

# Year 4 Parent Welcome Session

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# Welcome from the Team

Year 4

Ms. Krystle Taylor – Year 4 Lead  
Teacher

Mr. Mark Jones – Year 4 Teacher and  
Phase Lead

Mrs. Amy Stevenson – Year 4 Teacher

Mr. Sam Esworthy – Year 4 HLTA

Miss. Lauren Forrest – Year 4 TA

Mrs. Caroline Clemenson – Year 4 TA

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Welcome back to the beginning of a new academic year. Year 4 will hit the ground running this year by practising for their times table check from day 1! All children made great progress with their times tables last year, exceeding both the local and the national average for 2023. No matter what your child's starting point, with your continued support and encouragement all children can achieve and make fantastic progress in their times tables. A parent information meeting regarding the year 4 multiplication check will be held this term.

For your information the Y4 team is made up of:

- Ms. Taylor – Pheasants' Class Teacher and Y4 Lead Teacher
- Mr. Jones – Owls' Class Teacher and Phase Leader
- Mrs. Stevenson – Rabbits' Class Teacher
- Mr. Esworthy (HLTA), Mrs. Clemenson and Miss. Forrest will be working across the Y4 classes.

### Home Learning

Home learning will be given each Friday. This will be one piece of work linked to the week's learning in either maths or writing. In addition to this, children will be given a weekly list of spellings to practise at home.

We expect children to be reading and completing maths activities at home at least four times per week - especially **Times Tables Rockstars**. The children will receive rewards for doing this so please ensure you remember to record any maths or reading activities you do at home in your reading diaries. Please ensure reading diaries are regularly filled in and brought to school every day.

### Key vocabulary

<b>amphitheatre</b>	An arena with seats rising in curved rows around an open space.
<b>colosseum</b>	A huge amphitheatre.
<b>gladiator</b>	Professional fighters in ancient Rome.
<b>villa</b>	A large house.
<b>emperor</b>	A man who rules an empire.
<b>chariot</b>	A vehicle with two wheels used in ancient times.
<b>Roman numerals</b>	The numbers that were used in ancient Rome.
<b>habitat</b>	The place a plant or animal lives.

### Upcoming Dates

Tuesday 10th September - Parent Information Meeting

Friday 20th September - Year 4 Roman Day (Roman costume optional)

Wednesday 2nd October @ 8:40 in the school hall - Parent Multiplication Check Information Cafe

Tuesday 8th October - Individual Photo Day

Wednesday 9th October - Sibling Photo Day

Thursday 15th October - After School Parent Work Share

Friday 18th October - Black History Curriculum Day

Thursday 24th October - Last Day of Half Term

Friday 25th October - Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils.

**Note** - PE days are Tuesday and Thursday.

## Topic: The Romans - What did they do for us?

This curriculum newsletter provides an overview of your child's learning this half-term.



### Science

As scientists, we will be exploring a variety of ways to identify, sort, group and classify living things. We will learn how animals are split into 'vertebrates' and 'invertebrates' and begin to consider the differences between living things within these classifications.

### Computing

As computer scientists, we will be recognising the Internet as a network of networks. We will also be considering why we should evaluate the reliability of online content.

We will also be thinking about how to stay safe when using the internet and why it is important to keep our personal information and identity private.

### English

As writers, we will begin the term by exploring some of Lewis Carroll's poetry (The Walrus and the Carpenter; A Strange Wild Song; Jabberwocky). We will be identifying some of the different features he uses, such as rhyme and 'portmanteau' words. Our focus will then be on using expression and intonation to perform some of his poems.

Later in the half term we will look at recounts. We will spend some time understanding what they are and how we can write a recount successfully. Then, we will write our own recounts of our day as a Roman Soldier.

Finally, we will use our understanding from our Romans topic and knowledge collated in geography lessons to write an explanation of what happens when a volcano erupts.

As readers, we will be using both the Schofield and Sims and Comprehension Ninja reading programmes. We will be exploring extracts from a variety of texts and genres.

We will work towards building on our existing VIPERs skills:

- V – understanding of vocabulary
- I – using clues to make inferences

### PE

As athletes, we will be developing our tag rugby skills:

- passing
- tactics
- attacking and defending
- working in a team

### RE

As theologians we will explore the question 'Where do religious beliefs come from?' with a focus on Christianity.

### Art and Design Technology

As artists and designers, we will be exploring art through storytelling. We will focus on the core crowns of creativity, determination and encourage children to take pride in the work they produce for 'Our School'. It will also give lots of opportunities for teamwork and

### History and Geography

As historians, we will be exploring the impact the Romans had on modern day Britain. We will be learning about the motives for Emperor Claudius' invasion of Britain in AD43. We will also be comparing and contrasting the armies of Boudicca and the Romans. We are very fortunate to be having a visit from a Roman visitor to launch our topic!

