

Welcome to Year 4



Mrs Cox – Class teacher

Year 4 is a year full of new challenges and this year we have some great topics to inspire and motivate the children to achieve and exceed the expected outcomes by the end of the year.

Our topics are: Volcanoes, The Stone Age, Rainforests, The Mayans, The Victorians and Our Local Area.

A knowledge organiser will be sent to you at the beginning of each term which outlines the learning taking place across all subjects.

What to expect in Year 4

Arriving at school and the morning routine

The children come in to school via the old year 2 door and this is where they will leave at the end of the day. They will be greeted by their teacher and they will put their packed lunch in the box provided and their water bottle in the tray. They have a peg to hang their coats and bags on and they have a drawer to put any belongings in. Every morning on their desks, they will have morning work to complete before assembly. This work is usually, maths revision, times tables practise or spelling practise. It is important that the children arrive on time to register as we start collective worship at 8:55am. The class teacher will open the door at 8.40am so if you have any messages that you wish to pass on, you can do so. Alternatively, you can catch her at the end of the day at 3:20pm. If you wish to discuss something in greater depth please make an appointment at the school office.

Lunches

It is really important that the children know what they are having for lunch each day; packed lunch or school dinner. School dinners should be pre-ordered from home. Please discuss this with your child so that they are able to choose an option that they enjoy. Hot school dinners are to be ordered online prior to the week: order on the Kingswood website.

Uniform and other items

Please ensure **all uniform** (including, coats and shoes) plus water bottles and book bags, is labelled clearly with your child's name.

Children are expected to wear a light blue shirt and the school tie along with grey trousers or skirt. Please check that your child has all the required PE kit – light blue T-shirt with school logo, black shorts, plain black hooded sweatshirt, optional plain black track suit trousers for cold weather, trainers/plimsolls, a pair of socks. P.E bags can be left in school and will be sent home each half term unless we have got particularly muddy or soaking wet during a lesson. Long hair needs to be tied back and all jewellery will need to be removed during P.E. lessons including earrings. Please ensure that children can take out and put in their own earrings. If this is not possible, then tape will be provided so the earrings can be covered.

Reading

In Year 4 the children will choose a book appropriate to their ability. Once they have finished reading their book, they will complete an online quiz at school before choosing another book. Children read at least once a week to an adult, this may be during Guided Reading lessons or one-to-one. We would also be grateful for support with children reading at home. The better the children can read, the more knowledge and learning they are able to access.

How you can support your child's reading at home

- Please listen to your child read at least five times a week.
- Record a short comment in their reading record.
- Read to your child; a variety of stories as well as non-fiction.

Guided Reading

The children will have a guided reading session most days. For this they will be take turns to read aloud and answer questions about the text. Some sessions will involve the children working independently, or in pairs and some sessions will be adult led.

Library

Once a week, the children will have the opportunity to visit the school library and choose a book to take home. Once they have returned the library book, they can choose another.

Writing

We will continue to practise joining handwriting in Year 4 and continue to ensure that letters are formed correctly with the correct size and spacing. Please encourage this whenever your child practises their writing at home including in their homework books.





Spelling

The Year 4 spelling list is glued into the children's homework books. These spellings will be taught over the course of year 4 alongside learning about additional spelling rules. Spellings will be taught in school and there will be spellings to learn as part of the children's homework. They will be tested on these spellings in school.

Maths

We aim to make maths as fun and as practical as possible. The National Curriculum is challenging so we appreciate your support in reinforcing and practising concepts at home. We will be conducting some investigations so children will be applying knowledge and skills with greater independence. They will need to explain what they have found out to demonstrate mastery of the concepts taught.

Areas you can practise at home are:

- Telling the time to the nearest minute as well as understanding digital time. Understanding time durations: if it takes 30 minutes to bake the cake and I put it in the oven at 10:40am, what time will I need to take it out?
- Adding and subtracting using a column method.
- Using money – adding, subtracting and finding change. £ and p.
- Naming and describing 2D and 3D shapes.
- Writing numbers in words and figures, comparing and ordering numbers.
- Use Roman Numerals.
- Recite the times tables: revising the 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s, 4s and 8s and learning the remaining tables ready for the Multiplication Check at the end of Year 4. Please encourage your child to use TT Rockstars every day to help with this.
- Measure length, volume and weight.

Homework

English and maths in 2 separate books.

Homework is sent out weekly on Thursdays and it is expected back on Tuesdays. Children receive house points if their homework is handed in on time. If homework is not completed then the children are expected to complete it during a lunchtime. The homework will be based on what we are learning in class, revision of times tables and/or spellings.

Reading

Please listen to your child read at least 5 times a week for at least 10 minutes.

Spelling

Practise spellings and write them in sentences to show understanding.

Times tables

All children have a TTRockstars account which they can access at home. As well as this, there are many times tables games online so they can practise.

If children need the teacher's support or they struggle to complete homework at home, they can complete it during a lunchtime at school.

What does a typical day in Year 4 look like?

Here is an example of a day:

8.40am – Classroom doors open, registration and morning work.
8:55am – Collective Worship
9.15am – Maths
10.30am – Playtime
10.45am – English
11.45am – Guided reading or spelling.
12.15 – 1.15pm - Lunchtime
1.15pm – Register
1:15 – Silent independent reading of reading books.
1:30 – Handwriting/Library
2:00pm – History
3.00pm – Story time
3.20pm – Home time

I hope this information is useful. Please ask if you are unsure of anything.

