



# Garnet Class Newsletter

Thorpe Church of England Aided Primary School

Faith, Love and Excellence.



Spring Term 1

January 2025

Dear Garnet Class Parents and Carers

Welcome back!

I hope that you enjoyed your Christmas holidays. Thank you ever so much for your wonderful cards and gifts. I really appreciate your generosity.

This half term in **English** we will be working on 'Planet Omar' by Zaniab Mian. Our focus will be on characterisation and speech between characters. Children will plan and write their own chapter using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions in multi-clause sentences. Next, we will read a poem called 'Sea Fever' by John Masefield. Children will explore the poem, focusing on features such as repetition and figurative language, then create their own version.

In **Maths** we will be learning to find factor pairs and writing equivalent calculations. We will explore what happens when we multiply and divide by 10 and 100. Next, we will look at the relationship between multiplication and division and explore scaling facts by 10 and 100. We will then learn how to multiply and divide 2- and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. When we move on to 'Length and Perimeter', we will be measuring and calculating equivalent lengths, finding the perimeter of rectangles, rectilinear shapes and regular polygons. As always, we will be focusing on fluency, problem solving and reasoning throughout every lesson.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email in to the office and I will respond as soon as I can.

Many thanks,

© Mrs Whenman ☺

During the first half of the Spring term learning in Year 4 will be as follows:

**Science: Living Things and their habitats.** Children will recognise what the characteristics of living things are and that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. They will explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. They will explore and discuss how environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

**R.E: Islam - 'How does worship show what's important to Muslims?'** Children will focus on prayer being important for most Muslims as it's when time is taken out of the day to show a submission to Allah (Arabic term for God). They will learn that Muslim beliefs about prayer or worship show a dedication to obeying Allah. We will also explore the Qu'ran and why Muslims pray together in a mosque.

**Geography: Where does our food come from?** Children will learn that the food we eat comes from many different places around the world. They will learn about the different climate zones, locating them on a world map and discover which foods are transported to the UK. We will also explore the benefits of buying Fair Trade produce and the consequences of changing the way land is used.

**Computing: Computational Thinking:** Children will learn that computational thinking is made up of four pillars: abstraction, algorithm design, decomposition and pattern recognition. They will combine computational thinking skills to solve a problem.

**PSHE: - Think Positive** - This topic builds on children's knowledge of positive thinking and how it can help our mental wellbeing. The lessons centre around themes such as understanding our feelings, managing difficult emotions, learning how to be calm and how to practise mindfulness, coping with change, taking responsibility for decisions and developing a growth mindset approach to learning.

**P.E / Games:** Gymnastics and Games

**Music:** Continuing to learn to play the P-Cornet or Baritone. **Please ensure your child brings their instrument to school every Friday.**

**DT:** We will be using mechanisms, levers and linkages.

## Home Learning

Home learning is a very important part of school life and the children will continue to need **your** support to complete their tasks.

### Tasks will be:

- 1) **Reading** - Please read aloud with your child **at least 4 times a week** (every night if possible).
- 2) **Spellings** - On a Friday your child will be taught a new spelling rule and then given some online spellings using 'Spelling Shed' to practise. These will be tested in school the following Friday.
- 3) **Times tables** - Children should practise their times tables at home using any game or website which they enjoy. Here is a link to the Multiplication Tables Check Simulator so they can practise for the Year 4 test which is later this year: <https://play.edshed.com/en-gb/mtc>
- 4) **Maths** - Tasks will be set on 'Maths Shed' for further maths practice.
- 5) **Topic** - A grid will be sent home with different activities (emailed and paper copy). The children choose **two** of these to complete over the half term. The due dates for each task are at the top of the grid. Please help your child to choose a task that interests them.  
Any questions please just ask. Thank you.

Please ensure that the children have these items at school with them every day and that **everything is clearly named:**

- A clear pencil case with named equipment
- A bottle of water
- A **healthy snack** - **fresh fruit** is best for break. **NO NUTS please!**
- Coat (weather can be wet and cold)
- Wellie Boots to be left at school (for playing on the grass/field)
- Their reading book and home-school link book.
- Library book on a **Friday**

### Garnet Class PE

We will continue to have PE on a **Monday & Thursday**. Please ensure your child comes to school in their **school P.E kit** on these days. Please ensure long hair is tied back and earrings are removed.