



Hello Year 3!

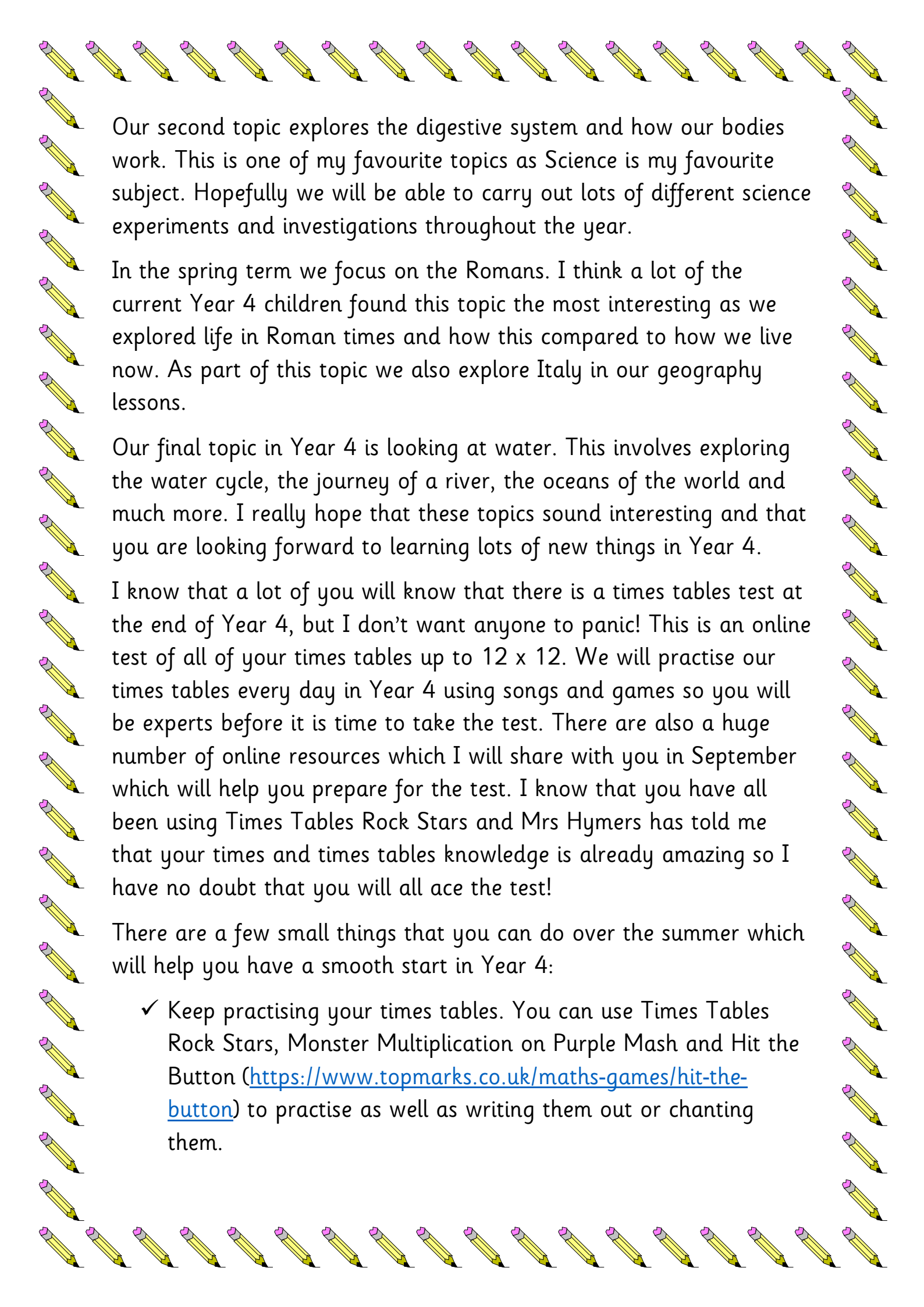
My name is Miss Gradwell and as you know I will be your teacher in Year 4. I am writing to you to tell you a little bit about what Year 4 will be like and to reassure you that coming back to school in September is nothing to worry about.

Some of you know me from Times Tables Club, but I am really looking forward to getting to know you all next year. My favourite subjects are Science, Maths and Reading. I love finding out what books you enjoy, so have a think over summer and then tell me all about your favourite book in September. I have a cat called Dinah and a dog called Leo, I hope you all like animals too.

If any of you are worried about moving to Year 4, please try not to be. We have all had a very different end of the school year than we were expecting and I know that some of you might be feeling worried or anxious about coming back to school in September. It is completely normal to feel this way, but remember everyone is in the same situation. We will work together to make the return to school as easy as possible and we will all be there for one another to help and support each other whenever needed.

There will always be an adult in class who can help you, so don't worry if you have a question or need help with work in class. All you need to do is put your hand up and help will appear! The biggest thing I will ask of you in Year 4 is that you always try your best.

In Year 4 we cover lots of interesting topics. When you come back to school in September our first topic will be all about the Stone Age. Mrs Hymers has told me that there were some BBC Bitesize lessons about the Stone Age that were very interesting, so some of you may already know some fascinating facts that you can share with the class.



Our second topic explores the digestive system and how our bodies work. This is one of my favourite topics as Science is my favourite subject. Hopefully we will be able to carry out lots of different science experiments and investigations throughout the year.

