

Newsletter

Hello and welcome back!

We're already several weeks into the new school year and the children have settled brilliantly. They've dived straight into their learning with lots of enthusiasm, and we can't wait to see all the progress they'll make this year.

Our Team

- **Blacktips** – Mr Cawley
- **Silvertips** – Mrs Faunch
- **Bamboo** – Mrs Clements

Maths groups:

- Year 4 – Mr Cawley and Mrs Ecobichon
- Year 3 – Mrs Clements and Mrs Faunch

We are also supported by our wonderful Teaching Assistants, **Mrs Randall** and **Mrs Colley**, and **Mr Knight**, who provides 1:1 support.

Our Topics This Term

Autumn 1: Ancient Egyptians and the Afterlife We'll be exploring what the Ancient Egyptians believed happened after death, looking at their fascinating art and culture. We'll also make comparisons with Christian beliefs, encouraging the children to think about similarities and differences.

Autumn 2: Incredible India Next half term we'll turn our attention to India – its geography, culture, religions, food, and how life in towns there compares with life here today. A colourful and exciting topic to round off the term!

PE Days

PE will be every **Thursday**. Please make sure children come to school in the correct PE kit, ready for both indoor and outdoor activities. For full guidance, check the parents' handbook.

Swimming

- **Blacktips** are currently enjoying their swimming lessons this term.
- **Silvertips** will start after Christmas, with lessons beginning on **12th January**.
- **Bamboo** will take their turn in the summer term, starting on **20th April**.

The cost is **£10 for 10 lessons**—fantastic value for such an important life skill!



Reading

Reading remains at the heart of everything we do. Reading logs will continue using the bookmark system from last year, so if your child is working towards their **SHARP badges**, they don't need to start again. Please try to read at home as often as possible—it really does make a difference!

We're also very excited about our **new library set-up**. It will be open soon, with some fantastic new books and features for the children to enjoy. Watch this space!

Seesaw

We'll continue using **Seesaw** as our online platform. You'll find updates about what we've been doing in class, homework tasks, and important notices about upcoming trips and events. It's a great way to stay connected with your child's learning.

Times Tables Rock Stars & Spelling Shed

The children are already confident with these platforms, and we'll keep using them in school to sharpen times tables and spelling skills. They're also brilliant to use at home—please encourage your child to log in and practise regularly, alongside their reading.

Upcoming Trips

We're thrilled to let you know that we have a trip planned to the **SeaCity Museum in Southampton** on **27th January**, as part of our Titanic topic. More details and payment information will follow soon, but we're sure this will be a highlight of the year!

Person of the Week

We are delighted to let you know that **Person of the Week assemblies** will now take place on **Friday afternoons**. Parents of the chosen child will be invited to come along and see their child receive their certificate. You'll be informed on the **Thursday before** if your child has been selected—so keep an eye out for a message from us!

Thank you!

We're really looking forward to another busy and exciting term with your children. Thank you, as always, for your support at home—it makes all the difference.

Warm regards,
The Year 3/4 Team