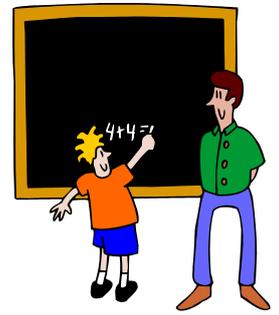


A Very warm welcome to Year 4

Dear Parent and pupil,

I hope you have had a really enjoyable summer break and that you are looking forward to the year ahead in class 4!



Below are some of the main topics that we will be covering in the autumn term. We are in the third year of our exciting 'St George's Curriculum', which we have designed in line with the new programmes of study for 2014. Our focus is to ensure learning is fun, challenging and engaging.

Subject	Topics	How to help
RE	Family Belonging Loving	Discuss the meaning of Christian prayers such as the 'Our Father' and 'Hail Mary.' Family-Help your child to understand what a family tree is and maybe show one to the class. Belonging-The meaning of the promises made at Baptism. Loving-Understanding Advent.
Literacy	Stories which raise issues/dilemmas. Information Texts. Journalistic Recounts. A story in a narrative verse.	Encourage your child to read and read and read and read! Please hear them read as much as you can (little and often is good!) Please could you write in their reading log and ensure they complete the activities. If you're busy, they could comment and you just sign. One activity per week-Please do not go ahead! A raffle ticket will be awarded if there are at least 5 out of 7 entries. Help them with their spellings and revise previous words to ensure they've retained them. Please take out the old spellings and keep them safe. Look at the Year 4 Expectations.
Numeracy	Number and Place value. Addition and Subtraction Multiplication & Division. Fractions-every Wednesday with Mrs Rolf.	Practise times-tables up to 12 x 12. (They should know these by the end of year 4) Children will regularly complete times table Olympic sheets and will take them home to practise. Play Card games/board games which involve adding and subtracting. Calculating change when at the shops. Telling the time. Knowing the names of shapes and their properties. Look at Year 4 Expectations.
Humanities	Please see the yearly overview sheet	Please encourage your child to research/bring in anything about any of the topics they are studying throughout the year.

Year 4 Expectations and curriculum plan will be given out during 'Meet the Teacher' which is at 3.30pm on Monday 12th September. A separate letter will give you more details about this.

Swimming-Every Tuesday! There is an expectation for your child to swim every week unless there is a medical reason why they cannot. Please could I have a letter informing me of the reason why they are unable to swim.

P.E-Every Friday but please could you keep your kit in school all week as the children regularly complete a running activity called the Golden Mile! Sometimes we also have the opportunity to do extra sessions or the lesson moves to another day. The correct uniform is a St George's PE t-shirt and Navy blue shorts. Trainers are preferred in KS2 as they offer more support. Girls need their hair tied up.

Ukuleles will be every Tuesday morning taken by Mr Clarke, a peripatetic music teacher. (Children are welcome to bring in their own ukulele although they are provided by the school).

Mrs Potter will teach the children on Thursday afternoons as I will be teaching P.E to Reception and Year 1.

Mrs Rolf will teach the children on Wednesday morning so I can be released for my Deputy Headship duties.

Homework in Class 4

The expectations for homework in year 4 are as follows:

1. Daily reading (even one page!) Your child will be heard in school through group reading **but we do not have time for individual reading**. Please keep the reading log up to date and complete the activity for each week. (Please don't go ahead!) Reading logs will be regularly checked and children with 5 entries out of 7 will be entered into a raffle and prizes given at the end of term! Please don't feel you always have to write a comment but make sure you sign the box. The children are expected to place their book in the 'My book needs changing' box when finished. If they don't then their book won't be changed!
2. Weekly Spelling (Test every Tuesday. There is a supporting sheet which should be completed. This will go out on Tuesday to be returned the following Tuesday).
3. Additional homework (alternating literacy/numeracy/topic) given out on Tuesday and to be handed in along with the spellings).
4. Athletics/Bug Club (I occasionally set homework tasks but it is designed for holidays or if children complete tasks quickly and require additional activities.
5. Occasional ½ term projects!!!

It is very difficult to strike the correct balance of homework. I do expect a good standard as some tasks will be stuck into their books. Children who persistently do not complete their homework on time will be expected to complete it at break. Please see me if you have any concerns or feel your child may miss the deadline. Apart from projects, homework will not be marked in detail as I want to dedicate as much of my time as possible to their class work, so I can provide effective feedback. Please remember the invaluable contribution you can make in supporting your child at home.

A member of staff will initial the work to show it has been looked at. Please feel free to mark their general homework sheet and correct any mistakes and talk to your child about them. The homework will relate to what the children have been learning in the classroom but should your child not understand then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Your support is vital to ensure your child is happy and reaches their full potential. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or worries. It goes without saying that I want your child to really enjoy their learning in year 4. Should you have any resources/knowledge based around any of the topics your child is studying then please come and speak with me.

A gentle reminder that children are not allowed in the classroom before school. They should place their lunchbox on the trolley and their bag under the shelter and then play on the playground. When a member of staff is on duty we politely ask parents to leave the playground.

Parents must wait to collect their children on the main playground by the swimming pool. This is so I know that everyone is safely collected.

If you wish to speak with me then after school is best as I can give you more of my time. Please appreciate that in the morning I am getting my lessons ready although of course will speak with you if the matter needs to be dealt with urgently.

I hope you have found this letter useful and I look forward to working in partnership with yourself to ensure your child achieves their very best.

Best Wishes

Mr Lake