

# Welcome to Year 4

## Staff in Year 4

- ▶ Maple class: Mrs Eley and Miss Anderson.
- ▶ Ash class: Mrs Smith, Mrs Westbrook and Mrs Mugios
- ▶ Beech class: Mrs Rundle, Mrs Nicklin and Miss Bridge

# Attendance and Punctuality

- ▶ Children will not achieve their full potential without good attendance or punctuality.
- ▶ If your child's attendance is 90% or less, this is the equivalent of missing a day each fortnight.
- ▶ If your child's attendance is 80% or less, this is the equivalent of missing a day each week.
- ▶ Good attendance is considered to be 96% or above.
- ▶ We give out weekly and termly attendance rewards and the children love to get these - please help your child to not miss out!
  
- ▶ Many of our interventions for children who need extra support take place at the start of the day - your child may miss out if they need extra support and are late!
- ▶ If a child has difficulty reading, it can mean that they fall behind other children in the class and find it more difficult to catch up.
- ▶ If your child is consistently late, this can be classed as an unauthorised absence.
- ▶ Arriving into class late is often stressful and embarrassing for children - please help them get in school, on time, every day!

# School Day Times

- ▶ Start of the day: 8:40
  - ▶ Doors close at 8:55 - if your child arrives after this time, please sign in via the office. Children arriving after 9:00 are registered as late.
- ▶ Break time: 10.30-10.45
- ▶ Lunch time: 12.15-1.15
- ▶ End of the day: 3:20

# Curriculum

- ▶ We have lots of exciting topics this year!
- ▶ To find out more, please visit the 'Curriculum' section of the school website - you can find the link below.
- ▶ <http://www.whitmore-pri.essex.sch.uk/Curriculum.php>
  
- ▶ DT: Making torches, pavilions and slingshot cars.
- ▶ Science: Practical science experiments such as recreating the digestive system.
- ▶ Key texts: Matilda, Tamarind and the Star of Ishta.
- ▶ Rainforests, Spanish and a practical rivers topic.

# Assessment

- ▶ We assess our children throughout the year.
- ▶ We use many different methods to ascertain which levels the children are working at, including verbal discussions with children, examining the work in their books, and more formal assessments.
- ▶ We use our assessments to plan what we will teach next and to see if our children have any gaps in their learning.
- ▶ We will provide you with assessment information at consultation evenings throughout the year, where we will discuss the progress your child is making and if they are working at the appropriate levels for their age.
- ▶ If you wish to discuss your child's academic progress at any point in the year, please talk to your child's teacher.

# Multiplication Check

- ▶ In the summer, the children will take part in the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC).
- ▶ This is designed to assess how well children know their multiplication facts up to  $12 \times 12$ .
- ▶ The children will answer twenty-five questions and will have six seconds to answer each question.
- ▶ To help your child prepare for this, please make sure that they play on Times Tables Rock Stars for forty minutes each week (no more than ten minutes at a time).
- ▶ The 'Soundcheck' game on Times Tables Rock Stars is a simulation of the MTC and has similar types of questions.
- ▶ In past years, only children who get every question correct are deemed to have 'passed'.

# Uniform Expectations

- ▶ Children are expected to wear school uniform every day.
- ▶ Our uniform is:
  - ▶ **Black** jumper or cardigan - these can be plain or with the school logo on. No hoodies please
  - ▶ **White** shirt or polo shirt - polo shirts with the school logo on are available if you wish. These also need to be tucked in so that children look smart.
  - ▶ **Black** shoes - no trainers or shoes with other colours on please. Please do not let your child wear boots or heels.
  - ▶ **Black** trousers, shorts or skirts.
  - ▶ **Black** pinafore-style dresses or **green** checked summer dresses.
- ▶ School fleeces for outside wear are also available to buy if you wish.
- ▶ Plain uniform from supermarkets is acceptable - we do **not** insist on school logos on every item of clothing!

# Uniform Expectations

- ▶ Hoodies of any colour are acceptable to be worn in the playground for warmth, but **not** as a substitute for a jumper in the classroom.
- ▶ Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather - if it is cold or wet, please ensure they have a suitable coat.
- ▶ **Please ensure that all of your child's possessions have their name in them so they can be returned to your child if they are ever lost.**
- ▶ Jewellery such as necklaces, bracelets or rings are not part of school uniform - please talk to your child's teacher if your child wears any of these for religious reasons.
- ▶ Your child may wear a **non-smart** watch if they wish.
- ▶ If your child wears earrings, please ensure that these are small, plain studs only - **no hoops or dangling earrings please.**
- ▶ **If you are unable to provide your child with suitable uniform, please talk to your child's teacher or the school office in confidence to discuss how the school can support you.**

# PE Days

## ► Year 4 PE Day: Wednesday

- On PE days, children will need to come to school in their PE kits.
- PE kits are not kept in school.

