



## Year 4 - Curriculum Letter for Parents – Terms 1 and 2

Dear Parents of Year 4,

Welcome back! We hope that you all had a lovely summer holiday and that you all managed to have a rest after the busy school year last year.

We are very excited to get started with our learning this term! Our main topic for term 1 will be Europe and term 2 will be the Ancient Greeks. The curriculum map attached gives an overview of some of the work we will be covering through these terms. Please also see below some extra key information about the day-to-day running of the class and our timetable for this term.

	Session 1 (8:55 – 10:00)			Session 2 (10:05 – 11:00)			Session 3 (11:15 – 12:15)			Session 4 (1:15 – 1:45)		Session 5 (1:45 – 2:30)		Session 6 (2:30 – 3:15)	
<b>MON</b> (morning task Spelling) Mrs Stevens	Worship	Handwriting	S	Maths	B	Writing	L	Guided Reading		Computing		PE			
<b>TUES</b> (morning task <del>Timetables</del> ) Mrs Stevens	Timetable test  Maths		N	Worship	Dictation Give out Homework & new spellings	R	Writing	U	Guided reading		Geography	PSHE			
<b>WED</b> (morning task Handwriting) Miss Warner	Worship	Spelling	A	Maths	E	Writing	N	Science		Music					
<b>THURS</b> (morning task Spelling) Mrs McConnell	Worship	Spelling	C	Maths	A	Writing	C	Guided Reading		Art	PE				
<b>FRI</b> (morning task <del>Timetables</del> ) Mrs McConnell	Spelling	Times Tables practise	K	Maths	K	Writing	H	Guided reading		RE	Worship (2:45)				

### PE

PE days will be Mondays and Thursdays this term unless the children have sports coaches. This will go out on the school weekly diary from the office and we will also let you know the dates on class dojo.

Children will need to wear their PE kit to school and should not wear jewellery on PE days. PE kit consists of plain dark coloured shorts/tracksuit bottoms/skorts/leggings, trainers, school PE tops and school jumpers. If your child has earrings, they will need a supply of plasters or micropore tape in school that they can apply to cover them. Long hair should also be tied back please.

### Spellings

Spellings will come home on a Tuesday for dictation on the following Tuesday. Children need to know the sound we are learning, what the words mean and how to spell them. We will be focusing on a specific phoneme (sound) each week and looking at how this can be represented in different graphemes (letters written down). It is also crucial that the children feel confident with the spelling of the high frequency words in order for them to be on track to learn the trickier Year 3 and 4 words. We have attached a copy of these as well as the Year 3 and 4 words. To reach a level that is expected for a Year 4 children in writing, they have to be able to spell most of these words correctly.

### Homework

At this age, we believe homework should be about meeting deadlines and taking responsibility for their own learning. We will be setting one piece of homework per week that should take no longer than 20-30 minutes. Homework will be set on a Tuesday and needs to be in by the Monday of the following week. If the homework is too difficult for your child, please don't hesitate to let us know. Other activities can be set or we can look at how we can support them to access the learning task at home.

### Reading

Children at this age should still be reading to a parent frequently and should also be read to at home. The more mature skills in reading, such as intonation and characterisation, develop more quickly the more 'out-loud' reading is done. It also supports their fluency and means we can check that they are understanding what they are reading.

The children will have a levelled reading book which they can take home and also bring into school each day as we try to hear them in school, as well as you listening to them read their levelled book at home. The children will also have a reading for pleasure book which is a book of their choice, this might be a book they read to you or that you read to them.

### Times Tables

Times tables tests will take place on Tuesdays so please support the children by practising at home. Each of the children will be set an individual set of times tables to learn each week based on their individual needs.

By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know all of their times tables up to 12 x 12. Much of the maths we do (and even more in Year 5) depends on children knowing these and

seeing patterns in numbers that come from times tables knowledge. There is also a nationwide multiplication check in the summer of Year 4 (more information here - <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/multiplication-tables-check>). We will help the children to prepare for this and give them more information about it closer to the time. All of the times tables practice that they do now will set them up well for the test in summer.

We find that once the children have learnt their times tables securely, with continued practise and applying them a lot during our learning, they only have to spend a little time reminding themselves of their times tables. Please support us by encouraging the children to practise every day. There are some great websites to help (times tables rock stars/math's frame/hit the button), lots of games to play (bingo/using dice) and good old-fashioned chanting works too! If we feel your child is making slow progress on a particular times table, we will let you know.

### Snacks/Water Bottles

Can we please remind you that we are a nut free school. Children can have a healthy snack to eat at break time. Please also ensure that children come to school every day with a water bottle and take them home to be washed.

### Contact

We are always available for a chat at pick up time, and if you wish to have a more detailed conversation then please arrange an appointment through the school office for before or after the school day. Class Dojo is also a great way of contacting us and passing on messages. We also use Dojo as a reward system in class and the class wins a treat when they reach a certain number of points. Although Class Dojo is a great way to send messages, if your message is urgent, please pass this through the school office as we may be unable to check Dojo during the school day.

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Finally, we just wanted to say a huge thank you to Year 4 as we have really enjoyed getting to know them this week. We can't wait to see all the progress that they make this year!

Many thanks,

Mrs Stevens, Mrs McConnell, Miss Warner, Mrs Pearce