

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful break.

This week the children have:

- Used the facts in the 11 and 12 times tables and used their knowledge of times tables to multiply 3 numbers.
- Written their own ending to a short story called 'Lost in the Colosseum' and then used drama and role play to retell and act out scenes from the story as well as considered how the author shows the character's feelings.
- Started their topic on The Romans using maps to discover when and where the Roman Empire spread across Europe; used their research skills to find out facts about Julius Caesar and retold the story of Boudicca.
- Enjoyed their first Zumba lesson, taught by Mrs McCluskey.

Next week they will:

- Explore a story called 'Escape from Pompeii'.
- Investigate factor pairs and begin to use efficient multiplication.
- Find out about the impact of the Roman invasion of Britain and learn about Roman roads.
- **Visit the library on Wednesday 16th - please could all books be sent in to be returned on this day.**

Homework:

For their Maths Homework this week, I would like the children to spend time using Maths Whizz where the focus will be to use mental strategies for multiplication and division. The aim is for them to make 3 progressions or more by Thursday 17th January. They may find it useful to use a piece of paper and a pencil to make jottings while they are working. If your child is unable to access Maths Whizz at home, then they will be given the opportunity to use the iPads in school on Wednesday during Assembly time. I would also encourage the children to practise their times tables using Times Table Rockstars.

The children will receive their new Spring spelling word list on Monday 14th January. A copy is kept in their spelling book in school and lists will also be uploaded to our class website page.

Roman Topic:

We will be continuing to learn about the Romans over the next few weeks and so it would be fantastic if the children could choose from an additional *optional* practical homework task to be handed in by Friday 1st February. These tasks could include:

- To design and make a Roman shield. The children could also add some facts about battles on the reverse of the shield.
- To design and make a Roman mosaic. This could depict an element of everyday Roman life.
- To research Roman clothes, jewellery or weaponry and create a poster to show any findings.
- Another similar creative task of your child's choice linked to the Romans.

Buster's Book Club:

A new Spring Book mark has been stapled into your child's reading record book. Please encourage your child to read every night and record one session of reading on the book mark ready for Thursday's data collection each week.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

The Year 4 Team