PE kit :

- **Black** shorts and plain white t-shirt (**no football kits**)
- Plimsolls or trainers
- **Black** or **grey** jogging bottoms or a tracksuit for outdoor lessons in colder weather
- Please be aware that long hair must be tied back for PE. If your child has long hair, please ensure that they are able to tie it back.
- **Earrings must not be worn for PE.** If your child wears earrings, please ensure that they are removed on PE days or make sure that your child is able to remove their earrings independently. Staff are **not** allowed to help children remove their earrings.
- Please ensure that all items of PE kit have your child's name in them.



# Swimming

- ▶ Swimming will take place in the summer term.
- ▶ Children will go swimming at the Sporting Village on Monday mornings.
- ▶ On swimming days, children will need to arrive at school at **8:30** to ensure we can arrive at the Sporting Village on time.
- ▶ There is no charge and swimming hats are provided.
- ▶ Boys will need to wear swimming shorts that do not go below the knee.
- ▶ Girls will need to wear one-piece swimsuits - no bikinis please.
- ▶ All children need to bring towels and a suitable bag for their swimming costumes.
- ▶ All earrings will need to be removed and hair tied back.
- ▶ Unlike other PE kit, swimming kit only needs to be brought into school on swimming days and will be sent home at the end of the day.
- ▶ Children will be assessed and put into confidence and competence-linked groups to help them develop their swimming ability.
- ▶ The National Curriculum states that all children should be able to swim 25 metres unaided by the end of KS2.
- ▶ Swimming is a **compulsory** part of the National Curriculum - please talk to your child's teacher if you have any queries or concerns about this.

# What to bring to school every day

- ▶ Book bag or small rucksack - no over-sized bags please, as our cloakrooms have limited space.
- ▶ Water bottle with your child's name on.
  - ▶ We have drinking water in every classroom so bottles can be refilled.
  - ▶ Please only put water in your child's bottle - no squash, juice or flavoured waters please.
- ▶ Lunchbox with your child's name on if they have a packed lunch.
- ▶ Reading book and reading record - this will be sent home at the end of every day and brought back on the next school day.

# Free School Meals

- ▶ Children in KS2 have to pay for a school meal.
  - ▶ <https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/free-school-meals>
- ▶ Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you receive certain benefits
- ▶ You can find more information at the website above.
- ▶ Please apply, even if you do not intend to use the meals, as the school receives extra funding for every eligible child.
- ▶ If you think you are entitled for free school meals and would like help applying, please contact the school office.



# Snacks at break

- ▶ You can send your child in with a piece of fruit or a vegetable from home if you wish.
- ▶ Dried fruit, such as raisins, are also acceptable.
- ▶ At break times, children are **not** allowed to have crisps, sweets, chocolate, biscuits, breakfast bars, breakfast biscuits, yogurts, meat products or other savoury snacks (save these for lunchtimes, please).



# Behaviour



## Rewards



**+1 point**  
Good Behaviour at  
Lunchtime



**+1 point**  
Good learning  
behaviour

- ▶ In school, we use a system called Carrot Rewards to monitor and track the children's behaviour.
- ▶ All children have an assigned character and can earn a 'carrot' after each session.
- ▶ Children will earn a carrot for displaying the expected behaviours: listening, working hard, being kind, following the rules, etc.
- ▶ Children will receive warnings before not earning carrot in class.
- ▶ Children can earn a maximum of six carrots per day - five in the classroom and one for lunchtime behaviour.
- ▶ On Fridays, at the end of the day, the children have 'Carrot Time', where they can choose a fun activity.
- ▶ Children need to have earned twenty-five carrot points to take part in Friday's carrot time (absence will be taken into account to not punish children for illness here).
- ▶ Children can only earn carrot points on days that they are at school.

