

Welwyn St. Mary's Primary School

Autumn Term

2017



Year 4



Welcome to Year 4.

O4	MS4
<p>Miss O’Keeffe <i>Class Teacher</i></p> <p>Mrs Jameson <i>PPA Cover Teacher</i></p> <p>Mrs Lansberry <i>Teaching Assistant</i></p>	<p>Mrs Southall and Mrs Mather <i>Class Teachers</i></p> <p>Mrs Redgers <i>Teaching Assistant</i></p>
<p>Mrs Harrison – music specialist Madame Farrington - French</p>	

We hope that you find all of the information in this leaflet useful. If you have any further questions about the term ahead please do let us know so that we can arrange a time to talk to you.

There are a few things that you can do to help us:

- Please ensure that your child brings their reading record and reading book to school every day.
- Please ensure that your child's clothing (cardigans and jumpers in particular!) are named.
- Please do not hesitate to let us know if your child struggles with a piece of homework (a note on the actual piece of homework or in their reading record is fine).
- Please also ensure that all packed lunch items are 'nut free' as we do have children in school who have severe allergies. Thank you for your consideration.

Daily Routines:

We encourage each child to learn and follow simple daily routines in order to make them independent and responsible for their own belongings. It would be an enormous help to the staff and your child if you could support this by doing the following:

- Dropping your child off at school every morning so they can be in class by 08.45.
- Giving your child a piece of fruit (or vegetable) to eat at break time.
- Ensuring your child has their PE kit in school every day.
- Ensuring your child has their book, reading record and lunch box (if they need one) with them in the morning. Please remember to sign your child's Reading Record at the end of the week.
- Waiting for your child at the end of each day in the KS2 waiting area along the side of school rather than at the end near the car park.

Topics for this Term

We shall be following the new national curriculum to ensure that our school offers a curriculum which is balanced and broadly based.

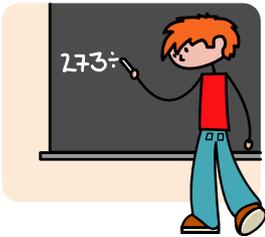
Literacy

The children will be taught literacy skills each day. The children will explore the genres of stories focusing on characterisation and speech, non-chronological reports, poetry and playscripts.



Mathematics

Maths will be taught each day for an hour in the morning. We will focus on number skills, calculation, time, shape and space, data handling and strategies for solving problems in context.



For more information about what your children will be learning in maths throughout the year please visit our website www.welwynst-marys.herts.sch.uk. You can also find a useful vocabulary list, some games you might wish to play with your child and a document outlining the progression of written methods in mathematics.

RE



During Year 4, the children will compare and contrast two major world religions; Christianity and Sikhism. During the Autumn term, they will find out about key beliefs and also about festivals celebrated by the followers of these two religions.

Science

This term in Year 4 we will be studying the topics below. In particular we will focus on the scientific skills.

- Living things and their habitats
- Electricity

Some home reading around these topics will be helpful to your child. If they have access to the internet, the following BBC website may also be of interest to them.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/index_flash.shtml

Computing

In computing this term we will be learning to code using a package called Scratch and culminating in them coding their own computer game. Please read the page about E-safety and the Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement.

PHSE

In PSHE, as this is the start of a new academic year, we will focus on 'New Beginnings' and then move on to looking at friendships and relationships.

Geography and History Combined

This half-term in history we will be learning about the Romans. After half-term, we will be linking the Romans to a local study and will learn skills of map-reading and deducing information about the locality using maps as a reference.

Design and Technology and Art

We will begin with D and T where we will explore mechanisms and levers in order to make a pop-up information book. We will also be creating Christmas cards.

After half term we will be making Christmas lights to link in with our science topic.

PE



Please ensure that your child has the appropriate PE kit in school every day and that each item is clearly named. Don't forget long hair will need to be tied back and earrings removed or covered up. In PE we shall be learning about, and playing, Tag Rugby and further developing the children's gymnastic skills.

Music



In music, the children will be exploring families of sound and how they can be put together; they will also be discovering and making descriptive music in the topic 'Sound Pictures'. They will also be learning the songs for our Christmas production.

French



The children will be taught French by Madam Farrington. If you have knowledge of French and could help in class, we would love to hear from you. A useful website to support the lessons is, www.languagenut.com the user name is Welwyn and the password is French.

Forest School

All children will have the opportunity to spend half a day at the Panshanger Forest School run by the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust. Each week will have a different focus including English - description and poetry, science - habitats, PE and Geography - obstacle courses and mapping, D and T - den building, using tools, Art - using natural material and making charcoal, PSHE - team work, listening to others.



Thank you P.T.F.A. for subsidising this.

Homework

Maths

A maths book page is due in on **Wednesday**. We are more than happy for you to help your child with their homework but please indicate that you have done so; WH = With Help, U = unaided.

Your child will also need to practise the times table that they are working on. There is a times tables test every **Tuesday**.

Literacy

The children will be given spellings to learn for a weekly test on a **Friday**. As part of their homework they are also expected to complete the task at the bottom of the slip.

It is also important that Year 4 children read at home for a minimum of ten minutes, five times a week.

We would ask that you support your child with these homework activities, and please remember to sign your child's reading record book at the end of each week.

Daily Equipment

Please encourage your child to come into school prepared for the day ahead. They must bring their reading book into school every day. They can also have a small pencil case with the following items:

- Pencil, rubber, sharpener
- Blue handwriting pen (not a biro)
- 15cm or 30cm clear ruler
- Glue stick and some colouring pencils.

These items can be purchased from the stationery shop in school.

Looking Smart in School Uniform.

Our school uniform is simple and practical, intended to keep the children looking smart and contributing to the feeling of belonging to the school.

