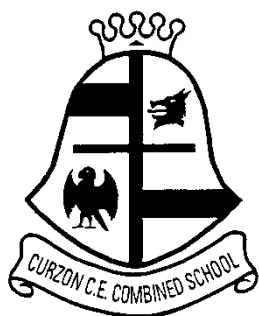


Welcome to Class 4: Autumn 2020



Dear Year 4 Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! You may have noticed that things are a little different this year, but it has been very encouraging to see how well the children are adapting to the 'new normal' and to find them ready to learn.

You will have had information already about arrangements which have been made by the school to minimise risks from Covid-19. The purpose of this letter is to give you a little information which is specific to your child's class. Please spare a few minutes to read through it.

Timetable and Areas of Study

Details can be found at the end of this letter.

Equipment

You will find the full equipment list on pages 13-14 of the Parent Handbook, which is available on the school website: <https://www.curzonschool.co.uk/wp/parentnewsdates/>

Please ensure that that **everything is labelled clearly**.

Pencil cases should be made of clear plastic. This makes it easy to see where pens/pencils are and helps stop pencil case envy and competitiveness. They also take up less room on the tables and this is a very important consideration in the classrooms at the moment. Most children have returned with the correct equipment, but some are without colouring pencils and others without whiteboard pens. We are discouraging any sharing of equipment. Whiteboard pens are available from school and can be purchased in the classroom from Mrs Russell for only 70p.

Cookery

We will be running cookery classes during the first half of the term on Friday afternoons. Hygiene has always been taken very seriously for this. The food prepared by your child will only be handled by them, so we hope you will sample it and enjoy it with confidence. We would be extremely grateful if you could wash and return the apron worn by your child and also return used plastic pots and boxes each week.

Forest School

Forest school will take place after half term. Further details will be sent nearer the time.

Homework

Homework will be set on Wednesday each week. It will consist of a maths and a literacy task. In addition, there will be work on spelling and times tables. Occasionally, homework might be set for other subjects, but this will be instead of one of the other subjects. About twenty minutes of focussed work, in a quiet environment, is a good amount of time for each subject. Please sign the Homework Diary every week and also use it to send messages or ask any questions. If your child attends homework club, they should bring their books back home with them so that you can see what they are doing.

Times tables

The national curriculum target is for all children to know their times tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. It's a life skill and helps enormously with accessing other areas of maths. Children will be working on the 6, 7, 9 times tables, in addition to the tables they have already worked on (2, 3, 4, 5, 8). All tables are to a multiple of 12 (e.g. 5 x12). When working on times tables, practise the corresponding division facts. If your child struggles with times tables, just take them one table at a time and try to revise them at least three times a week. Also, help them to think of strategies to work out answers which do not come readily. E.g.

If they know $10 \times 5 = 50$, then they can work out 9×5 by working out 10×5 and then subtracting 5.

If they think they don't know 3×9 , remind them that it is the same as 9×3 which they should already know.

Spelling

There will be weekly spelling lists for the children to learn. Sometimes these will link to work on spelling patterns and other times they will link to vocabulary from the subjects they are studying. Children should practise at least 3 times a week, making sure they understand the meaning of the words.

Reading

Your child should be reading daily. Please listen to your child reading at least three times a week, so that you have an idea of how they are coping with pronunciation, unfamiliar words, fluency, and expression. Either you or your child should make a note of each day's reading in their Homework Diary. This could be simply the page numbers, or could be more elaborate (e.g. a summary, or a new word they have learnt, or what they liked/disliked). **They will receive a house point if they record that they have read three times in a week and you have signed their reading record.** Extra house points are available for extra reading. Please encourage your child to read a range of books and texts.

When listening to your child read:

- give them time to try to work out new or unfamiliar words first;
- discuss what they are reading;
- ask them to make predictions about what will happen in stories.

Please ask me if you would like any advice on how to support your child with their reading.

Achievements

We enjoy hearing about children's achievements outside school. Please let us know of any extra-curricular achievements, for instance passing a music exam, attaining a well-earned badge in Brownies or Beavers/Cubs or playing particularly well in sport at the weekend. These will be celebrated in our bubble assemblies.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or concerns. Write a note in the Homework Diary or send an email via the school office to make an appointment or arrange a phone call.

Mrs Russell and I look forward to working in partnership with you this year.

Mr M Robson (Year 4 Teacher)

YEAR 4 TIMETABLE, AUTUMN 2020				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Numeracy
Break (10.15-10.30)				
Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy	Literacy
Lunch (11.40-12.25)				
ICT	Science	History	PE	Cookery (till ½ term) Forest School (after ½ term)
PE		Music	RE	

For Year 4, the School day will run from 9.00am till 3.00pm until further notice.

The curriculum at a glance for this term

Science	Electricity; Animals, incl humans (digestion; teeth; food chains)
ICT	Keyboard skills; e-safety; databases
History	The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain
RE	Understanding the Trinity
PE	Rounders, football
Music	Activities based around Abba's <i>Mama Mia!</i>
DT	Cookery
Literacy	Stories and non-fiction based around the Romans
Maths	Place value; addition and subtraction; multiplication and division