

# Welcome to Year 4!



# Year 4 staff team

## Class teachers

Miss Hoare – Every day

Mrs Munday – Thursday mornings

## Teaching assistants

Mrs Campbell – Monday to Wednesday

Ms Hinds – Thursday and Friday

# Timings for the day

- Arrive at school at 8:45
- Morning break is 10:25-10:40 for years 3 and 4
- Lunch is 12:20-13:15, the children will go out to play first and then be called in for lunch at 12:45
- End of school is 15:15, the children will be taken to the KS1 playground for collecting – please come to the top end of the playground.

# Equipment

All children need to bring an A4 envelope style plastic folder to transport their homework, plus a reading book and their planner

Children may bring **one** pencil case, but school will provide equipment if needed

The pencil case should include **only**:

- HB pencil(s)
- 30cm ruler (folding or flexible ones fit in pencil cases well!)
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Coloured pencils
- Glue stick

# Uniform

Expectations for school uniform are on the school website. Uniform can also be ordered via the website. Children should wear school shoes on Monday, Thursday and Friday. Trainers only to worn on PE days. Long hair should be tied up. Please name **all uniform** including coats.

Jewellery should not be worn in school. If children have pierced ears, earrings should be removed at home on PE days. If earrings cannot be removed, parents must write a letter to school accepting responsibility.

# Year 4 topics

- The Victorians
- Our Changing Earth (rivers, volcanoes, earthquakes)
- Ancient and Modern Greece
- The Vikings

# Autumn Term events

## Harvest festival

9:30am on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September

## Class 4 assembly

9:10am on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November

## Parent consultations

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of October

## Parent drop-ins

18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> November

## Other information

Audley End in October, Residential trip in February

# Sports events

Throughout the year we may attend sports events organised by the USSP. There will be whole class opportunities to take part, as well as events where children are trialled and selected to represent the school as part of a competitive team e.g. cross country running.



# Multiplication check - June

- Takes place within a two-week window in June
- Checks all times tables up to  $12 \times 12$
- 25 questions, 6 seconds to answer each question
- [timestables.co.uk](https://timestables.co.uk)

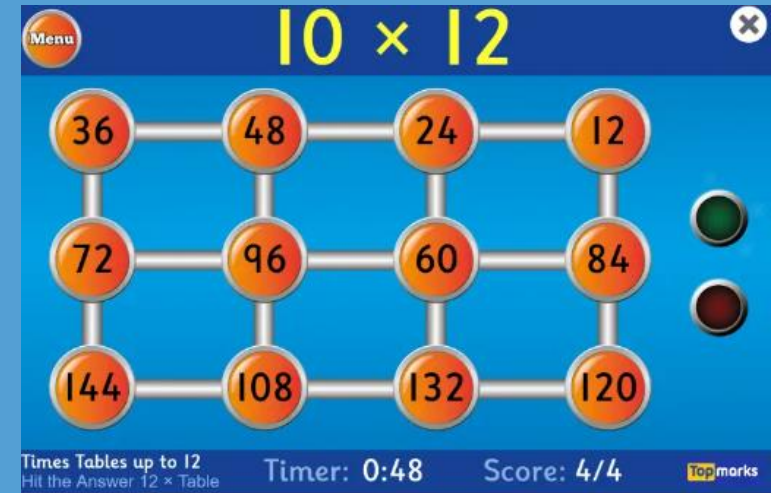


- Game modes:
- **Jamming** – no timer, choose the table you are practising on. Good for targeted practise.
- **Garage** – TTRS algorithm selects the questions each child needs to build their recall. Will automatically progress when children have fast and accurate recall. Will not necessarily link to tables taught/tested in class.
- **Studio** and **Soundcheck** – wait until they are confident with tables up to 12x12.
- **Gig** – will be done once a month in school, please do not access this one at home.

# More Times Tables ideas...

Hit The Button is a great alternative to TTRS for speedy recall.

[www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button](http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button)



timetables.co.uk has a wide range of times tables games to keep the practice fun!

# Expectations and behaviour

We have high expectations for behaviour throughout the school, and our school values underpin everything we do.

