

Welcome to Year 4!

I hope you are looking forward to Year 4 as much as we are, just in case you are wondering about the year ahead, here are some useful pieces of information...

English

Our English lessons will be an hour each day, in this we will be learning lots of different sentence types and openers, writing extended pieces and using a range of texts to improve our love of writing. Your child will have **weekly spellings (to learn) and a test on Thursday - to assess their understanding**. Each week your child will be able to visit the school library and borrow a book, which can be exchanged or kept until read. Our author focus is **David Walliams**, so we will be looking at some of his books over the year. In September we will start with 'Grandpa's Great Escape'.

Spelling and Grammar

In Year 4, we will have a weekly Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG) lesson on **Thursday**.

Maths

We will cover a range of mathematical topics such as: place value and calculation; fractions and decimals; measures such as weight, distance, time and capacity; data handling; shape and shape properties. We will use a two-weekly 'Assertive Mentoring' test to enhance mental maths skills. This Thursday morning assessment activity will then be used to inform teaching for the following Thursday and enable children to receive personalised learning to 'fill in gaps' of understanding. 'Times tables' will be high priority as we aspire to complete and improve our 22, 33 club scores, as well as competing in the termly TMPF 'times tables' challenge. This continued drive on multiplication recall is due to the proposed 'times tables' tests at the end of Year 4.

PE

Our PE day with ASM (sports coaches) will be every **Wednesday** afternoon. From September, we are trialling a new approach to PE. **We want children to come to school dressed in their PE kit**. This will mean that your child will not miss out on valuable lesson time, no PE kits will get lost and we can all enjoy longer PE lessons! Our PE uniform will be, **a yellow/gold t-shirt, navy blue jogging bottoms or blue shorts**, depending on the weather, **a royal blue hoody and trainers**.

Swimming

Year 4 swim in the **Summer Term** on **Tuesday** morning. The swimming kit should be a one-piece swimming costume for girls, swimming trunks for boys and a **swimming hat for both boys and girls** - should hair be long. Don't forget a towel! If goggles are needed to be worn, a letter to give permission is asked required.

Topic Work

In September we will be learning about **World War 1**, fitting in with the Centenary celebrations. We will also be learning about animals, inventions from that period and life for children. In Art/Design and Technology lessons, we shall study artists of the period and investigate wheeled vehicles! Our focus for Geography will be the countries which were involved in the war and maps, and we will also be learning about the importance of Remembrance Day.

Homework

Homework is **set** each **Friday** and is to **be submitted on the following Wednesday**, it is usually a piece of maths and English. We ask each child to **read at least 5 times per week** and to have their **reading diary signed by an adult** for them to collect valuable dojos! Please feel free to write in any messages/questions in the diaries if you are unable to speak to us on the yard.

Wow, this sounds like a busy term! I hope this is of use, any questions please come and ask.

Mrs James and Mrs Clowes