

WELCOME BACK! LET'S GET 2025 OFF TO A GREAT START!

In the first half term, we will read Malamander by Thomas Taylor. This book is the first instalment



of an exciting monster filled series. Herbert Lemon, Lost-and-Founder at the Grand Nautilus Hotel, knows that returning lost things to their rightful owners is not easy – especially when the lost thing is not a thing at all, but a girl. No one knows what happened to Violet Parma's parents twelve years ago, and when she engages Herbie to help her find them, the pair discover that their disappearance might have something to do with the legendary sea-monster, the Malamander. Eerie-on-Sea has always been a mysteriously chilling place, where strange stories

In the second half term, we will read The Last Bear by Hannah Gold. There are no polar bears left on Bear Island. At least, that's what April's father tells her when his scientific research takes them to this remote Arctic outpost for six months. But one endless summer night, April meets one. He is starving, lonely and a long way from home. Determined to save him, April begins the most important journey of her life.



We hope you've all had a lovely Christmas and New Year and you're refreshed and ready to get back to school. We can't wait to hear what you've all been up to and get started on everything we've got planned 2025.

Staffing: Miss Page is the main class teacher within Year 4, with all her fab work being overseen by Miss Gray. Miss Lowery is the teaching assistant in class every morning.

As always, please send us an email with any queries you may have. The Year 4 email address is:
dtcyear4@tudhoecolliery.co.uk

Shakespeare Key Info!

This term we will be very busy getting ready for our Shakespeare performance which is a key Tudhoe 30 experience in Year 4. More information on the other side.

Key Information for you:

- Performance date: Tuesday 5th March 2025
- Time: 7pm–9:30pm (pupils will go to the theatre in the afternoon from school and stay until the show)
- Venue: Gala Theatre Durham
- Box Office Opens on Thursday 9th January

Phone: 03000 266600

Website: <https://galadurham.co.uk>

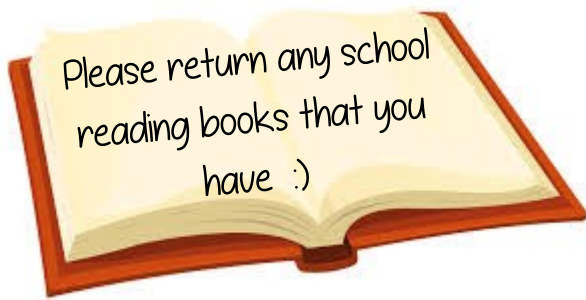
TICKET PRICES

Adult: £11.75

Concessions: £9.75

Group (20+ tickets): £9

N.B. These prices are inclusive of the theatre's £1 booking fee.



Please put names in all school jumpers and cardigans. They are often left unclaimed in class and never have names in, meaning lots of virtually new uniform ends up in lost property.

PE Kit

Year 4 will have PE every week on **Wednesday** this half term. On Wednesday, children will need to come to school in their PE kit, meaning they do not need to get changed. PE will be **Dance** and will usually be in the hall, but children will wear their kit outside at break.

Children will be encouraged to be as active as possible during playtimes, so suitable shoes should be worn everyday.



Shakespeare Performance

We will give out Shakespeare parts by the end of next week. This will give children enough time to learn their lines and work on their acting. If your child has a speaking part, please work on it as much as possible at home as every bit will really help and then we can work on putting the show together in school. All children will take part in the show even though not everyone can have a speaking part. Our show will be Romeo and Juliet, a tragedy that involves forbidden love, fighting families and death. This is an amazing opportunity for children to perform on a professional stage.

On the 29th January we will have a workshop in school to work on a key scene. I will send a parentmail with more information about this.

Our performance takes place on the evening of 5th March at the Gala Theatre in Durham. Other schools will perform different plays in the same show. As a class, we will go there on the afternoon for our tech and dress rehearsal.

Hopefully most of you will be able to make it to the show to see the kids perform :). All children will need to be collected after the performances, but a ParentMail will be sent out about this closer to the time.



Homework

Spellings: spelling books come home on Monday and are due back the following Monday. This gives a full week to practise the tricky words and your handwriting. These words often relate to what we are doing in writing, so working on them at home is really helpful. Additionally children can earn up to 2 minutes on the bouncy castle per week. This is based on the spellings and handwriting. Children can also work on key tricky words on Spelling Shed.

Times Tables: the times table check is approaching and regular practise is helpful and important. The check will take place between Monday 2nd June - Friday 13th June. In school, we use a system that involves a lot of verbal rehearsal of the tables, so pupils learn each fact (not each full times table) like a line of a song.

1. pupils should not be figuring the tables out, so until they know them off by heart, they should have the answer in front of them to rehearse aloud/ copy from.
2. seeing the links between tables is crucial, so if you know $6 \times 2 = 12$, you automatically know $2 \times 6 = 12$. We will always say the larger factor first, so both of these would be read as 'six twos are twelve'.

Afternoon Topics	History— Ancient Greece
DT— Make an Easter egg box	Science— Humans including Animals
Art— Cezanne and Andy Goldsworthy	Computing— Writing for different audiences
Geography— Natural Disasters	Spanish— Animals, family and siblings
Music— Compose with your friends and ukulele	PSHCE - managing our feelings
PE— dance and football	RE - Islam