



Welcome to Year 4

AN OVERVIEW OF WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR CHILD'S CLASS THIS YEAR

PLEASE NOTE: PRESENTATIONS WILL BE SHARED ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

Attendance and Punctuality

- ▶ **Good attendance makes excellent progress academically and socially.**
- ▶ **If your child is really poorly please make sure you call the school office or email absences@fps.porticoacademytrust.co.uk by 8:30am.**
- ▶ **As you will have seen from the recent letter, government guidance has changed and no leave from school can be authorised unless an exceptional circumstance. Unauthorised absences may now lead to a fixed penalty notice issued by the local authority.**
- ▶ **Punctuality is also important so your child does not miss out on learning. If your child arrives after 9:15am they will be marked as an unauthorised absence (this is in line with new government guidelines).**
- ▶ **If you need any support with getting your child into school, please come and see your child's class teacher or a member of the inclusion team.**

Our School Values

Our School Values

At Friars, individual wellbeing comes first
We believe in Respecting
and Including everyone.
We Aim high and show
Resilience in our learning.
Our aim is to Succeed in everything we do!



The Year 4 Team

- ▶ **Class Teachers**

4S - Mr. Smith

4G - Miss Gibbons

- ▶ **Learning Support Assistant**

Mrs. Shuttleworth

- ▶ **Miss Andrews is another teacher in the year group who will be mostly working with 4G.**

- ▶ **Mrs. Wheatley takes computing**

- ▶ **As well as having a lesson with their teachers, Mr. Markham also takes PE.**

Our learning this year

Year 4	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Maths	Place Value, Addition and Subtraction, Area, Multiplication and Division		Multiplication and Division, Length and Perimeter, Fractions, Decimals		Decimals, Money, Time, Shape, Statistics, Position and Direction	
English	Narrative, Letters, Newspaper, Diaries, Poetry, Instructions		Newspaper, Non-Chronological Reports, Narrative, Persuasive Writing		Poetry, Narrative, Instructions, Letter writing	
Science	Animals including humans	Animals and their habitats	Sound	Animals, habitats and conservation	Electricity	States of matter
History	Anglo Saxon and Viking invaders		WW2 Hook Day Lifestyle comparison past and present			
Geography		Locational Geography Europe & Britain	Friars Park Visit		Mountains	Shoebury East Beach
D&T	Cooking and nutrition Viking bread		Make do and Mend - Toys			Electrical Circuits
Art & Design		Bayeux Tapestry		Painting & mixed media colour work (Lowry)	Drawing/Multimedia Lichtenstein	
Music	Pop ABBA's music	Mixed styles Exploring and developing playing skills using the glockenspiel	Grime Writing lyrics linked to a theme	Gospel Soul and Gospel music and helping one another	The Beatles The Beatles, equality and civil rights	Classical The history of music, look back and consolidate your learning, learn some of the language of music

Curriculum information can be found on our website

Our learning this year

Year 4	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
RE	What is worship?	Where are we going? Journeys	What makes a book holy?	What's right and what's wrong?	What it Means to be a Hindu in Britain Today.	RE-on-Sea: Looking for Religion in our Community
MfL - French	Describing people, nationalities, leisure activities and time. (Units 7-8)		Festivals and dates, presents, 31-60, giving and understanding commands, French cities, directions and weather. (Units 9-10)		Shopping food, money, party activities, francophone countries, languages and clothes. (Units 11-12)	
PSHE	Belonging to a Community Money and work Respecting ourselves and others		Media literacy and digital resilience Physical health and Mental wellbeing Keeping safe		Safe relationships Families and Friendships Growing and changing	
RSE	The same four topics are covered in Years 1 to 6. These are: Safe relationships, Respecting ourselves and others, Families and friendships, and Growing and changing					
PE	Hockey	Basketball	Table Tennis	Gymnastics	Athletics	Handball
Computing	Computing systems and networks – The Internet	Creating media – Audio editing	Programming A – Repetition in shapes	Creating media – Photo editing	Data and information – Data logging	Programming B – Repetition in games
Outdoor Learning	Outdoor Art		DIY		Outdoor Cooking	

