



Mr D Roberts, Headteacher

Year 4 Newsletter Autumn Term 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have made a fantastic start to Year 4 and are clearly delighted to be back with their friends. The Year team have been amazed by their positive attitudes coming into school and it is lovely to see how quickly they have settled.

The Curriculum

Attached to this letter you will find a curriculum map outlining some aspects of our first topic - 'Here We Are'. We believe in the strength of our Living Curriculum and the opportunities for learning that this provides. Curriculum development remains a focus this year, and the curriculum map provides only a skeleton of the projects that we will be undertaking, many of which will be cross curricular in nature. Much of our learning will be child-led and we will be planning for hands-on, collaborative, purposeful, challenging and connected learning opportunities. All subjects in Year 4 are planned collaboratively as we aim for consistency in opportunity across the three classes.

Home learning

We welcome your help in ensuring that sufficient time and effort is spent on all Home Learning tasks. If your child is struggling with their homework then please encourage them to seek help from their teacher.

Homework is set in accordance with the School's policy. The recommended weekly amount for Year 4 is as follows:

Reading - We request that your child reads **aloud to an adult for 10 minutes at least 5 times per week**, discussing the text as you read to help with understanding. All children will be coming home with high quality texts, either from the school library, classroom book corners or the new Reading Spine. Vocabulary knowledge and skills have a prominent position on the English curriculum and engaging with home reading is the most effective method of supporting your child's learning. Additionally, this allows for you to check that your child's comprehension of what they have read and that they are sufficiently challenged by the text. Please sign your initials next to recorded reads your child completes in the Reading Record book. A member of Year 4 staff will check the Reading Record weekly on a **Monday**.

Spelling - Your child will be given a list of words to learn and should practise them five times each week for **approximately 5 minutes** each time. The learning should focus on the new words but may also include the Year 4 statutory curriculum spelling words. We encourage a variety of methods to practice them, spending **approximately 5 minutes** each time. Examples of learning methods could include Look Say Cover Write Check, oral tests, rainbow writing or using the word in a written sentence. Each class will have their Spelling books checked on a **Wednesday**. Please make sure any tests done at home are written down in the spelling book and signed and dated by an adult. **New spellings will be available via Google Classroom on a Thursday and then tested the following Thursday.**

Times Tables and Number facts - The children will be given a login and password to access 'Times Tables Rockstars', alternatively 'Hit the Button' is another excellent resource to practise times tables. The children will complete a Times table test every **Thursday**.



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PE/Games

There are 2 timetabled sessions per week for each class, as well as timetabled shorter Daily mile or other PE activity sessions (on the 3 days when the classes don't have their specific PE/Games sessions).

We remind you that children should come to school dressed ready for PE or Games lessons on these days:

Class		
4R	Monday	Friday
4E	Monday	Friday
4H	Monday	Wednesday

Children need to wear the normal PE kit for their PE days (including their school sweatshirt as they are in their kit all day). Children should wear suitable sports trainers (**not fashion trainers**) on these days. **All their kit (clothes and footwear) should also be named.** Children with long hair must have a simple hair-tie as part of their kit and earrings must be removed or covered with micro-pore tape from home.

During the wetter, colder weather children also need to come to school wearing **tracksuit bottoms (green or plain dark colour), and a water proof jacket** - so they can still participate in outdoor physical activities even when the weather isn't as good. For further details please refer to the School Uniform Policy available on the School's website <http://www.littlegreen.herts.sch.uk/>

Please also ensure that trainers (and wellies if possible) should be in school every day as we hope to include exciting outdoor curriculum opportunities that require physical activity in all weathers (including the Daily Mile), and make the most of our amazing school environment.

Equipment

Children in Year Four should have the following equipment at all times and due to the circumstances around Covid-19, children will not be able to borrow or share equipment.

More than one HB pencil.

A set of colouring pencils.

Clear plastic 30cm ruler (not flexible or hinged) or preferably two.

A good rubber.

Sharpener with pot attached (to avoid frequent journeys to the bin).

A small pencil case which will fit in the desk tray.

A small set of highlighters.

Additionally, we request that children come prepared with their own scissors and glue stick to avoid contamination.

A lot of lesson time is wasted if children do not have the necessary equipment. Please ensure that these are replenished/replaced if items become lost or broken.

We are all looking forward to what promises to be an excellent year working with your children. If you have any queries about anything mentioned in this newsletter, or if you need to discuss any other issues, we are happy to talk with you at a mutually convenient time; please do use the class email account to contact teachers about specific classroom issues, but note that responses may take up to 48 hours. For all other information and requests, contact the school office as normal.

Thank you again for all of your support,

Miss Brauka

Miss Tuthill

Mr Whitelaw