on line tool designed to help children progress with rapid recall of tables facts through regular questions tailored to their individual needs.

As part of the weekly homework there will be an expectation for children to spend regular time on TT Rockstars practising their times tables facts

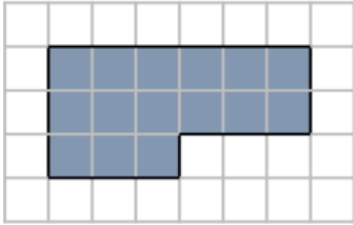
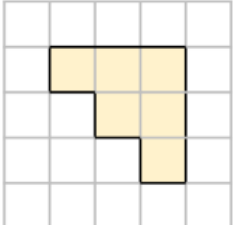


Homework

Week commencing	Topic based skills homework	Spellings	Maths
7th – 11 th Sept 2026 Due date 9th September	History Why was the Roman army so efficient? Give some reasons. Draw a Roman legionary and label his equipment. What were the Roman words for such things as: shields, Swords and helmets?		TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: Whitney and Dexter have each made a number.  What numbers have they made? What is the same about their numbers? What is different?
14 th – 18 th Sept 2026 Due date 16th September	ICT Think about e-safety and what you have previously learnt and consider: why is it so important to stay safe online? Create an eye-catching E-Safety poster for how to stay safe online. Include information such as: What should you do in order to stay safe? – think SMART What information you should / should not share with others? Include a title and some pictures on your poster.	List 1	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge:  Explain the mistake that Tiny has made. What is the whole?
21 st – 25 th Sept 2026 Due date 23rd September	Art Look at the work of Shaun Tan. Try and copy his style in pencil or any other medium. Use shading to mimic the shadows used in his work.	List 2	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: Tiny is counting back in 1,000s from 8,000  What mistake has Tiny made?

28th Sept – 2nd Oct 2026 Due date 30th September	RE Using your knowledge organiser, answer the following questions about Christianity: - Where did the religion of Christianity originate? - Where do ideas about right and wrong come from for Christians? - What is the Christian holy book called? - What are three of the ten commandments? - Name one Christian pilgrimage site. Why is it important to Christians?	List 3	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: Aisha is making 3,512 with place value counters.  What other place value counters could she add to make 3,512?
5th - 9th Oct 2026 Due date 7th October	Science Animals including humans: Draw and label a sketch of the digestive system. Include: Mouth Oesophagus Stomach Small intestine Large intestine Anus	List 4	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: Practise using column method to add four-digit numbers. You could write digits 0-9 on scrap paper and randomly select numbers to create your calculations. See how many you can complete in 10 minutes!
12th – 16th Oct 2026 Due date 14th October	Reading Read a book of your choice at home (or from the school library) and write a book review for it – this could be presented as a poster or written in paragraphs in your homework book. Make sure you include: · Title of the book · Authors name · Characters – Who are they? Did you like them? · Plot – What happened? · Your opinion of the book – Did you like the book? What was your favourite part and why? Were there any funny or scary bits in the story? · Recommendation – would you recommend this book to others – why / why not? · Star rating out of 5.	List 5	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: Practice using column method to subtract four-digit numbers. Ask an adult or sibling to give you random numbers to create your calculations. See how many you can complete in 10 minutes!

19th – 23rd Oct 2026 Due date 21st October	English Learn the poem from your English knowledge organiser to perform as part of a group to the class. Focus on speaking clearly and projecting your voice for the best performance!	List 6	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: What is the missing 4-digit number? <table><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Th</td><td>H</td><td>T</td><td>O</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>+</td><td>6</td><td>3</td><td>9</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>4</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>									Th	H	T	O								+	6	3	9	5			8	9	4	9						
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HALF TERM: 26th – 2nd Nov 2026	Enjoy your holiday!																																						
INSET 2nd Nov 2026 3rd – 6th Nov 2026 Due date 4th November	Life Skills List a range of physical activities that you can do to keep your body healthy. Practise doing each activity on your list and write a short sentence to describe the impact on your body. - Which part of your body worked the most during the activity? - Did you feel out of breath doing the activity? - How many repeats could you do before you got too tired? - How did your body feel after doing the activity?	List 7	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: Fill in the missing digits. <table><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Th</td><td>H</td><td>T</td><td>O</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>9</td><td>9</td><td>9</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>-</td><td></td><td></td><td>8</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>3</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> Compare answers with a partner. Can you find any more?									Th	H	T	O			9	9	9	9		-			8					3								
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9th – 13th Nov 2026 Due date 11th November	History What was the legacy of the Roman invasion of Britain? What did they bring to Britain?	List 8	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: The children are estimating the answer to 4,502 – 1,414 4,000 – 1,000 = 3,000 Jack 4,500 – 1,400 = 3,100 Ron 5,000 – 1,000 = 4,000 Sam Which children have rounded correctly? What mistake has been made? Whose calculation was easiest? Whose estimate was most accurate?																																				