Reading

- ▶ **Always a major school priority.**
- ▶ **Reading flows through all learning and underpins everything**
- ▶ **Layered reading – ‘How to Train Your Dragon’, ‘Kensuke’s Kingdom’, ‘The Firework-Maker’s Daughter’.**
- ▶ **Individual reading – most days, before school and after lunch.**
- ▶ **Comprehension lessons and skills taught – there is always an English comprehension but they happen in other lessons too.**
- ▶ **Guided reading groups**
- ▶ **Regular visits to the library**

Writing

- ▶ **Story writing, poetry, newspaper reports, diary, recount, letters (formal and informal) instructional writing; this encompasses fiction and non-fiction and often links to the topics that are being taught**
- ▶ **Words classes, basic sentence punctuation consolidation, prepositional and noun phrases, main and sub-ordinate clauses, dialogue and associated punctuation, possessive pronouns, synonyms, connectives, similes, metaphor and onomatopoeia, fronted adverbials, contractions and standard and non-standard English**
- ▶ **Separate spelling lessons are taught each week, we use the Rising Star Spelling schemes ensuring a clear coverage of all the expected words. Spellings are corrected within work and we encourage the children to use dictionaries to correct/edit their own work**
- ▶ **Additional groups can include handwriting and Spell Attack**

Maths

- ▶ In the school, we use a maths scheme called White Rose. There are colourful interactive presentations that provoke problem solving and extensive answers from the children. The children follow up their learning in interesting and colourful workbooks created by White Rose.
- ▶ Maths books are still used to consolidate their previous learning as well as to extend and challenge.
- ▶ All areas are covered in maths at an age appropriate level. This includes the four rules, fractions, angles, shape (2D and 3D) and measure, converting between different measurements, time, area and perimeter, symmetry, rounding, place value, sequencing.
- ▶ Problem solving importance - the application of the skills they have learnt, 1 or 2 step problems typically involving the four rules.
- ▶ Times tables importance – test on Friday; National Test in the summer term. Please encourage your child to play Times Tables Rockstars at home regularly. It works on PCs and smart devices/phones.

RSE

- ▶ **Safe relationships – Responding to hurtful behaviour, managing confidentiality and recognising risks online,**
- ▶ **Respecting ourselves and others – Respecting differences and similarities and discussing difference sensitively,**
- ▶ **Families and friendships – Positive friendships including online,**
- ▶ **Growing and changing – Personal identify, recognising individuality and different qualities and mental wellbeing.**

Year 4 Computing

- ▶ **Our computing lessons are on Tuesdays mornings taught by Mrs. Wheatley and supported with technical support from Mr. Browning our IT Technician.**
- ▶ **Computing lessons include not only the development of a particular skill but also focus on keeping ourselves safe when using the internet and online apps with weekly starters, discussions or strategies being shared.**
- ▶ **Look at the newsletter weekly for top tips which have been discussed in lessons and links to useful websites for information.**

Year 4 Computing

- ▶ **Autumn 1 - Computing systems and networks – exploring the World Wide Web (www) and how to recognize various content, including content that may be unreliable.**
- ▶ **Autumn 2 - Audio editing - Using a digital device to record sound, making a plan for a podcast and recording for a purpose.**
- ▶ **Spring 1- Programming - Using programming language in a text based program.**
- ▶ **Spring 2 - Photo editing - Learning how to find and save images and then edit them for a purpose. Discussions to evaluate how changes can improve an image.**
- ▶ **Summer 1 - Data and Information - Collect various data over a long duration and then answer questions using the data.**
- ▶ **Summer 2 - Programming – Repetition in games. Using count-controlled and infinite loops for repetition.**

Homework

- ▶ **Spelling, Reading/Reading Express, Times Tables and Times Tables Rockstars**
- ▶ **A whole school project every term – autumn, spring, summer. The projects will be introduced a couple of weeks before each half term to be handed in shortly after the break.**

How you can support at home

- ▶ **Regular reading, sharing books together and discussing the text, asking comprehension questions. Practise spellings and times tables throughout the week as much as possible. Doesn't necessarily have to be with parents or guardians, but can be with siblings or other adults.**
- ▶ **The children could access various educational websites at home. Some of the apps or websites we use in school are - Hit the Button, Times tables songs on YouTube, Top Marks, BBC Bitesize and TT Rockstars**

