

# Year 4 Newsletter

## Autumn Term 1 2022

Welcome to Year 4!

We hope you all had a lovely summer holiday and that you're ready for a busy half term in school. We are excited to have the children back in school and we have lots planned for them. This letter will give you lots of information about the arrangements for Year 4 and you can find details of what we will be learning about this half term on the school website. Please head to 'Year Group Pages'.

Reminder: As outlined in the final whole-school newsletter of last term, we no longer use Class Dojo. All communication will be sent to you via Parentmail or added to the school website.

### **Start and finish times:**

Year 4 children should line up on the schoolyard at 8:55am. If you arrive after 9am, the door will be locked and you will need to use the main entrance.

### **Teaching arrangements:**

Miss Chivers will teach the class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Mrs Collins teaches on Thursdays and Fridays. Miss McNab will teach the class on a Wednesday afternoon while Miss Chivers and Mrs Collins have their planning meeting.

### **Equipment:**

Children can bring a pencil case to school if they would like to but it must be small enough to fit into their drawer in the classroom. Children do not *have* to bring a pencil case, as we have stationery in school for them to use. Please do not allow your child to bring Sharpie markers or fidget toys into school. We also ask that toys and other personal items are left at home.

Please make sure your child has a coat with them every day, regardless of the weather in the morning.

### **Snacks:**

Children can bring a piece of fruit into school for their morning or afternoon break.

### **PE:**

Our PE days are Monday and Friday. Children should come into school wearing their PE kit on a Monday and Friday please.

### **Spellings:**

As a school, we will continue to use Spelling Frame. In year 4, your child will be allocated to either the 'spelling rule' or 'spelling stars' group and will be given login details, which are stuck in their reading record. The first set of spellings will be put onto Spelling Frame in the second week of term. Once they have logged in, they will be able to play games which focus on the words or rule we would like them to practise that week. Children should also find out the meaning of any words in their list that they are unfamiliar with. Spelling Frame awards points for practising spellings, and each week the three children who receive the most points will be given house points to recognise their effort.

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We will do a 'check' using these learned words on a **Thursday**, whereby 5 words from the list will be chosen and your child will be asked to spell them.

If you or your child does not want to use the website to learn their spellings, that's absolutely fine, they can learn them in whichever way works best for you and them. They will just need to log onto the website once a week to find out their spellings for that week and then practise them however they would like.

If children would like to challenge themselves with spelling, they can also find other spellings that fit our rule and try to use them in their classwork!

#### **Times tables:**

All children in year 4 will sit a statutory times tables check in the summer term. Therefore, we spend a lot of time learning and practising them throughout the year. Each week, we will focus on a different times table in school and we are asking you to help your child to do the same at home. The test itself asks children 25 random times table questions and they only have 6 seconds in which to answer each question. Therefore, children need to be extremely fluent in their times tables, as they do not have time to work it out each time. We will begin our work on the lower times tables to start with. We know that some children will already know the lower times tables, so, when practising at home, these children could do some problem solving and reasoning questions to help improve their fluency and application. We will be using Times Tables Rockstars a lot this year and will send you more information on how to use this at home to support your child.

#### **Reading books:**

The children should continue to access their reading books on Bug Club using the code, username and password on the front of their new reading record. Please write in their record when you have heard them read at home. It is vitally important that we know when children are reading at home. An adult will hear your child read in school as often as possible. This could be on any day of the week, so please make sure your child brings their reading record into school each day. We will review the level of your child's books as we get to know their reading ability better.

Please come and speak to us after school or contact us via email ([admin@seatonsluicefirst.co.uk](mailto:admin@seatonsluicefirst.co.uk)) if you ever have any questions or concerns. We are always here to help!

We look forward to working with you all this year!

Miss Chivers and Mrs Collins