- P – using what we have read to make predictions
- E – explaining what you have understood referring to the text
- R – retrieving answers directly from the text
- S – summarising the events or main ideas from the text

collective responsibilities.

As geographers, we will be exploring the key questions, 'Why do some earthquakes cause more damage than others?'

### Maths

### RHE

### Music

As mathematicians we will:

- Begin year 4 by revising and building on previous learning linked to perimeter and fractions of an amount.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a four-digit number (thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones)
- Read Roman numerals to 100.
- Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations beyond 1000.
- Find 1000 more or less than a given number.
- Order and compare numbers beyond 1000.
- Use knowledge of 1,000 to explain common measure conversions.
- Recap column methods for addition and subtraction.

To understand ourselves and others we will recognise and respond to a wide range of emotions by looking at the many emotions that we all feel at times. We will consider how our emotions affect our behaviour and how this can affect others.

In RHE we will also be learning about the importance of good hygiene.

As musicians we will begin to learn how to play the guitar with weekly lessons.

We will also continue to attend our weekly KS2 singing assemblies.

### Languages

As linguists we will be learning key vocabulary in French linked with days of the week as well as learning numbers 21-30.

# Supporting Learning at home

## HOME LEARNING

### 1 | Read for a star



To help your child make good progress in their reading, we encourage you to read with your child at least four times a week and to log this in their reading diary. They will receive certificates during the year to celebrate their reading at home.

### 2 | Marvellous Maths

The aim of Marvellous Maths is to encourage your child to do a fun mathematical activity four times a week. This may be helping them with their times tables for the upcoming Year 4 Multiplication Check.

### 3 | Year group specific

- TTRS
- Weekly Spellings
- Friday home learning linked to the week's learning.
- MYON





# Year 4 Multiplication Check

## Multiplication tables check

### Do you have a child in year 4 at primary school?

If so, your child will be participating in the multiplication tables check (MTC) in June.

The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will also help your child's school to identify if your child may need additional support.

### What is the multiplication tables check?

It is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions. Your child will be able to answer 3 practice questions before taking the actual check. They will then have 6 seconds to answer each question. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

### Do I need to do anything to prepare my child for the check?

No, you do not need to do anything additional to prepare your child for the check. As part of usual practice, teachers may ask you to practise times tables with your child.

Schools will have unlimited access to a 'try it out' area from April. They can use this to make sure pupils have the necessary support to access the check. This includes opportunities for pupils to familiarise themselves with the check application and try out any access arrangements that may be required.

### How will the results be used?

Schools will have access to all their pupils' results, to allow them to identify pupils who need additional support.

We will be holding a parent and child breakfast café at 8:40 on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October in the school hall. This will provide you with ideas about how you can help prepare your child for this check and we will be able to provide further information.



## 1 | PE Days

Tuesday mornings

Thursday afternoons

Rabbits class will begin swimming this Autumn term on Tuesdays.



## 2 | Library Visits/ Banded Books

Visits to our school library will be done at various points over a week.

Children are responsible for returning and changing their own library books and banded books.



## 3 | Assemblies

Every week, we have a Monday morning assembly with Mr. Cross to start the week. We also have a weekly singing assembly and a celebration assembly on Friday. We will let you know in good time when your child's Year Group/Class Assembly will be taking place.



# Our School Uniform

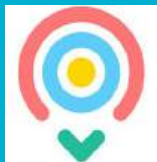
We are proud of our school uniform and we expect all children to wear it with pride. For safety reasons, children should not wear any jewellery in school, apart from studded earrings (which should be covered during PE and swimming).

Uniform	PE Uniform (in named bag)
Purple sweatshirt/cardigan (with or without logo)	Shorts and purple polo shirt
White shirt/polo shirt	Trainers for outdoor PE
Black or grey trousers / skirt / pinafore / shorts	
Dark trainers/flat sensible shoes	



