



*Forward Together in Learning, Effort and Behaviour*

## *Welcome to Year 4*

Dear Parents and Carers,

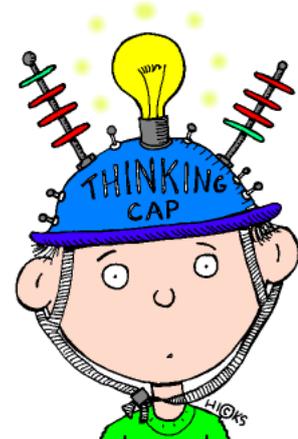
We would like to welcome you and your child to Year 4. We are taking this opportunity at the beginning of the new school year, to inform you about all aspects of school life in Year 4. We feel that if we all work together, your child will achieve the appropriate expectations for their age and have a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

### **EXPECTATIONS**

In Year 4, we expect every child to work towards achieving their full potential. Work set will be matched to suit the varying abilities within the year group. All children will be expected to present their work neatly.

#### **THE EXPECTATIONS IN YEAR 4 ARE:**

- To be respectful to both their peers and all adults they work with.
- To be independent learners.
- To be resilient when facing challenges.
- To be responsible for their learning and personal organisation.
- To use a range of presentational skills.
- To take pride in their work and always produce their best.
- To continue to build up pace of work.



## YEAR 4 STAFF

Class Teachers:

Miss Berry (Monday & Tuesday)

Miss Kaczmarek (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday)

Ms Taylor-Pugh (Tuesday pm - Music & Thursday pm - Art/DT)

Mrs Dawes (Tuesday pm - Spanish)

Support Staff

- Ms Taylor-Pugh Higher Level Teaching Assistant
- Mrs Graham S.E.N.D. support assistant
- Mrs Denyer S.E.N.D. support assistant
- Aimee Dance teacher (Apex Sport)
- Mr Ilori P.E. Teacher

## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

As is required by law, we follow the National Curriculum which provides each child with the opportunity to fulfil his/her individual potential. The children are grouped in a variety of ways such as: ability groups; mixed ability groups and friendship groups when learning. We believe that this maximises learning opportunities for all the children. In addition to daily lessons in English and Maths, children will have lessons in a variety of other subjects (see Topic Web).

At How Wood we are committed to ensuring that your child enjoys lessons and is challenged appropriately. In order to provide this a typical lesson will include at least one of the following strategies:

- High order questioning e.g 'How can you explain...?', 'What do you know about...?' 'Let's think about why...?'
- Open-ended activities which develop thinking skills; problem solving and investigations
- The expectation that children will explain their thinking and learning to others
- Mixed ability groupings where the children have opportunities to support and challenge each other through discussion and appropriately challenging tasks
- Differentiated activities
- Challenging children to ask questions and be active learners and thinkers
- Self-assessment and editing



## **READING**

Your child should keep a record of everything read at home or school in their Reading Records. Please encourage your child to read regularly as this will enable them to fully access all areas of the curriculum. In addition we would ask that you share books with your child, reading aloud to 'model' reading with enthusiasm and expression.

At How Wood, we take a whole class approach to guided reading. This gives all children the opportunity to be immersed in high quality texts that are often pitched beyond what they are able to access independently. Through whole class reading, children are invited to 'echo read' by mimicking the teachers' expression, pace and tone of voice, to develop their own expression, fluency and understanding. Questions are adapted to suit the needs of each individual and answers are recorded and discussed, in order to further develop the children's ability to articulate and explain a text.

## **SPELLINGS**

Spellings are set weekly and there are also games that can be played on Spelling Shed to further support this. Spellings are based on the statutory words that children in Year 4 are expected to be able to spell consistently by the end of the year (this is a national expectation). A small number of children may be set individualised spellings that are personal to their needs. Children are expected to learn all the spellings using the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check method. Spellings will be given out at the beginning of a half-term and children are tested on a Monday. If a child does not appear to have learned their spellings they will be re-tested at a convenient time.

## **MULTIPLICATION TABLES**

By the end of Year 4 all children are expected to be fluent with all the times tables (up to  $12 \times 12$ ). All Year 4 children nationally will complete a 'multiplications tables check'.

