



## **Welcome to Year 4**

Dear Parents or Guardians,

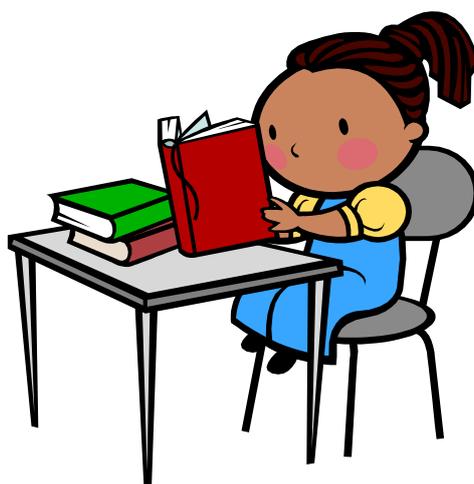
We would like to welcome you and your child to Year 4. We are taking this opportunity at the beginning of the new school year to inform you about all aspects of school life in Year 4. We feel that if we all work together, your child will achieve the appropriate levels for their age and have a positive and fulfilling experience at Holywell.

We look forward to a fantastic year

The Year 4 team

This pack includes information on:

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## YEAR 4 STAFF



### Staff

- Mrs McLaughlin                      Phase Leader
- Miss Taff                                Class Teacher
- Mrs Chapman                        Teaching Assistant



### Curriculum

As is required by law, we follow the National Curriculum, which provides the children with the opportunity to fulfil their individual potentials. The children will cover:

Maths	ICT	Humanities
English	PSHE	RE
Science	DT	PE
Art	Music	Spanish

For more details, please see your year group termly overview.

The children will be given opportunities to work in mixed groups and also grouped according to ability for the Guided Reading, English and Maths sessions to help them achieve their targets. This is to ensure that each child's needs are met.

Themes for the whole school area:

Autumn Term – Great Britain

Spring Term - International

Summer Term – Local area



## **Attendance and Punctuality:**

**Please ensure that your child is in the playground and lined up by 8.55 am.** Teachers will be outside to collect the children at 8:50 and will be available from 8:45 to talk to parents if needed. The children are expected to come into class independently. It is important that your child arrives on time, since our first lesson of the day will begin promptly at 9.00 a.m. If your child is absent from school, they must bring a note or parents must inform the teacher either in person or by telephone. Regular absences from school can affect your child's learning, since they will miss some vital work that has been planned. This will then mean that they will be working to 'catch up' when they return.

Children should line up at 8.55 am in the playground outside Key Stage 1 (or in the hall on rainy mornings). The children are to be collected from their classroom doors in the same area and will remain in class until their name is called by the class teacher. Children who are not collected will be taken to the school office.

**Please inform the office if your child will be collected by another adult.**

## **Clubs**

The school run a range of before and after school clubs. Letters for clubs go out at the start of a half term and places are allocated on a first come first serve basis.



## **Holidays**

Extended holidays are no longer permitted by law. Please make every effort to go away during the school holidays so that your child's schooling is not disrupted. Your child may be removed from the school roll if you do take an unauthorised absence.



## **Expectations**

In Year 4, we expect every child to work towards achieving their full potential. The work will be set to match the children's varying abilities within the year group. Children are expected to try their best and behave appropriately in the classroom, the outdoor area and around the school, respecting both adults and other children.



## **Handwriting**

The school uses cursive script handwriting scheme. This means that letters are consistently joined up.



## Home Reading/Homework

If your child is participating in Phonics, they will receive the following books and resources to take home.

- ‘Last and past’ Storybooks: contain sounds and words the children know. This is the Storybook they have just read at school and maybe some they have read before, for extra practice. Please don’t worry that books are too easy. Children enjoy re-reading stories they know well. Their speed and understanding improves on every read.
- Book Bag Books: matched to the Storybooks children read in school and used for extra practice. They include many of the same reading activities that we use in class and include parent guidance.
- More Storybooks and Non-fiction books: matched to the sounds and words your child knows well.
- Picture books to share with you: read these stories to children or encourage them to retell the story by looking at the pictures. They are not expected to read the story themselves.
- Speed Sounds cards: for children to practise reading speedily. If needed, show your child the picture side of the card to help them remember the sound.
- Red Word book pages: challenge your child to read the Red Words speedily across the rows and down the columns. Set a timer – can they beat yesterday’s time?

If your child is participating in daily Guided Reading sessions, they will take home a book from the classroom’s library.

There is an expectation that the children read every night for at least 20 minutes. Reading records are checked daily. Homework goes home on Friday and is due in the following Tuesday. One day a week there is a ‘homework help club’, which takes place during morning break or at lunchtime.

Please comment about your child’s reading in their reading booklet. It is crucial to sign in your child’s reading record so the class teacher is aware that the child is reading daily at home.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher.



## Assessment

In Year 4 the children are continually assessed throughout the year. More thorough assessments will take place three times a year. We will share your child’s progress with you on a termly basis at Parent's Evening.

In Summer Term the children will complete a Times Table Assessment which is to be completed by all Year 4 children in the country. This will assess your children know their Times Tables up to 12 x 12. Please support your children with rehearsing these at home.

## Uniform and P.E. Kit



It is school policy that all children wear uniform. This consists of white top, grey trousers or skirt/pinafore and the school jumper. We would encourage that your child wears school shoes. **Please ensure all items of clothing including shoes are labelled.** Children must not wear jewellery, however, studs are acceptable.

Physical Education (P.E.) is a compulsory part of the curriculum and important for the child's physical and social development. It is school policy that all children wear the correct P.E. kit in order to participate in P.E. activities safely. The kit consists of a white t-shirt, maroon shorts and plimsolls.



## Dinner Money

Dinner money is currently £12 a week (£2.40 a day- subject to change). We are now a cashless school so all payments for dinner money will be paid online.



## Trips

The children will be able to attend either a workshop or a school trip each term, information will be shared nearer the time. As we are a cashless school, all payments will need to be made online.

## Parents Evening

Parent evenings take place three times a year. Teachers will be available throughout the year to discuss your child's progress on an individual basis.

## Festival of Learning

Each half term children showcase their work where parents are invited to come to school. This also takes the form of Christmas Fete and Community Evenings, for which you will receive more information about on a later date.

## Assemblies

Each class in the school takes part in a class assembly on a weekly basis. The parents of the class completing the assembly will be informed of when their child's assembly will take place and the parents are invited to come to school to watch. This begins promptly at 9:10 on a Friday morning.



Thank you

We thank you for your continued support in working together to help your child achieve their full potential. We look forward to a successful working partnership.

Yours sincerely,

*The Year 4 Team*