Together we are **GREAT**

**G**od's guidance

**R**espect one another

**E**xcellent behaviour

**A**im high

**T**remendous teamwork

# Expectations and behaviour

- Children will be awarded Value points for demonstrating our school values:
- Value points are earned collectively for friendship groups. There will usually be a termly award for the winning friendship group e.g. non-uniform day, first to eat lunch.
- Each month the whole school will be set a 'Monthly Monday Motivation' challenge, individuals receive certificates in recognition of effort linked to the challenge.
- Stickers, good news notes, 'gossiping', verbal praise etc will be used regularly to promote and celebrate effort and achievement for individuals. Consequences and sanctions are outlined in school behaviour policy (see website).
- When children make mistakes with their behaviour, we will try to support them to repair and move on and to make better choices in the future.
- **Communication is key** - please keep us informed of changes at home, any concerns etc.

# Homework expectations

- Daily times tables practise and reading
- Maths and spellings homework set on a Friday, due the following Thursday
- The maths homework task should take up to 20 minutes
- Neat presentation – completed in pencil
- To be transported between home and school in a folder
- Will be marked by an adult or as a class

# Online activities

- Homework may involve online activities, especially for Times Tables practise
- Please check children know their logins – they will be the same as in Year 3, I can provide the logins if they are forgotten/lost!
- Read the Internet and E-Safety pages of their planner together as a reminder

# Reading at home

- Read daily to an adult for at least 15 minutes
- Adults to make a note in the planner of the date, book, and page numbers read - additional comments welcome!
- Discuss what they are reading - vocabulary, make predictions, plot, characters, setting
- Planners are checked regularly in school



# Reading challenge

- Combination of reading and tasks
- Children can earn points for finishing books and talking to an adult in school about them
- Points can also be earned for completing tasks in school related to the books they have read or are reading – time will be given for this in class each week
- Children can read any book they like, but the suggested books are listed on the class page of the website
- Reading can be completed at home, but tasks must be completed in school

# P.E.

- P.E. lessons will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings (swimming).
- P.E. kit should be worn to school on a Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Earrings must be removed at home – we are not allowed to do this in school. If children are unable to remove earrings, a letter must be written to the school taking full responsibility for any injuries that occur as a result of wearing earrings.
- **Please make sure all clothing is clearly named!**

# Residential trip

Burwell House, Burwell, Cambridgeshire

- 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of February
- More details will be sent out soon via letter, including about the costs and how to pay in instalments
- If you are concerned about the cost, please contact the office in confidence
- If you live in Great Chesterford and are concerned about the cost, Harts and Nash may be able to help. They meet to consider grants at the beginning of October; forms can be obtained from the office and will need to be returned before the end of September.

# Growth mindset

- Focus on developing positive attitudes to learning
- Sitting with a new learning partner each week
- Mixed ability – opportunity to discuss learning with a wide range of peers
- Children are able to choose their level of challenge for tasks, with guidance given if needed
- Focus on making improvements

# How to help at home

- Establish a homework routine
- Read together daily
- Practise key maths facts daily – especially times tables
- Get in touch if you have concerns or queries



This year, we are pleased to continue to work alongside Dev, an Educational Mental Health Practitioner working with MIND.

Dev will continue to offer weekly parent support sessions for those families with children experiencing anxiety or challenging behaviour at home. These are done with families on a 1:1 basis and don't involve the child. If you feel this free service may be something you are interested in, additional information can be found on the school website (including an easy self-referral link), or you can contact your child's class teacher or Miss Claudia Cope (SENCO).

In addition to the parent support sessions, Dev will be working with groups of children across the school on a weekly basis on topics including; managing emotions, developing friendships and coping with transitions.

Further information about the support MIND in West Essex offers families outside of school can be found at: <https://www.mindinwestessex.org.uk/>

# Our Healthy Schools commitment

- Water bottles – named and only containing water
- Healthy, balanced packed lunches
- Snacks for breaktimes – healthy snacks; fruits or vegetables in their pure form, plain crackers, piece of cheese etc.
- **Nut free, sesame free**

# Some reminders...

- Update medical information and contact details, send in inhalers/allergy medication, clearly labelled and with a pink form.
- Medicine policy – no medicines can be administered without a medical form, including creams.
- If your child is unable to do P.E. due to injury or illness, this should be communicated via a letter or email to the office.
- Contact the school office if your child is unwell.
- Try to avoid holidays and appointments during term time.
- If your child is interested in learning an instrument; violin, brass, woodwind and piano lessons are currently offered. Contact the office for details.
- View the website, newsletter, and class page for the most up to date information.



# Keep in touch...

- Please keep me informed of anything which may affect your child's learning or welfare.
- If you have any concerns, please see me at the end of the day.
- Alternatively, you can contact me through the office:  
[admin@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@greatchesterford.essex.sch.uk)