Dear all,

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a lovely Christmas and New Year break. We’re looking forward to a busy and exciting half term with the year 4s. Please see the attached curriculum information to find out some of the things we will be learning over the next half term.

**General information:**

**PE:** PE days are Monday and Friday. Please make sure that your child comes to school wearing their full PE kit on these days. If children wear earrings, please either remove them before school on PE days or cover them with a plaster or tape before school. Long hair must be tied back for PE. Thank you.

**Water bottles:** Please make sure that your child has a water bottle in school every day. We don’t always have a teaching assistant in class with us, so getting drinks for children without bottles is sometimes difficult. These should be full as we are not able to refill them during the day. Please make sure that your child’s water bottle is large enough to last them all day, particularly on PE days. Thank you.

**Spellings:** Spellings will continue to be sent out via Spelling Shed each Monday and be tested the following Monday.

**Times tables:** Please encourage your child to practise their times tables through Times Table Rockstars or any other method that they enjoy. We will continue to teach times tables daily in school and let you know which tables we are focusing on at the moment. We are working really hard to improve the class’s knowledge of times table facts and really appreciate your help with this at home. Homework sheets will be sent out on a Monday (sometimes a Tuesday!). These sheets are just provided to add a bit of structure to your work at home. They do not have to be returned but children who do will receive 5 House Points. Some children learn best through practical activities so it is not compulsory. ***We will do a times table test each Monday.***

**Communication:** Just a reminder that we use Parentmail for most of our communication with you. We sometimes send letters home with your child though, so it is always best to ask your child to check their bag at the end of the day. This letter and other class newsletters will be posted on our page on the school website, as always.

**Reading:** We listen to your child read in various different contexts throughout the week in school, including guided group reading sessions and 1:1 reading. Please continue to listen to your child read at home. We recommend 10-15 minutes most days but we know that this is not always possible. As much as you can manage will be really beneficial to your child’s reading ability, even if your child is already a fluent reader. Please write a comment in your child’s reading record to let us know how they did and to highlight any issues or difficulties they may have had.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Walsh and Mrs Collins