



Welcome to Year 4

I am pleased to welcome you back and hope you have had a restful holiday enjoying the lovely weather we had! It is good to be back to some form of normality and routine; I am sure you and the children feel the same way too! This term is always an exciting one with plenty of new topics and themes to explore.

I look forward to meeting you all soon to welcome you to Year 4 and explain the year ahead. Please feel free to introduce yourselves to me at the end of the day to help me get to know you all.

PE for Oak Class will be on Monday and Thursday each week. The children are welcome to leave their PE kit in school on Monday and for their Thursday lesson also. Forest school for our class will be on a Wednesday morning every week with Mrs May and our class TA's. Please can children come to school in their normal school uniforms as we will allow them to change here. Please ensure that Forest school kits are fully labelled with both being taken home every week to be washed and returned for the next week.

Our fabulous TA's this year are: Miss Brandrith, Miss Ashall and Miss Thompson
Best wishes, Miss Callum

English

This term in English, the children will:

- Learn to immerse themselves in the class text we are using
- Learn to analyse this text in a variety of ways
- Learn to plan and gather ideas for their own writing
- Write a narrative about a setting and newspaper report
- We will also focus on sentence structure, pronouns and inverted commas

Maths

This term in Maths, the children will focus on:

- Place Value – compare, order and round
- Roman Numerals
- Adding and subtracting 4-digit numbers
- Multiplying and dividing by 3, 6, 7 and 9 – recap 2, 5 & 10
- Negative Numbers
- Measurement – length and perimeter
- Add and subtract in 1s, 10s, 100s and 1,000s
- Multiply and divide by 10 and 100

History

Our history topic this term is the Maya civilization. We will be looking at this topic during the first half term of Year 4. The children will be finding out about why chocolate is important to the Mayans and about their beliefs and settlements.

Science

For the first half term, the topic we will be covering is 'Humans' – digestion and teeth. We will look at what happens to food when we ingest and digest it and relating this to why teeth are of importance to the digestive system. After half term we will be looking at electricity and circuits. The children will have the opportunity to build their own working circuit.

Geography

After half term, we will begin our Geography topic, "Why are rainforests important to us?". We will look at rainforests across the globe, their characteristics and will discuss deforestation. We will also be looking forward to a class trip to visit the Living Rainforest.

PE

This term your child will change into their PE kit at school so make sure all items are named and in a named drawstring bag. You will need to refer to the uniform policy on the website for the full kit list. As far as possible PE will be outside, so please ensure they have warmer PE kit as the weather gets colder through the term.

RE

The first half of the term the children will be looking at the question 'Are all religions equal?'. After the half term break the class will begin to discover what makes some texts sacred.

French

This term we will be learning to describe people and will learn the names for clothes items and language for getting dressed.

Computing

We will look at online safety; from using the internet, websites, sharing of information and emails. We will then move onto looking at computing systems and networks and how they are used. After half term we will also begin our first coding unit.

Forest School

Forest School day for our class is Wednesday mornings. Please refer to the school website and click on the 'Forest School' tab for more information and make sure your child brings their kit on their respective day.

Homework

In order to support and consolidate your child's learning this term we expect all of the following homework to be done daily:

Reading – Please hear your child read their school reading book daily for 20 minutes using one or two questions from the reading bookmark every time to develop your child's comprehension. These books need to come back into school each day. Please record each time you have read with your child in their reading record. We have spent a lot of money over the last few years on books so please take care of them and encourage your child to do the same. If you find you have any school reading books at home then please send them in with your child.

Spellings – We will be providing spellings to learn at home on a weekly basis. These will then be tested in school the following week. Please practise these spellings each day ready for their spelling test.

Maths – In order for your child to have a sound knowledge of basic maths concepts that they can apply to lots of maths areas, each Friday we will be sending home weekly maths work either on Splash Learn or a paper sheet.

Website and Newsletter – <http://www.overstone-wing.bucks.sch.uk>

Remember to check the 'Latest News' on the school website to keep up to date with what is happening. The school newsletter will come out on the last Friday of the month and will celebrate what we have been up to and will tell you what is coming up in the next month. This will be sent to you via ParentMail.

Behaviour & Rewards

Dojo points – These are given to children demonstrating the school values, e.g. working hard or demonstrating good manners. The children will receive certificates to mark 50-point milestones in the celebration assembly.

Sharing outside achievements – Children will be able to share achievements from outside school in celebration assembly, e.g. swimming badges.

Weekly certificate – One child in each class will receive a values certificate in celebration assembly for showing the school values.

Governor award – This happens termly. One person from each class who we feel consistently demonstrates the school values, will be chosen to be awarded with a Governor Award. These children will be presented with a gold badge to be worn on their uniform.

Headteacher postcard – these are awarded to children when they are sent to the headteacher for demonstrating good behaviour, completing good work and for clear evidence of showing the school values.

Equipment

Please send your child in each day with a clear named drinks bottle filled with water which can be refilled throughout the day. Your child does not need any specific stationery, equipment or a pencil case for their lessons as we will provide pencils etc. Please ensure your child has a waterproof coat for school which is clearly named.

We welcome you to Year 4 and look forward to teaching your children.