Girls

- White blouse or polo shirt.
- Grey skirt or pinafore dress or grey tailored trousers.
- Maroon school sweatshirt or cardigan.
- In the winter, grey or grey tights.
- In the summer, pink (not red) check cotton dress and plain white socks.



Boys



- White shirt or white polo shirt.
- Grey long or short trousers.
- Maroon school sweatshirt.
- Plain grey socks.

All children also require:

- Plain sensible black shoes (not sandals, boots or trainers).
- School book bag.
- Water bottle.
- School sun hat (in the summer).

Sports

- Coloured House T-shirt (Blue - Normans, Red - Vikings, Green - Romans, Yellow - Saxons).
- Plain cotton black P.E. shorts.
- Trainers for outdoor games.
- Tracksuits may also be worn for outside games in colder weather.

It is helpful if the children keep their P.E. kit in a named drawstring bag to hang on their peg rather than a backpack or a large kitbag.

Jewellery, hair and nails

We do not allow jewellery in school as it can be a source of danger in P.E. and swimming. Pierced ears should have a stud only. Earrings have to be removed or taped up for P.E. and swimming lessons.

Long hair must be tied back for games and swimming lessons. We would also appreciate it, if children with long hair could tie it back during the general school day with plain and simple bands, clips or ribbons in brown, black or maroon.

Boys hair should be a traditional style and neither too short or too long. No 'fashion' cuts are allowed.

Nail varnish should be removed before the start of each school day.

The school and Local Authority do not accept liability for loss or damage to valuable personal property and we therefore do not encourage children to bring such items, including toys to school.

Thank you for your support.

Many thanks to all the parents who have offered to give up their time to help in Year 4. We really do appreciate this support. If you feel that you would like to come into school to listen to readers or to help with a specific subject, e.g. Art, then please pop into school at the end of the day to talk to one of the class teachers.

Timetable

Here is a guide to our timetabled lessons. Please note that this is just a sample timetable. Each class works slightly differently and the timetable can also change weekly, depending on other events in school.

	8:45-9:20	9:20 – 10.25		10:40 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:00		1:10 – 2:15	2:15 – 3:20	
Monday	Maths O4 PE MS4		BREAK	Literacy	Guided Reading	LUNCH	Maths MS4	RE	
Tuesday	Clergy Assembly	Maths (Times Tables)		Literacy	Guided Reading		O4 Forest School Sessions (am and pm)		
Wed'day	Assembly	Maths (maths homework due in)		Literacy /Music	Guided Reading		History/ Geography	PE MS4 Art/DT	
Thursday	Singing Assembly	Maths (Time tables O4 Until half term)		Literacy	Guided Reading		MS4 Forest School Sessions (am and pm) PE O4		
Friday	Maths & French			Literacy (Spelling test)			Assembly	PSHE	Golden time

Due to Forest School morning lessons on Forest School day will be lead by the class Teaching Assistant.

Please note the timetable does need to be flexible.

Important Dates

Tuesday O4, Thursday MS4 Forest School

20th September Tag rugby festival at Monks walk

24th September PTFA circus

22nd September 50 Things to do before you are 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ day

29th September MacMillan coffee morning

Week of 10th October: parent consultations

Week of 16th October: parent consultations

23rd October: HALF TERM

Week of 4th December: performances of our production

19th December: END OF TERM

Please keep checking the monthly newsletter for any new events.

E-Safety

Below is some important information on the school's policies on taking photographs of children as well as a copy of the e-safety agreement that the children sign.



Using Images Safely and Responsibly We all enjoy and treasure images of our family and friends. Our new born baby, first steps, family events, holidays and school events are moments we all like to capture in photos or on video.

We then have the added and exciting dimension of adding our images and video to our social network, such as Facebook, YouTube and many other online websites. This means that we can easily share our photos and video with family and friends.

Whilst this is naturally useful, in schools and educational settings we do need to protect and safeguard all children and staff in our school, including those who do not want to have their images stored online.

Online Images & Video - *What should we think about before adding online any images or video? Are there any risks?*

Facts

- Once online any image or video can be copied and stay online forever.
- Some children are at risk and **MUST NOT** have their image put online. Not all members of the school community will know who they are.
- Some people do not want their images online for personal or religious reasons.
- Some children and staff may have a complex family background which means that image sharing online can have unforeseen consequences. We must all **'Think Before We Post' Online**

At Welwyn St. Mary's School we are happy for parents and carers to take photos and video of the school events and productions for *personal use* but request that these images are not distributed or put online. This is to protect all members of the school community

Thank you for your support.

Please note: From time to time we use photographs of our pupils to promote and celebrate the good work in our school. This might be on our website or in paper form to carefully selected audiences. We never publish a child's name alongside their photograph for reasons of safety.

If you do not wish your child's be photograph to be used in this way please send a letter in to your child's teacher.



Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement / E- Safety Rules.

- I will only use ICT in school for school purposes.
- I will only use my class e-mail address or my own school e-mail address when e-mailing
- I will only open e-mail attachments from people I know, or who my teacher has approved.
- I will not tell other people my ICT passwords.
- I will only open / delete my own file.
- I will make sure that all ICT content with other children and adults is responsible, sensible and polite.
- I will not deliberately look for, save or send anything that could be unpleasant or nasty. If I accidentally find anything like this I will tell my teacher immediately.
- I will not give out my own details such as my name, 'phone number or home address. I will not arrange to meet someone unless this is part of a school project approved by my school teacher and an adult comes with me.
- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using ICT because I know that these rules keep me safe.
- I know that my use of ICT can be checked and that my parent / carer will be contacted if a member of staff is concerned about my E - Safety.