

Welcome to Year 4 Information Letter

Welcome to Year 4. We look forward to working with you and your child from September.

The Year 4 teaching staff for September are:



The children enter school via the Craven Avenue gate and will be welcomed by the teaching staff between 8.30- 8.35 am. The school day ends at 3.15 pm. The children will be released at the end of the day at the top of the steps.

PE

In Year 4, we have two PE sessions per week. PE kits need to be worn on **Tuesdays and Wednesdays**. For our PE sessions, the children will need a t-shirt, shorts or jogging bottoms (weather dependent), jumper and trainers. The school PE kit is black shorts with a red t-shirt. Long hair must be tied up earrings are to be removed.



Topic

Our first topic in Year 4 is 'Deep in the Rainforest'. We will be learning about the continents around the world and researching different rainforests. Throughout the topic, we will be developing our atlas skills and understanding the features of a rainforest. We then move on to learning about the Brazilian way of life and Rio carnival.

School Trips

We are planning to visit Colchester Castle in the Spring Term and Writtle Farming College in the Summer Term. We also welcome a range of visitors linked to our topics throughout the year.

Online learning platforms

Each child will have their own login for Spelling Shed, Maths Shed, Purple Mash, Times Tables Rockstars and Accelerated Reader. We use these



programmes in school and the children are also able to access these at home. This supports them with their weekly spellings, number bonds and development of curriculum skills.

Swimming

In the Summer term, Year 4 have the opportunity to attend swimming lessons at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre. This will develop the children's confidence in the water and boost their swimming skills.

Homework

In Year 4, we encourage every child to read at least 3x a week at home. We reward their commitment to this reading challenge on a weekly basis.

Every child is given 10 weekly spellings to learn. We learn the spelling pattern in school but we also encourage children to practise their weekly spellings at home. This can be done on Spelling Shed. Weekly spellings are given out on a Friday and a spelling test is completed the following Friday.

Maths homework will be set weekly on Purple Mash and children are encouraged to complete the work.

Snacks

At break times, the children can bring in a snack from home to eat. These are required to be healthy snacks. Fruit, vegetables, crackers, cheese strings, rice cakes and malt loaf are an example of healthy snacks.

A small chocolate biscuit or a bag of crisps is acceptable for lunch.

Wellbeing

As a school, we value the children's wellbeing and the importance of allowing children the opportunity to relax. We have daily relaxation sessions after lunch and also weekly circle times where we are able to discuss and manage issues and worries that have arisen during the week. We also cover the importance of friendships, being respectful and good manners.

Growth Mindset

In Year 4, we encourage the children to have a growth mindset and this is modelled to the children in every lesson by the adults. It is important for the children to be resilient and understand that we learn by our mistakes.



Year 4 Highlights

Dance away at our Brazilian Carnival.

Exciting 'hands on' trips and experiences.

Topic days where children can become immersed in their learning.