



Welcome to Kestrel Class



Dear Parents and carers,

A warm welcome back to everyone and to the start of year 4! I hope that your child will settle in quickly and is happy in Kestrels. Year 4 is an exciting time with so many fantastic topics and to demonstrate greater maturity and independence.

Teaching staff

I will be teaching Woodpecker class for the majority of the week with Mrs Ekoku covering my non-contact time. We will be ably assisted by Mrs Dalglish and Mrs Adil. Mrs Dalglish will be working with us on Monday – Thursday mornings as well as Thursday and Friday afternoons. Mrs Adil will be supporting us on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and Friday Mornings.

Sport

For the first half term, PE and Games lessons will take place on **Mondays and Wednesdays**. Key Stage 2 will continue to **come to school in PE kits on their PE days**. We will, of course, inform you in advance of any changes to our PE days.

For the first half term, Year 4 will take part in Forest School or OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activity) sessions on alternate weeks on a **Wednesday**. Children are to come to school in their PE kits on these days, even if they are attending Forest School, bringing extra clothing for the session.

Autumn 1 (until October half term)	Monday PE Wednesday Forest School or Outdoor Adventurous Activities
Rest of the year	Mondays and Fridays

After October half term, Games sessions will change to a **Friday**. I will send a reminder nearer the time!

Reading

Your child may well be enjoying books independently and reading needs to be recorded in their reading diaries daily. Children should continue to read to an adult regularly. Once again, it is important that you fill in the reading diary, noting the date, page number reached, and a comment on your child's reading or discussions about the text. Shared reading and discussion of the story are very helpful. Please encourage your child to read with expression, and to give opinions about the characters in the story, the plot, and what might happen next. Reading diaries will be checked regularly by myself or a teaching assistant. In class, we will develop reading skills including fluency, retrieval of information, vocabulary and inference and deduction within at least two comprehension lessons a week.

Maths

Please help your child with their mental manipulation of numbers to increase their confidence and speed. This could include counting forwards and backwards from a given number, or simple addition and subtraction problems. These are great for long car journeys or bath times! Please continue to practise the multiplication and division facts for times tables to 12×12 - the children need to know the tables off by heart in preparation for the Multiplication Tables Check in the summer. There are lots of games to practise tables on the internet. The children can also practise their maths skills on the Mathletics website. Logins to follow.

Homework

Each Thursday, your child will receive a piece of English and maths homework, **to be returned by the following Tuesday**. There will also be an independent learning project set in the autumn and spring terms: more details will be provided nearer the time.

Curriculum

The curriculum overview is available on our class page on the school website. Children are encouraged to bring in any relevant resources from home related to our learning.

Equipment

The children only need a book bag or a **small** rucksack to carry their belongings otherwise the cloakroom gets very crowded! It is vital come to school with the correct equipment daily.

School, thanks to the PTA, now provides the children with all the stationery required for class. This means that children do not bring in pencil cases.

Welcome Meeting

Parents are invited to our Welcome Meeting on Wednesday 10th September at 4.30pm. This will be a chance to hear more about the curriculum and the learning focus for the year. Parents will be able to join the meeting in-person in the classroom, or can join via TEAMS. Unfortunately, we are not able to offer supervision for children during the meeting time, so joining on TEAMS may be an option if there are any problems with childcare.

I look forward to working with you and your child this year and seeing you at the Welcome Meeting. If you have any worries or queries, please do come and talk to me or send me an e-mail: I find it is always best to nip concerns and issues in the bud.

Best wishes,

Mrs Louise Knock
Year 4 Class Teacher
Deputy Headteacher
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