

Dear Parents

It was a pleasure to welcome all of your children to year 4. They have already put in a lot of effort and are adjusting well. Key details about year 4 are provided in this letter.

Year 4 Team

Mrs Burgess is the class teacher with the support of Mrs Rose and Mrs Cristofoli as the main class TA's.

Mrs Bareham will be teaching the class on Thursday afternoons.

What your child needs to bring to school

Each day your child just needs a coat, a water bottle and their lunch box if you have not ordered one from Fresh Start.

They need to bring in a painting shirt which will stay in school. They will also need a pencil case with pencils, a ruler, a rubber, a pencil sharpener and a glue stick. All these items can stay in school. Please make sure that everything is labelled with their name.

Timetable

There is a weekly timetable posted on class dojo. Year 4 has PE on Tuesday and Thursday. We are asking children to come into school in their PE kit on days when they have PE. They should wear tracksuit bottoms, Whitchurch school PE T-shirt, Whitchurch school hoodie and trainers. If they do not have a school hoodie, please can they wear their normal school jumper or cardigan on PE days so that they are still in school uniform.

Swimming

Swimming lessons will be on a Tuesday. We will update you as soon as we know more.

Reading books

Each child will have two reading books. They will keep one in school and take the other one home. The one that goes home stays there until they have finished reading it. When they have finished, they bring it back into school and record it on their reading record sheet. They will then be able to choose another book to take home from the shelf. If they read from the reading scheme the same thing will happen, but they will get to choose from the reading scheme books instead.

Your child will also be bringing a reading record home. Please can this come in to school in their bag each day so we can write in it if we listen to them read. Please write in it every time you listen to them read at home. Reading records will be collected in on a Monday morning. If they have at least 3 entries for that week they will be given a reading dojo.

Curriculum

A topic web has been included with this letter. It sets out what we will be covering in each subject. To begin with our topic focuses on Our World. There are lots of books and excellent internet sites that will help you support your child with this topic.

On occasions we will be doing work that might get a bit messy. Please could you send your child in with an **old shirt or apron**, labelled with their name, that we can keep in school for messy jobs.

Homework

There will be homework set each Thursday, which I will be asking you to return by Tuesday. The tasks should not take more than 30 minutes to complete and will be linked to Maths and English.

In Key Stage Two we introduce the children to a set of spellings on Monday and work on them in our daily spelling lessons all week. They will be tested on Friday. It would be helpful for your child if they could go on to Spelling Shed during the week and practice their spellings by playing the games, these spellings will be sent home weekly on dojo as well.

Some children will be part of the separate phonics and spelling group. I will message you so you know if this applies to your child.

We will be doing daily times table practice. At the end of the year, the children will be tested on the speed and accuracy of their multiplication calculations. Please encourage your child to use Times Table Rockstars to practice their tables up to 12 x 12. Working both at home and at school makes a massive difference! It is really important that they also practice them at home. Working both at home and at school makes a massive difference! If you do not have them, I will be sending home the usernames and passwords for Times Table Rockstars soon!

Communication

We will be using class dojo to receive non-urgent messages from parents. As I am sure you will understand, I am not able to read or reply to messages during teaching hours or outside normal school hours. It is, however, a quick and easy way to ask a question or arrange a meeting, if you wish to talk in more detail about something that is concerning you.

We will be asking for you to let us know exactly who will be picking up your child each day. If you need to let me know that someone other than those people that you have identified will be picking up, then you need to phone the school and leave a message with the office.

Each Friday, I will put a brief message on class dojo letting you know what we will be covering in English and Maths in the next week so that you are able to fully support your child with their learning.

You will also receive information about your child's positive learning behaviour when they receive dojos. In addition, I have added a star to the top of my reward chart so that I can reward those children who really go above and beyond and amaze me with their behaviour or learning. If children move onto this star they will receive a 'superstar today' dojo. They will move back to 30 at the start of the next day. Children who stay at 30 minutes the entire week are really doing an amazing job and deserve the reward of special time on a Friday.

I am very much looking forward to working with you and your child so that they have an excellent year 4!

Kind Regards

Mrs Burgess