

### General Information

We have been so impressed by just how well all of our children have settled back into our routines since September and it's so lovely to have everyone back! The children have adapted well to the changes throughout school and we are proud of them all. Well done everyone! As ever, if you have any queries, please get in contact although please also be aware of social distancing guidelines.

### What are we learning?

Our topic this term is **Ancient Rome**, which has links across all subjects, including art, drama and DT. We will be learning about what it was like in Roman times and have already looked at the story of Romulus and Remus. Please ask your children what they have learnt so far! Next term, we will continue on our Roman adventure, by exploring what impact the Romans had on Britain.



In Geography, we are exploring volcanoes, their impact on the environment and the history of Pompeii. We will also be creating our own volcanoes to demonstrate our knowledge of volcanic eruptions and the various materials involved. Science this term focuses on States of Matter (solids, liquids and gases), moving on to electricity next term.

For P.E, Year 4 have swimming lessons. Class 7 are swimming until Christmas and then focusing on fitness in school, whilst Class 8 are currently doing this and will swap to swimming early next year – letters will be sent out in due course for this.

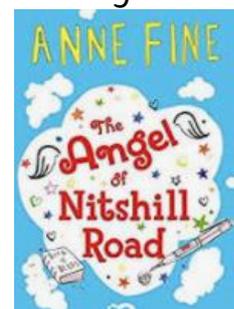
In English, we are writing newspaper reports based on 'The Matilda Effect', as well as diary entries to demonstrate our increasing vocabulary and new grammatical skills. Reading is still a vital important part of the curriculum and we have already covered many books between both classes, including:

- The Matilda Effect
- The Nothing to See Here Hotel
- The Angel of Nitshill Road

### What are we reading?



**The Matilda Effect**  
*Ellie Irving*



**The Angel of Nitshill Road.**  
*Anne Fine*

### Times Tables

In Year 4, children are assessed on their knowledge of the times tables up to 12 x 12. This year will see the first statutory assessment at the end of the academic year and at this point, the children will have been taught all the times tables. Children will have opportunities to practise their times tables in school, during maths lessons or on the Times Table Rockstars app. However, in the past, we have seen the most improvement when children practise for short periods at home every day. We suggest that children practise for 5 minutes a day. This can be on the TTR app or through counting and quizzes from parents!

### Other information:

- Children have all been provided with a flu vaccination letter which contains details of how to opt in online. Please see one of the team if you need a new letter.
- Children are provided with homework each week. If your child is struggling with this, please let us know and we'll do our best to support them.
- Reading Olympics is still happening. It's absolutely not a problem for children to write their own reads into their diaries. We'll endeavour to count these reads every Friday but sometimes this may need to be done on the following Monday.
- We've noticed that many children are struggling when reading out loud, so any opportunity they could have to do this at home would be greatly appreciated. 😊

