



Welcome to Year 4

Welcome back to school after the long summer holiday!

We have an exciting year ahead with lots of interesting learning and Mrs Ringer and I can't wait to be your teachers again. It was so lovely seeing how you had matured and made such good progress with your learning journeys on transition day. We will be joined by Mrs Nicholson on Monday morning, Mrs Clennell for Tuesday and Thursday and Mrs Hirst on Friday mornings. This will help ensure a smooth transition into Year 4.

Our PE days will be Monday and Tuesday this half term. On Monday, Mrs Smith will be teaching Orienteering and on Tuesday children will be taught Hockey by the Derby School Sports Partnership. These lessons will be taken outside, weather allowing, so send your children to school dressed in appropriate P.E. kit. It would be very helpful if PE hoodies/jumpers could be named too, so we can return them to you.

Bring a labelled water bottle, freshly filled each day to stay hydrated whilst in school. You are welcome to bring your own fruit into school for a playtime snack. This should be left in your school bag in the cloakroom. You can bring an appropriately sized pencil case to keep at school. Please ensure that equipment is functional rather than 'toy-like', to avoid distraction from our learning.

For **homework**, all children should do:

- Maths-TT Rockstars and Maths shed (passwords can be found in reading diaries) to practise timetable skills. (This is **ESSENTIAL** in Year 4 as we have a statutory multiplication check in June 2025 when children will be expected to know all multiplication facts up to 12x12)
- Read at least four times a week. This should be recorded in home reading diaries and will be monitored by class teachers and teaching assistants. There will be certificates for effort each half-term!
- Spellings will be handed out on a Monday, should be learnt at home and then tested in school the following Monday morning. We will be following the Twinkl spelling scheme.

There will also be a **Homework Menu**, when children will have additional optional activities to complete at home should they wish to further enhance their learning. These will be displayed in class, shared with peers and rewarded with house points for individual pieces and certificates if all homework is completed.

To begin with children will be helped to change their reading books, to ensure a wide coverage of all genres. Our goal this year is for the children to be able to choose and change their own reading book.

A weekly newsletter on Parent Hub will summarise our learning each week and deliver key messages. If you require any further information don't hesitate to catch us at the end of the school day at the cloakroom door or via the school office.

We look forward to working alongside you again as your children continue their time at Aston-on-Trent Primary in Year 4.

Mrs Smith and Mrs Ringer.

Maths: The children will be covering a range of topics: **place value and addition and subtraction**. This will involve developing fluency in written and mental calculations and opportunities to apply this in practical situations where we will learn how to solve word problems. **Times tables** continue to be crucial for understanding and by the end of Year 4 they will be tested on all facts up to 12 x 12.

Computing: Online Safety and Effective Searching for research on the Vikings and creating presentations on Purple Mash.

PE: Derby County SSP lessons will be on Tuesday afternoons. The children will also be doing Orienteering on a Monday afternoon. Please ensure your child has the appropriate kit and footwear for outdoor and indoor sessions. Please label PE clothes.

RE: Are all religions equal? There are many connections between religious worldviews. These include historical and geographical links between religious founders and where they found their inspiration.

French: We will be learning to speak and write French with the 'Language angels' scheme of work. Vegetables.

Science: Living things and their habitats. recognise that living things can be grouped. Use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

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PSHE: Promoting health and wellbeing - learning about what makes substances safe or unsafe and how to make informed choices and keep safe.

Library is on Tuesday morning at breaktime.

English: In writing our first text is 'The BFG' by Roald Dahl. A recount of a dream sequence.

In whole class reading we will be working together to analyse and understand texts to ensure good **comprehension** and develop pace and fluency.

Develop **neat joined up handwriting**.

Ensure learning of the **spelling, punctuation and grammar skills** expected in LKS2 which includes how to structure simple, compound and complex sentences and punctuate them for sense. Recognise different genres and audiences.

Art and Design: Exploring 'Light and Dark' by using mixed media to create imaginative artworks.

History: Viking homelife, settlement and invasion. We will use a variety of historical sources to deduce what everyday life was like. We will use maps and artifacts to study how the Vikings invaded and settled across a large part of the northern hemisphere.

Music: Class 4 will learn to play a violin or cello with the Wider Opportunities String Instrument Team.