*"The MTC will be administered as an online, on-screen assessment. The MTC will be administered to pupils in year 4. The check will be available over a 3 week window in June each year. Schools can choose to administer the check at any time within this window. "*

For more details see:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/755745/2018\\_MTC\\_assessment\\_framework\\_PDFA.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/755745/2018_MTC_assessment_framework_PDFA.pdf)



All children are encouraged to learn as many of their tables as possible. It is important that children practise their times tables regularly at home, as well as in school and they will prove essential in developing their mental and written fluency. There will be a compulsory times table club during Wednesday lunchtime.

## **REWARDS AND MERITS**

We have a whole school approach to rewards. We will be awarding weekly certificates for good behaviour, effort, learning and kindness. The children also work towards 10 merits for a special Head teacher's certificate. This you will know as the bronze, silver, gold and platinum system. In class rewards include: verbal praise, postcards home, and Dojo points.

## **HOME LEARNING**

Home Learning is 'menu based' and will be linked to our topic work in Year 4. Maths home learning will also be set each week on MyMaths. The expectation is that all work to be submitted onto Google Class, where possible.

## **UNIFORM**

It is essential that all children come to school wearing the correct school uniform. Hair bands, hair clips and accessories must be sympathetic to our uniform colours (blue, black, grey) and long hair must be tied back for health and safety reasons. Nail varnish and jewellery (excluding stud earrings) are not permitted in school, unless there is a health or religious reason. Black school shoes (or un-patterned black boots in the winter months) must be worn. Trainers or sports shoes are not part of the school uniform and therefore are not permitted.

## **PE KITS**

PE will be on a Wednesday; however, it is important that your child has their kit in school all week. The kit is as follows:

- Black shorts
- Yellow T shirt
- Trainers (for outdoor p.e.) and plimsolls for indoor
- Dark coloured track suit bottoms (for cold weather)
- Dark coloured sweat shirt (for cold weather)



Teachers will send kits home to be washed regularly. For health and safety reasons children with earrings will be asked to remove them or tape them up. ***Please remember that all pieces of uniform need to be named.***

## **SWIMMING**

In Years 3 and 4 children will attend swimming lessons at Westminster Lodge on a Monday morning. Please ensure that your child arrives at school prepared to swim. If for any reason your child is not swimming one week, a letter must be sent into school that day explaining the reason why.

The kit is as follows:

- Girls: a one-piece swimming costume
- Boys: swimming trunks (above the knee)
- A towel

Swimming hats and goggles are optional and if your child needs or prefers to wear goggles, you must send a letter to the school stating this. Swimming kits will be sent home every Monday after each swimming lesson.

## **EQUIPMENT**

This year the children are asked to bring **one** pencil case to school. It should include the following equipment:

- Felt tips
- Coloured pencils
- Glue stick
- Sharpener
- Rubber

Children who forget to bring their pencil case to school will be provided with pencils, pens, rubbers etc. to use within lesson times.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Please ensure that your child is in the playground between 8:40am and 8.50am ready to line up. It is important that your child arrives on time as learning begins promptly as soon as they arrive in the classroom. If your child is absent, please inform the school on the morning of the absence. A letter must also be sent to the office on their return to school. Regular absences from school can affect your child's learning since they will miss vital work that has been planned. This will then mean they will be working to 'catch up' when they return.



If for any reason your child is late in the morning please enter the school via the office so they can be marked in the register and any dinner choices can be made.

Non-attendance and punctuality is recorded and is regularly monitored by the Head Teacher and the Hertfordshire Attendance Improvement Officer.

### **PLAYTIME SNACK & LUNCH**

How Wood is a healthy eating school and we encourage children to adopt healthy lifestyles. Playtime snacks should consist of a piece of fruit. As there are a number of children across the school with nut allergies, we ask parents not to send in nut based products.

Herts Catering, who provide our school meals, ensure that lunches are well balanced and healthy. Packed lunches that some parents provide should also be balanced and healthy.

### **DATE OF CLASS ASSEMBLY**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

**Enclosed with this booklet you will find a class timetable, topic web and recommended reading list.**

