



St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School

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 **ODBE** Oxford Diocesan
Board of Education

6th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope you had a wonderful summer break and are delighted to welcome you back to this new academic year. This year promises to be a journey filled with learning, growth, and wonderful experiences. This letter includes information about the curriculum areas that the children in Year 4 will be covering this term and information that you will require.

We have many exciting topics in Year 4. This term our two topics are 'Alive in Autumn' and 'Invaders and Settlers'. During 'Alive in Autumn' the children will learn how to weave an autumnal wall-hanging inspired by the textile artist Anni Albers, find out about living things and their habitats and write autumnal poems. We are excited about our upcoming residential trip to Ufton Court, which is perfectly aligned with our topic 'Invaders and Settlers', together with our vision of nurturing confident, resilient learners and global citizens. This experience will challenge and inspire our children to grow as well-rounded individuals through a variety of enriching activities linked to Anglo-Saxons. The children will learn about the needs of early settlers and in Design and Technology the children will use their knowledge from the topic to create moving books.

In **English** we will read Beowulf. We will create stories based on this exciting adventure novel, which links with our Anglo-Saxon theme. Next we will look at autumnal poetry and use our knowledge of figurative language to engage our readers. After the half term we will be reading 'Mimi and the Mountain Dragon' by Michael Morpurgo and use this text to inspire our own dilemma stories. We will learn how to write non-chronological reports based on Anglo-Saxons and Scots.

In **Mathematics** we will be working through National Curriculum objectives for Year 4, beginning with a focus on number and place value, moving onto the mental and written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also be covering length and perimeter. The objectives can be found on the school website.

Other topics we will be studying are:

Science	Living Things and their Habitats and Changing State	Games	Handball and Netball
History	Anglo-Saxons and Scots	P.E.	Gymnastics (Bridges) and Dance (Cats)
Geography	Settlements	R.E.	Hindu Murtis Christmas Nativity
Computing	Presenting Information – Word and Scratch Programming	Music	Mamma Mia and The Glockenspiel
Art	Weaving	French	Phonetics, Je me presente et La Famille
D.T.	Moving Books	PSHE	Being Me in My World Celebrating Difference

Interim Headteacher
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Home Learning

Your child will receive weekly Maths and Spellings tasks. These tasks will be set every Monday and will be due for submission the following Monday. In addition to these, we are introducing a new initiative called the "Buffet of Learning." At the start of each half term, your child will be given a selection of learning opportunities across a variety of subjects. From this, they can choose one task each week to complete and submit by the following Monday.

More detailed information, including the rationale and the submission of tasks, will be provided by Mrs. Butler during the 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Monday 16th September. We strongly encourage you to attend to learn more and ask any questions you may have.

The children's spelling lists correspond with the spelling rules the children are being taught in their English lessons. These spellings are split into 3 groups; Must, Should and Could. All children are expected to learn the 'Must' spellings; they will be directed by the class teacher to learn the 'Should' or 'Could' spellings if they are ready.

Children will continue working on their Numeracy Passport objectives. They will be expected to practise their passport objectives and times tables regularly at home. The children should use their login for Times Table Rockstars to support their fluency and accuracy in a fun way.

Research shows that reading. Is paramount in children's learning. Please ensure your child has a book to read at home and brings it to school daily. Listening to your child read each day will greatly support their learning and enjoyment. Discuss their books and encourage them to select more challenging texts. We are using paper reading diaries to track daily progress, so it's important that these are in school every day. Your involvement is key to their reading success.

Our carefully selected suggested reads for Year 4 are as follows:

1. The Snow Spider by Jenny Nimmo
2. War Game by Michael Foreman
3. The Borrowers by Mary Norton
4. The Famous Five by Enid Blyton
5. You're A Bad Man Mr Gum by Andy Stanton
6. Charlotte's Web by E.B. White
7. The Velvet Fox by Catherine Fisher
8. Nevertell by Katharine Orton
9. The Stormkeeper's Island by Catherine Doyle
10. Small Change for Stuart by Lissa Evans
11. Cloudbusting by Malorie Blackman
12. Rumblestar by Abi Elphinstone

Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

Personal social and emotional development (PSED) forms a key part of our curriculum each term. Teaching personal development is vital in many ways. It helps children develop a positive sense of themselves, independence, respect for others, social skills, emotional well-being and a positive disposition to learning. This term your child will be taught about their place in the world and recognising and celebrating differences as part of our PSHE curriculum. In Autumn 2, all children will take place in 'Anti-Bullying week', a week dedicated to sending a clear and positive message that bullying is neither acceptable nor inevitable in our schools and communities.

Finally, across the school, pupils are given the opportunity to perform key roles to both develop their leadership skills and sense of responsibility or teamwork. These responsibilities increase as children progress through the different year groups.

In Year 4 pupils take on the following whole school roles:

- School council – as voted for by their peers
- Equipment Monitor on the LKS2 Playground
- Collect Worship Ambassadors

PE and Games

So we can maximise learning time, children should come to school on their scheduled PE days in their PE kit. PE kits will no longer be kept at school. Year 4's PE day will be a **Monday**.

SEND

We are committed to removing barriers to enable every child to fulfil their learning potential. We follow the Graduated Approach to supporting additional needs, meaning that the level of support is based upon the needs of the child. We track the progress of each individual closely using our termly assessments, teacher judgement and other resources as necessary, in order to identify a particular child's needs as early as possible. Any support or interventions your child receives will be detailed on the parent evening proformas and, in the case of a child on a SEN plan or EHCP, it will also be listed on their plan. If you have any concerns about your child's progress, please talk to the class teacher in the first instance. Should you have further concerns, Mrs Levin, our SENDCo, is always available and can be contacted via the school office. Our school SEND policy and SEND Information report can be found on our school website.

We are looking forward to the year ahead and will provide more details during the 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Monday 16th September. We are committed to enhancing our partnership with you to support your child's development. Please be reminded that we maintain an open-door policy and are readily available to address any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Reynolds and Miss E Geary
Y4 Class Teachers