What a wonderful beginning we have had to Class 4. We are so happy to be reunited again for 2016. Our first main lesson has begun in Norse Mythology. We are enjoying hearing unusual tales of giants, gods and Vikings. The children are excited about the battles between gods and giants and are getting a sense of the danger the Norsemen would once have felt. It is quite exhilarating.

We have learnt some alliterative verses and have been dynamic in our morning circle work, working with staffs and stomping out our lines....apparently we are creating quite a rumble throughout the building!

Miss Melissa is supporting this work in Eurythmy and we have also enjoyed some Bothmer Gym games that are relevant to the Norse. Our form drawing has developed with Nordic bands and we have painted the Norse Creation Story.
**Birthday Celebrations**

We have celebrated a number of birthdays already this year as it is a particularly busy period for birthdays at the moment. Happy Birthday to Ry (10), Gil (9), Rosie (9), Cian (10), Indi (9) and Xavier S (10).

Please remember to bring a wholesome, nut-free cake or snack to share for birthday celebrations. A reminder to always be mindful of those children in our class with anaphylaxis and exclude nuts from your children's lunch boxes.

**Welcome Ry**

We welcomed the lovely Ry to our classroom and his mum Bek, father Glenn and we are looking forward to meeting big sister Asha in the near future. It is so wonderful that children join us and are made to feel so welcome when they arrive. Amy and I are so proud of our very friendly, happy class who always treat each other with respect and kindness. I was not surprised when Tim (Fitzy) commented last week that 4S were the most cooperative grade in PE last week.

**Room 13**

We have settled into our new classroom very nicely. A lovely new rug was purchased, which we are taking great care of and some new shelves and materials have arrived, making room 13 feel well inhabited. We would like a few more board games for wet day timetables so if anybody has anything suitable they would like to donate to our class we would greatly appreciate it.
Homework

For homework I would really appreciate it if parents could help the children practice their times tables (up to 10) in the evenings, if you have time, perhaps before reading.

Speaking of reading, I have noticed that a number of children are reading texts that and not appropriate. It is wonderful that children have such a passion for reading but it is still important that children are reading age appropriate material. I have attached a reading list as recommended by Steiner education for 9 to 10-year-olds. I am sure there will be something to suit everybody's taste on this list, however, if you would like more guidance I have several other texts to help you in this area. Please be as mindful of appropriateness with reading as you are with viewing.

Other News...

It was wonderful to meet baby Jase last week when Amy came up to see us. What a beautiful, contented, five week old baby he is and Amy is such a wonderful mother of four boys now. I don't know how she does it!

Looking forward to the 'meet the teacher' night on Wednesday the 10th of February. Amy will hopefully be joining us on that evening also. If you have not returned the notices regarding music tuition please do so as soon as possible also. We are waiting on a number of walking excursion forms. This is one of my favourite notices because, when all are returned, we can go on many adventures in the local area.

May I remind parents that children need their hats this term and, if the UV is still high, in second term we would like the children to continue wearing them. This is not compulsory at this stage, but it's a good practice to continue in March. First term is very short this year.

Working bee is after school this Friday 3:20-6pm. It would be wonderful to see lots of 4S parents there. Also, please return the notice regarding the junior playground development as soon as possible.

We began our woodwork program last Monday with the wonderful K Carter, father of Indi. We learnt to whittle timber using branches from an apple tree and a small knife. The children are learning to use sharp tools very carefully with only two minor cuts on the first day.

We have been planning our first overnight camp for April. Once this camp has been approved by School Council I will inform you of the details. Let's just say the teachers are very excited about it.

Well I think that's enough news for now. Look forward to seeing you on Wednesday evening.

Love and light to you all, Lizzy