Educational Visits and Visitors

- ▶ **Imperial War Museum**
- ▶ **WWII topic and RE - enhances learning**
- ▶ **5th March 2025 / Hoping to keep the cost at approximately £15**
- ▶ **Letter to follow...**
- ▶ **Summer term – Our environment local visits to the park and the beach**



Assemblies

- ▶ **Monday – KS2 teacher - Moral story assembly Tuesday**
- ▶ **Tuesday - Class assembly**
- ▶ **Wednesday - Singing assembly with Mrs. Bemister**
- ▶ **Thursday - Whole School assembly- Senior Leadership**
- ▶ **Friday – KS2 Celebration assembly with Senior Leadership**
- ▶ **Photographs and information are displayed on the website each week**
- ▶ **Themed assemblies throughout the year - world religious festivals, subject weeks and special days e.g. World Book Day**

Uniform and Equipment

- ▶ **Black or grey trousers or shorts**
- ▶ **Summer dress, pinafore or black or grey school skirt**
- ▶ **White or purple short-sleeved polo shirt**
- ▶ **Purple cardigan, jumper or gilet**
- ▶ **Black or white socks or black tights**
- ▶ **Smart, plain black footwear with no logos**
- ▶ **Clean, Brushed hair – tied back longer hair**
- ▶ **No bracelets, necklaces or rings worn**
- ▶ **Only stud earrings which must be removed for PE/sport**
- ▶ **Book bag**
- ▶ **Water bottle**
- ▶ **Hat**



All property must be clearly labelled

PE

- ▶ **Our PE days are Tuesday and Friday.**
- ▶ **Children can wear PE kit to school on this day**
- ▶ **The correct PE kit includes; black shorts, purple/white round-necked t-shirt, plimsolls or trainers**
- ▶ **Plain black tracksuits with no/minimal logos may be worn during colder months (no hoodies or tops with hoods)**
- ▶ **Again, please ensure earrings are removed on these days.**



Swimming

- ▶ This year we are trying something different with our swimming lessons...
- ▶ Over the past few years we have used Hamstel Junior School's pool but now it is no longer in use so we are hiring a pop-up swimming pool for November.
- ▶ It should work really well and it will mean that we do not lose time travelling on the minibus like we used to. This will help maximise our learning time!



Swimming

- ▶ **There will be 30-minute lessons with qualified swimming instructors.**
- ▶ **Full information about swimming lessons will come to you next week. After this, if you have any questions please do let us know.**

Outdoor Learning

- ▶ **Afternoons of one week every term**
- ▶ **Our next planned sessions are in the Spring term as both 4G and 4S have had their Autumn sessions already.**
- ▶ **Our spring sessions are planned for week of Monday 6th January for 4G and week of Monday 13th January for 4S.**
- ▶ **The children will be working with Mr. Brady, alongside their teachers and LSAs.**
- ▶ **Children must wear their school tops but can wear old jogging bottoms etc. to school for this week**
- ▶ **Happens whatever the weather, so please ensure children have a waterproof jacket**



Welcoming you into school

- ▶ **Autumn 2:** Learning Conversation Evenings – Wednesday 20th November and Thursday 21st November
- ▶ **Spring 1:** Book Look – an opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom and enjoy seeing and reading their work – Wednesday 15th January
- ▶ **Spring 2:** Learning Conversation Evenings – Wednesday 19th March and Thursday 20th March 2025
- ▶ **Summer 1:** Open Evening – Wednesday 2nd July

- ▶ **Plus our usual events such as Winter Wonderland – Sports Days – Family Picnic throughout the year and many PTA events**
- ▶ **All of these dates will be on our newsletters!**

Keeping in touch

- ▶ **Most information can be found on our weekly newsletter as we are mindful about sending out too many letters and emails.**
- ▶ **Specific events may also have a more detailed letter**
- ▶ **All letters and messages sent via Parent Pay – very important to have access to this website**
- ▶ **School Website also contains lots of essential information**
- ▶ **You can get in touch directly with us at year4@fps.porticoacademytrust.co.uk (checked everyday but please bear in mind we are teaching)**



Questions

