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6th September 2024

## Welcome to Year 4



This letter should provide you with answers to lots of questions you may have about Year 4 but if you do have any other questions then I can be contacted through the school email address: [office@tynselparkesacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@tynselparkesacademy.co.uk)

Mrs Sowter is with our class supporting the children's learning as we prepare for the move to middle school. Miss Knight will also work with us this year. We will forward any information that comes to us regarding transition, but it will be useful to keep an eye on your post and emails as you will be contacted directly over the next few months.

### **General Information**

The children have PE lessons on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Weather permitting, one session each week will be outside. It is important that the children have plain grey sweatshirts and joggers for this outdoor session as the weather gets much cooler and we will be out in most weathers except rain.

### **Our topics**

Over the course of the year, we will cover 5 exciting and engaging topics. It's always great when we get to see work brought in that your children have completed as an "extra" so please share any visits or activities you complete at home linked to our topics.

This year's topics are:

Autumn 1	How do we know the Romans came to Britain?
Autumn 2	Why is the River Trent so important to Staffordshire?
Spring 1	What makes Canada so Cool?
Spring 2	What made a good king in 1066?
Summer 1&2	What was life like for a child in 1939?

## Homework

Children will be set a Maths homework and an English homework on alternating weeks. This could be paper-based or on Purple Mash so please make sure to ask your child! In addition to this, I will set regular homework to prepare the children for the Multiplication Tables Check which is compulsory for Year 4 children to sit in the Summer term. With regard to Reading homework, this should be 5 lots of 10 minute sessions of reading aloud each week. Reading Diaries will be looked at each week by either me or Mrs Sowter, please bring reading books to school daily.

## Multiplication Tables Check

The expectation is that children will be familiar and fluent with all their times tables up to and including the 12s by the end of Year 4. To assess this, the Multiplication Tables Check has been brought in and consists of 25 questions with 6 seconds given to answer each question. There is no "pass" or "fail"; it will simply identify areas of concern that we can follow up on and inform middle schools so appropriate support can be put in place. In school, we use a program called NumberSense to provide daily practice. Each child will have their own log-in to use a site called [timestables.co.uk](http://timestables.co.uk) and we will use this in school. I would hope that your child uses it at least once a week.

## Timings of the day

In Year 4 our timings are:

**Morning - doors open at 8:40am to begin at 8:45am.**

**Afternoon - doors open at 3:15pm.**

## Water Bottles

Please ensure your child comes to school with a named water bottle. Children will be encouraged to drink frequently during the day and they will be re-filled whenever necessary. The bottles will be sent home every evening to be cleaned and returned the next day. We discourage squash, as often when it spills it leaves a sticky mess and ruins work more than plain water does.

## Tuck

In KS2 the children do not receive government-funded fruit. You are, however, more than welcome to provide your child with a healthy snack for the morning break. For the safety of all, both children and adults, please ensure that snacks do not contain nuts. We are now a nut-free site.

I hope this gives you an insight into what Year 4 will be like for your child this year. I am really excited to be teaching this class, helping them achieve their very best, and helping them enjoy their final year with us.

Kind regards,

Mrs Skelton (Class teacher)