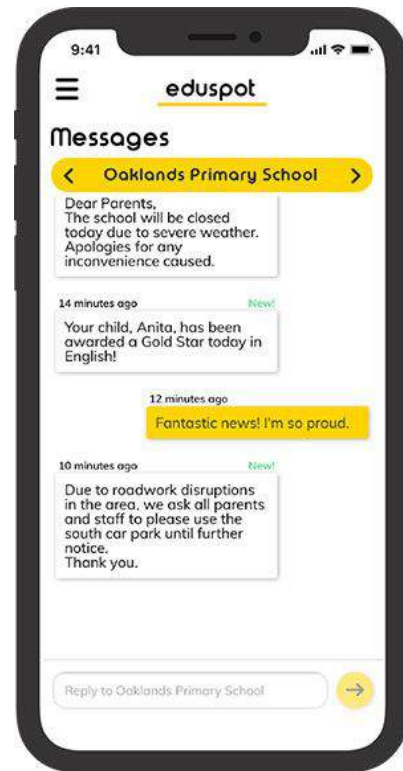
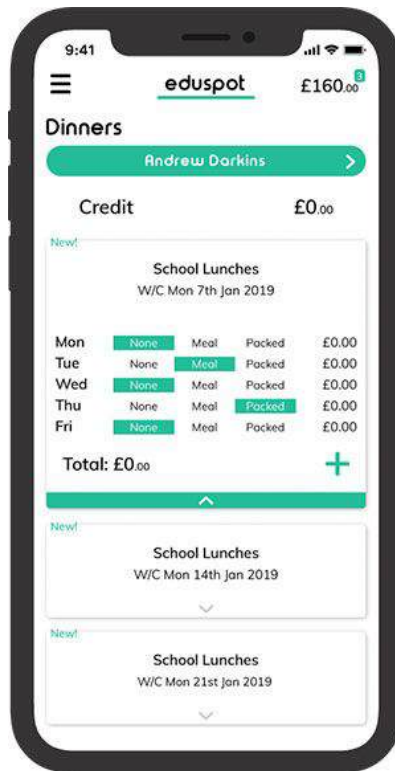
**BIRDS**  
of DEREHAM





# How we keep in touch with you

We use Eduspot for school money and communication. Make sure you download the app and allow push notifications to receive texts alerts



# How we keep in touch with you

### Year 2 Blog Posts



**Year 2 – Smoothie Making**  
19th June 2023

In the half term Year 2 have completed a smoothie making project. First they have looked at smoothies so that they could decide which fruits they liked best. Then they designed their own recipes and wrote out which ingredients they would need. Finally they made their smoothies, carefully cutting the fruit and adding it to the blender before it was blended. Then they and to



**Year 2 – PE**  
20th June 2023

This half term Year 2 have been enjoying developing their throwing, aiming and agility skills in PE. This week they took part in a variety of activities to practice what they've learnt. They were challenged themselves to adapt the activities to make them tougher!



**Year 2 – Online Author Visit**  
23rd June 2023

We had an exciting morning today when they took part in an online author visit with Matthew Cross and Diego Roberts. The children listened to fiction and Diego read them some books in Spanish and they took part in a quiz. After that, Diego taught the children how to draw the book covers for



## Monthly Newsletters

## Year Group Blog Pages

### Curriculum Newsletter Year 2 / Autumn 2

Dear Parents & Carers,

Here are links to all the Year 2 English and PE resources that you will find on separate pages. We have also attached a letter to explain what you can do to help your child with their learning at home. Please email us if you need any help or support with any of the resources at [communications@stjohns.cusack](mailto:communications@stjohns.cusack)



**Home Learning**

All year 2 pupils are expected to learn their poems. Each Day Book will have a poem to learn. Please ensure you are reading with your child every evening. Please email us if you need any help or support with any of the resources at [communications@stjohns.cusack](mailto:communications@stjohns.cusack)

The school has now returned to the term order again. **Monday and Tuesday are Maths Week**. Please refer to the information on the term order page for the dates. We are aware of that dates. Please do not forget to complete all of your home learning and homework each day. Please email us if you need any help or support with any of the resources at [communications@stjohns.cusack](mailto:communications@stjohns.cusack)

**Evening Events**

**07.12.22 to 08.12.22** - After School Music Learning Opportunity

**19.12.22** - Christmas Nativity @ 6:00pm in school

**06.01.23** - Year 2 Christmas Dinner @ 6:00pm in school

**08.01.23** - Year 2 Quiz - One 20 minute performance

**15th Dec 2022** - 5:30pm - One 20 minute performance

**16th Dec 2022** - 5:30pm

## Curriculum Newsletter every half-term

### Year 3 Wraps

### Hedgehog Music Performance




Jul 10

Jul 07

Monday, October 9

- all-day School Photos

Tuesday, October 10

- all-day School Photos

Friday, October 13

- all-day Curriculum Day

Oct 9 – 15, 2023

## Online Calendar on our website

### Newsletter June 2023



Follow us on Twitter  
Follow us on Facebook

**Reminder: Sports Day 2023**



Welcome back to our final half term of this academic year. We have lots planned, including our Year 2 trip to Gower, a day of water sports at Widdoware Crofts for Year 3 and Year 5 one of to Eaton Way today for their residential trip!

I hope parents and carers can join us for our upcoming Sports Day and Summer Tea, organised by the Friends of GHS.

