

**Parent Information Sheet**  
**Year 4 - Autumn Term 2020**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a lovely summer. We are looking forward to seeing all of the children again and helping them to settle back into their school routine. We have lots of exciting things planned for this term and we are also delighted to welcome some new staff to the Year 4 teaching team. Miss Stallard has joined us this year as a teaching assistant and will be helping the children with their learning throughout the year and Mrs. Bonham will also be joining us this term on her School Direct placement. I hope the children are looking forward to the year ahead as much as we all are!

You will find information below about what we will be covering this term, but please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or wish to discuss anything in more detail. If you leave a message with the office or send a note in with your child to school, we can arrange a call or Teams meeting for a time after school.

Miss Field

**English**

**Reading:**

This term we will be reading a number of core texts including *Into the Forest* by Anthony Browne, *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry and *The Shaman's Apprentice* by Lynne Reid and Mark Plotkin. We will also be reading *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell and *The Butterfly Lion* by Michael Morpurgo as our class novels.

**Writing:**

Our writing outputs this term will be closely linked to our class texts and will include:

- Explanations
- Recounts
- Non-chronological reports
- Diary entries
- Poetry
- Play scripts

**Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling:**

- Each week, the children will be given 10 spelling words to learn. Five of the words will follow the spelling pattern we are learning in school that week and they will receive five personal spelling words from the Year 3/4 spelling list. The spelling patterns will be taught in school during the week and children will be asked to practise their spellings at home as part of their weekly homework.
- We will continue to focus on correctly punctuating direct speech, using commas after fronted adverbials and choosing the appropriate use of nouns or pronouns, using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions.

**Mathematics**

We will be beginning the Year 4 programme of study for mathematics which includes:

**Number:**

- Number and place value
- Addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and division
- Decimals

**Geometry:**

- Properties of shape
- Position and direction

**Measurement:**

- Mass

*Problem solving and reasoning will be developed alongside each area of study.*

*We will also be focusing on consolidating all of the multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 ahead of the national multiplication test in June. Please help children to practice at home daily in order to build up their confidence, speed and fluency.*

<b>Science</b>	<p><b>Living Things and Their Habitats</b></p> <p>Children will learn to recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. We will explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. We will also be looking at how habitats can change and what we can do to help.</p> <p><b>Electricity</b></p> <p>Children will learn all about electrical circuits. We will be exploring different appliances that run on electricity, learning how to construct a simple electric circuit, identify and name its basic parts and we will investigate materials' ability to conduct electricity.</p>
<b>Enquiry</b>	<p><b>Where on Earth are we?</b></p> <p>During the first half term, we will be developing our geography skills by exploring and reading different types of maps. Children will learn to identify the position and significance of the Equator, Northern and Southern Hemispheres and countries in different hemispheres. They will also explore lines of latitude and longitude and use coordinates to find locations. Children will also learn about the Prime Meridian and different time zones.</p> <p><b>Rainforests</b></p> <p>Children will learn about what rainforests are and their location in the world. They will understand the layers of the rainforest, explore animals that live in the rainforests and learn about the people of the rainforest. We will also explore issues surrounding deforestation and climate change.</p>
<b>Art/DT</b>	<p><b>Art:</b> We will be developing our skills in sculpture and collage this term. We will be looking at works by local and national sculptors and we will be exploring the collages created by Jeannie Baker, author and illustrator of <i>Where the Forest Meets the Sea</i>.</p> <p><b>DT:</b> Children will develop their sewing skills, design skills and explore fastening options in order to make a money container (purse, wallet, bag) in the second half of term. All children will also use building and joining techniques within their forest school lessons on <b>Friday afternoons</b> (please don't forget that children must have appropriate clothing in order to participate including: trousers, long sleeved top and alternative outdoor shoes or wellies along with waterproofs weather dependent.)</p>
<b>RE</b>	<p>Children will be answering the following questions in R.E:</p> <p><b>Why is the Bible so important for Christians today?</b></p>
<b>PSHE</b>	<p><b>Being Me in my World:</b> Working together; understanding how actions affect myself and others</p> <p><b>Celebrating Difference:</b> Understanding the ways in which we are unique</p>
<b>Computing</b>	<p><b>Back to the Future:</b> Children will carry out research and create their own blog.</p> <p><b>Heroes:</b> Use coding skills to create interactive animations.</p>
<b>PE</b>	<p><b>PE</b> is on a <b>Tuesday</b> morning. Children can come to school in their PE kits. This term, the children will be doing gymnastics.</p> <p><b>Games</b> is on a <b>Friday</b> morning. Children can come to school in their PE kits. This term, the children will be doing tag rugby and hockey.</p>
<b>Music</b>	<p>This term we will be focusing on music appreciation and we will begin by exploring different songs by ABBA.</p>
<b>MFL</b>	<p>Children will learn a variety of conversational French and Spanish.</p>
<p><b>Class Routine:</b></p> <p>Please make sure your child has a <b>water bottle</b> with a sports lid with them every day. Children are encouraged to take regular drinks throughout the day. Water bottles must go home each night to be washed. <b>Lunchboxes</b> will also be sent home every evening. Stationery will be provided but children are welcome to bring their own handwriting pen into school. Book bags only please. No back packs or pencil cases are to be sent into school. <b>Reading books</b> will be sent home every night and need to be brought back in every day and can be changed as soon as the children have finished a book. There will be opportunities for quizzing every day. Children are responsible for keeping their reading records up to date; these are checked regularly and must be in school (along with reading books) <b>every day</b>. The expectation is that all children read daily and at least 3 times a week with an adult. This must be recorded in their reading journal.</p>	
<b>Homework</b>	
<p><b>Homework will include:</b></p> <p>Reading Spelling Mental Arithmetic books Times table practice</p>	<p>Homework will be set on <b>Monday</b> and is due in the following <b>Monday</b>. Homework expectations will be written into your child's Homework Diary.</p> <p><b>Please sign your child's Homework Diary p. You can leave comments in the given box if needed.</b></p>

