

# Year 4 Newsletter

## Autumn Term 1 2023

Welcome to Year 4!

We hope you all had a lovely summer holiday and that you're ready for a busy half term in school. We are excited to have the children back in school and we have lots planned for them. This letter will give you lots of information about the arrangements for Year 4 and you can find details of what we will be learning about this half term on the school website. Please head to 'Year Group Pages'.

### **Start and finish times:**

Year 4 children should arrive to the school yard at 8:40am and line up on the at 8:45am. The door will be locked at 8:50am so if you arrive late, you will need to walk to the main entrance.

### **Teaching arrangements:**

Miss Chivers will teach the class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Mrs Collins teaches on Thursdays and Fridays. Miss McNab will teach the class on a Wednesday afternoon while Miss Chivers and Mrs Collins have their planning meeting.

### **Equipment:**

Children can bring a pencil case to school if they would like to but it must be small enough to fit into their drawer in the classroom. Children do not *have* to bring a pencil case, as we have stationery in school for them to use. Please do not allow your child to bring Sharpie markers or fidget toys into school. We also ask that toys and other personal items are left at home.

Please make sure your child has a coat with them every day, regardless of the weather in the morning.

### **Snacks and water bottles:**

Children can bring a piece of fruit into school for their morning or afternoon break. All children need to bring a water bottle every day.

### **PE:**

Our PE days are Monday and Friday. Children should come into school wearing their PE kit on a Monday and Friday please.

### **Spellings:**

As a school, we will continue to use Spelling Frame. In year 4, your child will be allocated to either the 'spelling rule' or 'spelling stars' group and their log-ins are the same as last year. If you need a new copy of your child's log-in details, please ask. The first set of spellings will be put onto Spelling Frame in the second week of term. Once they have logged in, they will be able to play games which focus on the words or rule we would like them to practise that week. Children should also find out the meaning of any words in their list that they are unfamiliar with. Spelling Frame awards points for practising spellings, and each week the three children who receive the most points will be given house points to recognise their effort.

We will do a 'check' using these learned words on a **Thursday**, whereby 5 words from their list will be chosen and your child will be asked to spell them.

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If you or your child does not want to use the website to learn their spellings, that's absolutely fine, they can learn them in whichever way works best for you and them. They will just need to log onto the spelling frame website once a week to find out their spellings for that week and then practise them however they would like.

If children would like to challenge themselves with spelling, they can also find other spellings that fit our rule and try to use them in their classwork!

### Times tables:

All children in year 4 will sit a statutory times tables check in the summer term. Therefore, we spend a lot of time learning and practising them throughout the year. Each week, we will focus on a different times table in school and we are asking you to help your child to do the same at home. The test itself asks children 25 random times table questions and they only have 6 seconds in which to answer each question. Therefore, children need to be extremely fluent in their times tables, as they do not have time to work it out each time. We will begin our work on the lower times tables to start with and will set a table each week/fortnight for children to practise at home. We know that some children will already know the lower times tables, so, when practising at home, these children could do some problem solving and reasoning questions to help improve their fluency and application. We will be using Times Tables Rockstars a lot this year and will send you more information on how to use this at home to support your child.

### Reading books:

As a school, we are no longer using Bug Club for digital reading books. We will be spending the first 2 weeks assessing children to make sure we give them the correct reading book. We will send more information about reading and reading books in the next 2 weeks.

### Home time:

As the year 4 classroom has moved, we will be dismissing the children from the community room door at the end of the day. Due to the fact that year 3 will also be using this door to leave, we will bring the class outside, line them up along the wall and dismiss them in order, one at a time. When it's your child's turn, please give us a wave so that we can easily spot you. Please do not approach your child in the line or encourage them to come to you. It is vitally important that the teacher sees which adult is collecting each child at the end of the day to ensure safety.

### Communication:

If you have any quick questions or concerns, please feel free to speak to us at the beginning or end of the day, however, if your query will take more time, please email [admin@seatonsluicefirst.co.uk](mailto:admin@seatonsluicefirst.co.uk) to arrange a face to face or telephone appointment. As a school, we are asking parents not to email the teachers directly and to use main school email address for all communication. Thank you.

We look forward to working with you all this year!

Miss Chivers and Mrs Collins