# Behaviour Consequences

- ▶ The vast majority of our children are exceptionally well behaved and will never have to receive a consequence.
- ▶ Lunchtime and break consequences:
  - ▶ Warning or stand with an midday assistant for a period of time - carrots can still be earned.
  - ▶ Carrot not earned for lunchtime.
  - ▶ Sent to reflection room - no carrot point earned and parents informed.
  - ▶ 3 reflection room visits in a half term - internal exclusion for an afternoon.
  - ▶ Continued misbehaviour during breaks and lunches may result in the child not being allowed outside with other children during these times.
- ▶ Class sanctions:
  - ▶ Warnings or five minute 'time outs' - carrots can still be earned for the session if behaviour improves.
  - ▶ Not earning the carrot reward for that session.
  - ▶ Class move - child is sent to another class for the remainder of the session - carrot not earned.
  - ▶ Internal exclusions - child is in a different class. The length of this depends of the severity of the misbehaviour. No carrots are earned when a child is on internal exclusion.
  - ▶ Fixed term external exclusion - the child has to be home-schooled for a fixed period of time depending on the context of the behaviour.

# Carrot Celebration

- ▶ At the end of each half term, we will have Carrot Celebration to reward the children for their excellent behaviour, hard work **and attendance**.
- ▶ The children will have a choice of fun activities to thank them for their hard work.
- ▶ There may be times where we have to limit the size of activities because of resources, room sizes, etc.
- ▶ At times like this, children who have earned the most carrots over the half term will receive first choice of activities. This means that the children with the best attendance and punctuality will get first choice of the activities.
- ▶ In order to join in with Carrot Celebration, children need to have an average of 5 carrots per day during the half term, per day they are at school.

# Helping At Home

- ▶ Please read with your child a **minimum** of **three** times per week and date and sign in their reading record when you have listened to them read.
- ▶ Listening to your child read is a great bonding activity and can massively help them improve their confidence and fluency.
- ▶ If you are pressed for time, they can read to you whilst you are driving or completing other jobs, such as washing up or cooking dinner.
- ▶ The better a reader a child is, the easier they will find the rest of their learning.

# Reading at home

- ▶ Reading at home is extremely important.
- ▶ Pupils are expected to read every day at home and record it in their planner. Adults in class will check the planners weekly.
- ▶ We want reading to be enjoyable for the pupils, so they will be allowed to take any book home (no matter the band colour).
- ▶ You might feel the book your child takes home is too easy or too hard, however we want to encourage reading for pleasure.
- ▶ Pupils are allowed to bring their own age-appropriate books from home to read in school, if they wish.

# Helping At Home

- ▶ Your child also has access to Times Tables Rock Stars.
- ▶ They can use the same login details for each site.
- ▶ Children can earn coins to upgrade their avatars by answering questions.
- ▶ Numbots is for younger children and is designed to help children with addition, subtraction and other mental maths skills.
- ▶ Times Tables Rock Stars is designed to help children learn their multiplication and division facts.

▶ <https://ttrockstars.com/>

TT Rock Stars



Numbots

▶ <https://play.numbots.com/>

▶ Year 4 children are expected to learn every multiplication fact up to 12 x 12.

# Communication

- ▶ If you have any worries, or anything you would like to ask or share about your child, please make their class teacher the first person you speak to.
- ▶ We are always happy to talk to you about anything at all.
- ▶ Please note that mornings are a very busy time and we do need to supervise children coming in, so please be aware we will be unable to have in-depth conversations with you unless it is vital information that cannot wait.
- ▶ If you wish to have a longer, informal chat with us about any issues or questions you have, we are always happy to talk with you after school. Please be aware that we have staff meetings on Tuesdays after school.
- ▶ If you would like a more formal appointment, please contact your child's teacher or the school office to arrange a time for a face-to-face meeting or a phone call.
- ▶ If you have an issue that has not been resolved by talking to your child's teacher, your next step is to talk to the phase leader.
- ▶ The phase leader for Year 4 is Mrs Eley.

