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Year 4 Welcome Information

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope your child has had a positive start in Year 4. Below, I would like to outline the necessary information which you will need for this year of your child's education.

Expectations

Attendance

Good school attendance is essential to achieving well at school. Any absence from school will disrupt your child's learning. It is important that this is minimised as much as realistically possible. Pupils with 100% attendance will be rewarded termly. Those pupils who have achieved 100% attendance across the whole school year will receive a very special reward at the beginning of the next academic year.

Punctuality

It is vital that pupils arrive at school on time. When pupils are late to school, it can feel very unsettling for pupils as they walk into a classroom after their lesson has started. Pupils who miss the start of lessons, can miss vital content necessary to their learning. Pupils **must** be in school by 8:50am.

Uniform

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform daily. We believe that the children should all look smart and wear the same uniform. Uniform helps pupils to prepare for when they leave school and may have to dress smartly or wear a uniform. Uniforms can raise expectations of themselves; when dressed neatly, pupils tend to behave appropriately as they are taking pride in themselves. One of our core Christian values is community; wearing a uniform helps pupils gain a sense of belonging within a community with equality. Parents will receive a written notice of the incorrect item that the pupil was wearing and given a time period to correct it for any child not wearing the correct school uniform. If this has not been corrected within the stated timescale, parents will be asked to meet with the Head of School to discuss this further.

Please ensure that your child is wearing school uniform **as stated in our school uniform policy.**

Daily reading

Within Key Stage 2, the focus of reading teaching is comprehension. Reading is a gateway to learning **anything about everything**. It helps you discover new things and educate yourself in any area of life you are interested in. You can find a book on just about any subject you can imagine, dive in and start learning. In order for your child to progress with their reading skills, and wider knowledge, pupils must read **daily** at home. Each time a child gets their reading record signed, they will be awarded with a house point which will contribute towards our rainbow award system; children who receive 400 house points by the end of the year will be awarded a Gold certificate and a very special reward at the beginning of the next academic year.

Homework

In Year 4, pupils will be expected to read daily, practise their mental maths daily, practise their weekly spellings at home and complete a maths and English task. They will also have a weekly quiz to complete which reinforces their prior learning. This homework will be set on Microsoft Teams each Friday and is due in the following Wednesday. If pupils fail to complete homework, **pupils will be kept in at lunchtime until it is complete**. Each time a child submits the correct homework, they will be awarded a house point. They may be awarded 2 house points for an exceptional piece of homework.

Significant events

Year 4 Overnight Trip

In order to prepare the children for the 5-day residential trip to the Isle of Wight in Year 6, pupils at Seal CEP School have the opportunity to build up to this gradually. In Year 4, they will have an overnight stay at Adventure Kidz in Aylesford and within Year 5, pupils have a 3-day residential trip to Carrotty Wood. Further details about this school trip will be provided within a subsequent letter.

Multiplication check

In June, all Year 4 pupils will sit a multiplication check which tests the child's knowledge on their times tables. This is a statutory check which was introduced into schools in 2020. The purpose of this check is to determine whether the child is able to rapidly recall their times tables in order to prepare them for the Year 5 mathematics curriculum, and beyond. Without this knowledge, pupils will find the calculations that they need to learn in Years 5 and 6 particularly challenging. It is therefore vital that pupils practise their multiplication, and associated division facts, up to 12x12 **daily**.

Curriculum Information

In Year 4, pupils will have many exciting learning experiences. Some of which will include learning:

- The Anglo Saxons and the Vikings
- Different weaving techniques and how to recycle materials in order to create something
- How to make a desert
- The states of matter
- The water cycle
- Programming in order to create games
- A contrasting European country
- How to show finer details to produce more accurate sketches including using lines to create shading or tone
- How sound is created and what affects pitch and volume
- How to play a simple melody using a guitar
- Further design skills to make something that has been trialled
- How to use spreadsheets to present data
- The human digestive system
- Netball, hockey, swimming, dance, football and athletics

In English and mathematics, pupils will learn a range of content including how to:

- Use skimming and scanning to retrieve and record details from fiction and non-fiction
- Use relevant prior knowledge and evidence from the text to make predictions
- infer a character's thoughts, feelings and motives from their stated actions
- distinguish between important and unimportant information in a text

- Find words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
- Use paragraphing appropriately
- Use adverbs and prepositions
- Use inverted commas to punctuate direct speech
- Use headings, subheadings, pictures, captions and bullet points appropriately
- Use the past and present tense, including the present perfect tense, consistently and accurately
- Order and compare numbers beyond 1,000
- Round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1,000
- Add and subtract numbers up to 4 digits using the formal method of column addition and column subtraction
- Recall and use the multiplication and division facts up to 12x12
- Multiply a 2- and 3-digit numbers by a 1-digit number using a formal written layout
- Find the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes
- Identify acute and obtuse angles and order them in terms of size

In addition, forest school, religious education, sex and relationships education and wellbeing will continue once a week. In farm education, pupils will be studying the pigs gaining further hands-on experience of this animal.

Please note – there is much more content in the Year 4 English and mathematics curriculum. The above list gives a few items which may be useful for you to talk to your child about and support them at home. You will find further details on what your child is learning on the subsequent experience newsletters.

We hope your child thoroughly enjoys their Year 4 learning experiences and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Mr Brown: abrown@inspiream.org.uk

Mr Kyte: wkyte@inspiream.org.uk

Best wishes,

Mrs Tamsin Jones