**Mr Matthew Cross**  
Headteacher

**Sun Cream and Sun Hats**

As we get warmer weather this half term please ensure that your child comes to school with a hat and sun cream. It's also recommended to apply sun cream at home and send your child to school with extra sun cream as they can re-apply.



**KS1 Playground Improvements**

Over the half term, we have been busy making improvements to our playground areas, to add more shade during the summer months and help improve play areas for children. Please be considerate

Miss Taylor helped to lead our whole-school Earth Day event in May. Children found out more about the impact of flooding on the environment, in the afternoon buddy classes met up to complete 'No - Move May' posters, which have been placed in our outdoor classrooms



<b>18th June</b> - Years 1, 2 and 3	9:15 - 11:30am
<b>19th June</b> - Years 4, 5 and 6	12:30 - 2:45pm
<b>19th June</b> - Nursery	AM - 10:50am PM - 2:30pm
<b>19th June</b> - Reception	10am

**Earth Day 2023**

# Workshares

Every half-term, we are inviting you into your child's classroom to have a browse of the learning they have done across subjects and to celebrate their achievements to date. These last 30 minutes and take place from 3 - 3.30pm.

The first workshare will take place on Tuesday 15th October from 3 - 3.30pm



# Snack and Lunchtimes

## Packed Lunches

This is eaten in the school hall with the other children. As a 'healthy school' we do not permit fizzy drinks or sweets.

## School Lunches

There is a always hot dinner, vegetarian jacket potato and cold lunch option.

Children really enjoy trying a range of foods, with our roast Wednesdays and fish and chip Friday always a hit!

You can order your child's lunch in advance on our school app.

NUT FREE SCHOOL



THANK YOU

## Mid-morning Break

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 get free fruit and Reception children also receive Milk. Children in KS2 are encouraged to bring a healthy snack into school for their mid-morning break. This could be fruit, yoghurt or cheese. Please do not supply chocolate, sweets or crisps for mid-morning snack.

## Water Bottles

Children should bring in a 'named' water bottle for use during the school day. This should be filled with water only - no squash, juices or fizzy drinks in school.



# Why attendance is important



## 1 | Secure Relationships

Children find it easier to build and sustain a range of social relationships when they regularly attend school.

## 2 | Self-esteem

Children who rarely miss school and come on time are more likely to feel good about themselves. This is because they know what goes on and what to expect, feel more confident with the adults and the other children.

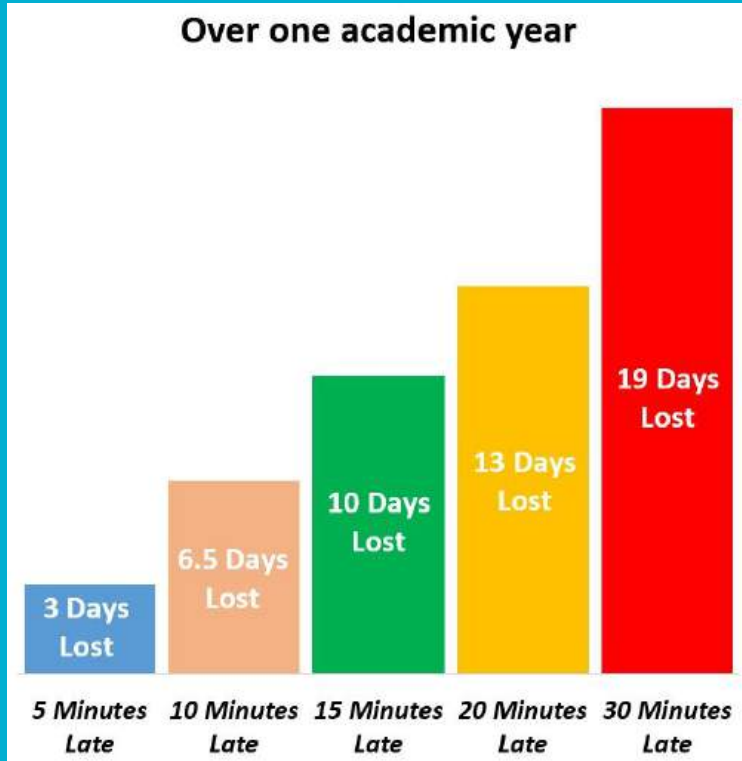
## 3 | Learning and development

Teachers plan lessons that build on previous knowledge. If children are absent from school regularly, they are at risk of having gaps in their learning.



# Every minute counts

(figures below are calculated over a school year)



## Top tips for improving attendance

- ★ Speak positively about school at home.
- ★ Have a regular routine for the start of each day.
- ★ Help your child get their clothes and bag ready before they go to bed.
- ★ Set a reasonable bed time to make sure they get enough sleep.
- ★ Speak to staff at school if you would like more support.

# Any Questions?

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