# Autumn Term Dates

- ▶ 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Sep Yr 6 Mersea Residential
- ▶ 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep Yr 6 Knife Crime Talk
- ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> Oct KS2 School Council Trip to UK Parliament
- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct National Poetry Day
- ▶ 21<sup>st</sup> Oct Reception Halloween Disco & Yrs 3&4 Halloween Disco
- ▶ 21<sup>st</sup> Oct Individual Photo Day
- ▶ 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct Yrs 1&2 Halloween Disco & Yrs 5&6 Halloween Disco
- ▶ 24<sup>th</sup> Oct Yr 3 Harvest Production performances to parents
- ▶ W/c 27<sup>th</sup> Oct Half Term

# Autumn Term Dates

- ▶ 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov Non-pupil day
- ▶ W/c 10<sup>th</sup> Nov Anti-Bullying Week
- ▶ 11<sup>th</sup> Nov Armistice Day
- ▶ 14<sup>th</sup> Nov Children in Need
- ▶ 18<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Nov Parent Consultation evenings
- ▶ 21<sup>st</sup> Nov EYFS Christmas production performances to parents
- ▶ 28<sup>th</sup> Nov Yr 1 Christmas production performances to parents

# Autumn Term Dates Continued

- ▶ 5<sup>th</sup> Dec Yr 2 Christmas production performances to parents
- ▶ 5<sup>th</sup> Dec Winter Workshop and Market
- ▶ 11<sup>th</sup> Dec Nursery carol concert to parents
- ▶ 12<sup>th</sup> Dec School Christmas Dinner
- ▶ 12<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Jumper Day
- ▶ 12<sup>th</sup> Dec Class Christmas parties
- ▶ 15<sup>th</sup> Dec Yrs 3 & 4 Carol Concert
- ▶ 16<sup>th</sup> Dec Yrs 5 & 6 Carol Concert
- ▶ 19<sup>th</sup> Dec Last day of Autumn term

# Spring Term Dates

- ▶ 5<sup>th</sup> Jan First day of term
- ▶ 10<sup>th</sup> Feb Safer Internet Day
- ▶ 10<sup>th</sup> Feb Reception Valentine's Disco & Yrs 3&4 Valentine's Disco
- ▶ 12<sup>th</sup> Feb Yrs 1&2 Valentine's Disco and Yrs 5&6 Valentine's Disco
- ▶ 24<sup>th</sup> Feb Young Voices at the O2
- ▶ W/c 16<sup>th</sup> Feb Half term
- ▶ 6<sup>th</sup> Mar World Book Day celebrations
- ▶ W/c 9<sup>th</sup> Mar Science Week
- ▶ 17<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Mar Parent Consultation evenings
- ▶ 27<sup>th</sup> Mar Yr 4 Spring Production performances to parents
- ▶ 27<sup>th</sup> Mar Last day of Spring term

# Summer Term Dates

- ▶ 13<sup>th</sup> Apr First day of term
- ▶ 20<sup>th</sup> , 21<sup>st</sup> , 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr Junior Music Festival (exact date TBC)
- ▶ 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr St George's Day
- ▶ 28<sup>th</sup> Apr Reception May Ball Disco and Yrs 3&4 May Ball Disco
- ▶ 30<sup>th</sup> Apr Yrs 1&2 May Ball Disco and Yrs 5&6 May Ball Disco
- ▶ 30<sup>th</sup> Apr KS1 and KS2 Panathlon
- ▶ 4<sup>th</sup> May Bank Holiday
- ▶ W/c 11<sup>th</sup> May Yr 6 SATs week
- ▶ 19<sup>th</sup> May Yr 5 Summer Showcase performances to parents
- ▶ 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> May Non-pupil days
- ▶ W/c 25<sup>th</sup> May Half Term

# Summer Term Dates Continued

- ▶ W/c 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Jun      Year 4 Multiplication Check
- ▶ W/c 8<sup>th</sup> Jun              Yrs 1 and 2 Phonics Check
- ▶ W/c 15<sup>th</sup> Jun             Money Week
- ▶ 19<sup>th</sup> Jun                  Enterprise and Inflatable Fun Event
- ▶ 29<sup>th</sup> Jun                  Reception & KS1 Sports Day
- ▶ 30<sup>th</sup> Jun                  KS2 Sports Day

# Summer Term Dates Continued

- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> Jul Yrs 5&6 District Sports
- ▶ 9<sup>th</sup> Jul Yrs 3&4 District Sports
- ▶ 10<sup>th</sup> Jul End of year reports sent out
- ▶ 13<sup>th</sup> Jul Move Up Day
- ▶ 14<sup>th</sup> Jul Open Evening
- ▶ 17<sup>th</sup> Jul Year 6 Leavers' Performance to Parents
- ▶ 17<sup>th</sup> Jul Year 6 End of Year Party
- ▶ 20<sup>th</sup> Jul Year 6 Clap Out
- ▶ 20<sup>th</sup> Jul Last day of academic year

Thank you very much for coming

Any questions?