16 th – 20 th Nov 2026 Due date 18th November	Science Get a mirror and have a good look inside your mouth at your teeth. Count how many you have. Are any wobbly? How many milk teeth do you have versus how many adult teeth? Which ones are incisors, canines and molars? Can you draw and label a picture of your teeth? <u>Challenge</u> – listen to your favourite song and brush your teeth for as long as its playing (around 2 minutes). Can you make a promise to do this twice a day – EVERY day!	List 9	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: Work out the calculation, giving your answer in Roman numerals. XIV + XXXVI Make up some other calculations using Roman numerals that have the same answer.
23 rd – 27 th Nov 2026 Due date 25th November	Art Look at some illustrations by Quentin Blake from the book 'sad' by Michael Rosen. Try to imitate Quentin Blake's style, to tell a story through your art.	List 10	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: What is the area of each shape?  _____ squares  _____ squares
30 th Nov – 4 th Dec 2026 Due date 2nd December	RE Research Christian pilgrimages and holy places. Present your findings in a format of your choice – poster, power point, information booklet etc. · What is a pilgrimage? · Where do Christians go on their pilgrimage? · Why is this an important journey for a Christian? · Do all Christians need to make this journey?	List 11	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: Use your knowledge of the commutative law to rearrange three addition and three multiplication questions. How many different ways can you rearrange each equation?
7 th – 11 th Dec 2026 Due date 9th December	Reading Read a book of your choice at home (or from the school library) and write a book review for it – this could be presented as a poster or written in paragraphs in your homework book. Make sure you include: · Title of the book · Authors name · Characters – Who are they? Did you like them? · Plot – What happened? · Your opinion of the book – Did you like the book? What was your favourite part and why?	List 12	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge:

	Were there any funny or scary bits in the story? · Recommendation – would you recommend this book to others – why / why not? · Star rating out of 5.		Leon makes an array using counters. Part of the array is covered.  Write down a multiplication that the array shows. × How many counters are in the array?
14th – 18th Dec 2026 Due date 16th December	Maths Create a multiplication game and write instructions for other children in class to follow and play. For example: • Snakes and ladders • Bingo boards • Loop cards	Revise the spellings that you found the hardest from the spelling lists	TT Rockstars expectation 4 x 5 minutes Challenge: Log on to TTRockstars, complete 5 rounds of soundcheck. Can you get more than your last score? 
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY End of term 18th December 2026	Enjoy your holidays!		

Your topic homework will not be marked but will be celebrated in class.

Your spellings and maths facts will be tested every week in school, so that you can see how you are improving.

Of course, the learning does not have to stop here: we would love you to continue your learning at home in any way you feel you would like to, and we are always happy to hear about extra facts you've found out, listen to stories you've written or how you might have cracked the next times table set you need to work on. Learning never stops!

Spelling lists for the Autumn Term

Year 4

List 1	List 2	List 3	List 4	List 5	List 6	List 7
<u>Spelling Rule:</u> Common words from Key Stage 1 and setting non-negotiable. Days of the week and months of the year.	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> Year 3/4 Statutory word list	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> The suffix –ly is added to an adjective to form an adverb	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> The /I/ sound spelt y elsewhere than at the end of words	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> The /u/ sound spelt ou.	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> Suffix -ation	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> Review and assessment of spelling taught this half term.
Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday July May March April September	often pressure position medicine potatoes popular naughty notice natural material	angrily happily sleepily hesitantly quickly worryingly kindly slowly loudly gently	gym hymn mystery crypt lyrics lynx symbol syrup typical Egypt	young touch double trouble country courage encourage colour couple southern	information preparation adoration admiration taxation isolation hesitation invitation hibernation moderation	Wednesday notice loudly crystal young sensation potatoes simply August February

List 8	List 9	List 10	List 11	List 12	List 13
<u>Spelling Rule:</u> Common words from key stage 1 and setting non-negotiables.	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> Year 3/4 Statutory Word list 1-20.	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> The prefix in– can mean both ‘not’ and ‘in’/‘into’. In the words given here it means ‘not’ Before a root word starting with m or p, in– becomes im–. Before a root word starting with l, in– becomes il.	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> More Prefixes ir- and sub-	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> More Prefixes dis- and mis-	<u>Spelling Rule:</u> Suffix –ous.
would could should because said children too two here where	recent regular reign perhaps popular special straight potatoes question promise	inactive immortal illegal intake illogical impunity incorrect impatient impose implant	irregular subdivide submerge irrational submit subculture subtitle subnormal submarine subheading	disobey misspell disgrace disguise misfire misspent misplace misdeed misuse mislead	curious hideous famous enormous glamorous outrageous various jealous humorous courageous

Challenge: Earn yourself some extra house points!

1 House Point – whilst learning each spelling list every week, could your child choose **five** of the words and put them into five separate interesting sentences.