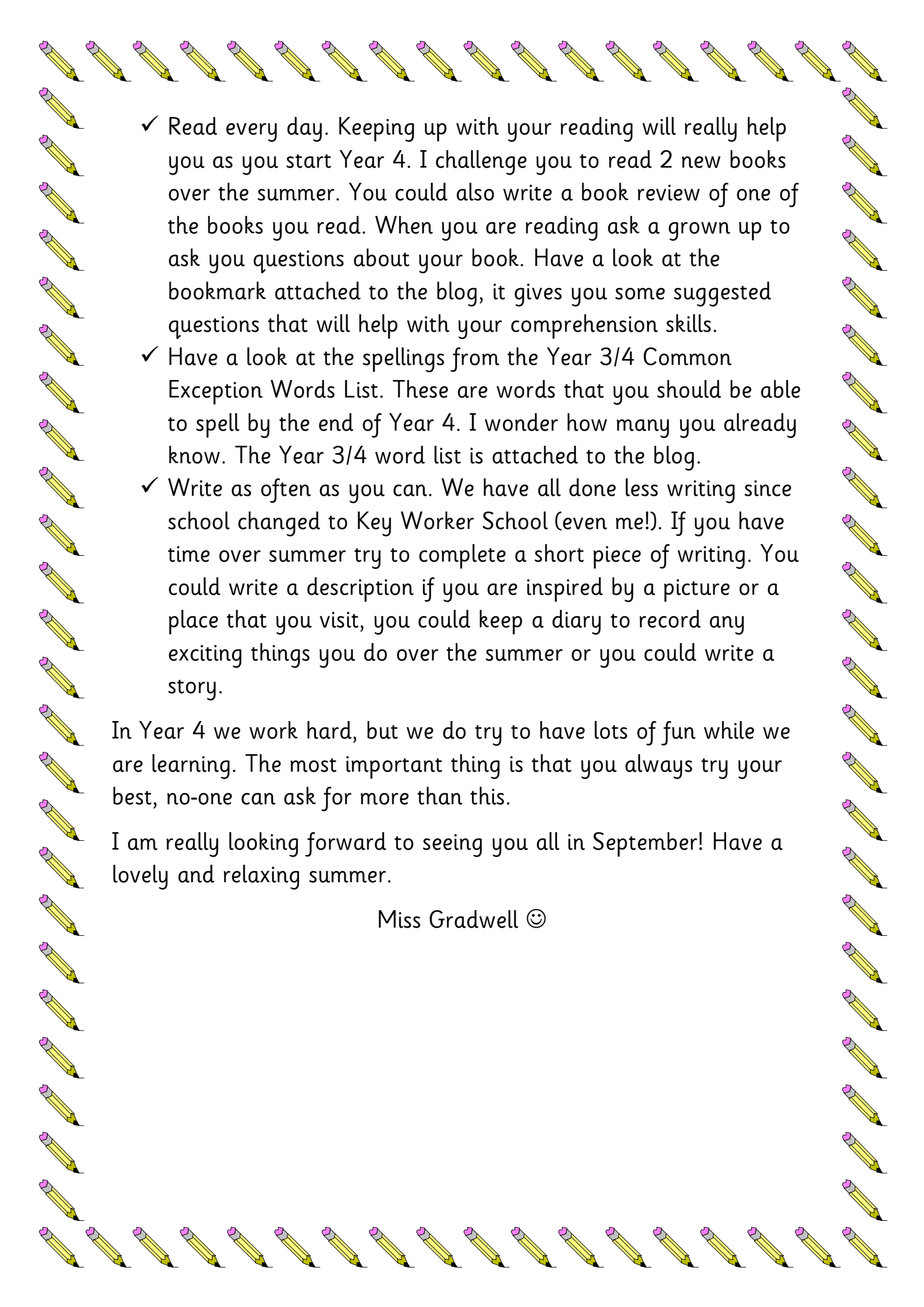
In the spring term we focus on the Romans. I think a lot of the current Year 4 children found this topic the most interesting as we explored life in Roman times and how this compared to how we live now. As part of this topic we also explore Italy in our geography lessons.

Our final topic in Year 4 is looking at water. This involves exploring the water cycle, the journey of a river, the oceans of the world and much more. I really hope that these topics sound interesting and that you are looking forward to learning lots of new things in Year 4.

I know that a lot of you will know that there is a times tables test at the end of Year 4, but I don't want anyone to panic! This is an online test of all of your times tables up to 12×12 . We will practise our times tables every day in Year 4 using songs and games so you will be experts before it is time to take the test. There are also a huge number of online resources which I will share with you in September which will help you prepare for the test. I know that you have all been using Times Tables Rock Stars and Mrs Hymers has told me that your times and times tables knowledge is already amazing so I have no doubt that you will all ace the test!

There are a few small things that you can do over the summer which will help you have a smooth start in Year 4:

- ✓ Keep practising your times tables. You can use Times Tables Rock Stars, Monster Multiplication on Purple Mash and Hit the Button (<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>) to practise as well as writing them out or chanting them.

- 
- ✓ Read every day. Keeping up with your reading will really help you as you start Year 4. I challenge you to read 2 new books over the summer. You could also write a book review of one of the books you read. When you are reading ask a grown up to ask you questions about your book. Have a look at the bookmark attached to the blog, it gives you some suggested questions that will help with your comprehension skills.
 - ✓ Have a look at the spellings from the Year 3/4 Common Exception Words List. These are words that you should be able to spell by the end of Year 4. I wonder how many you already know. The Year 3/4 word list is attached to the blog.
 - ✓ Write as often as you can. We have all done less writing since school changed to Key Worker School (even me!). If you have time over summer try to complete a short piece of writing. You could write a description if you are inspired by a picture or a place that you visit, you could keep a diary to record any exciting things you do over the summer or you could write a story.

In Year 4 we work hard, but we do try to have lots of fun while we are learning. The most important thing is that you always try your best, no-one can ask for more than this.

I am really looking forward to seeing you all in September! Have a lovely and relaxing summer.

Miss Gradwell 😊