

LOSELEY FIELDS

PRIMARY SCHOOL



Compassion



Aspiration



Integrity

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 4

The children in Year 4 have settled in really well and are already incredibly focussed on their learning. They all seem really happy to be back into the routine of school and seeing their friends.

The detailed curriculum documents can be found on our website, but here is a basic overview of how this term will look:

| Topic | Science | English | Maths |
|---|--|---|---|
| Waves of Change: Learning about coastal erosion, James IV & the Union of the Crowns | Classification of plants and animals - Cold-blooded or warm-blooded, vertebrates or invertebrates, characteristics of animal classes, classification of plants | Shackleton's Journey – William Grill Hermelin the Detective Mouse - Mini Grey | Place value of 4 digit numbers, including rounding to the nearest 10 and nearest 100 |
| A Kingdom United? – Learning about Charles I and the English Civil War (including an Online workshop with Newark Museum) | Ecology - Habitats, interdependence of organisms and their environment, producers, consumers and decomposers, food webs, fossils, manmade threats to the environment | The Lost Words – Robert MacFarlane & Jackie Morris The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe – CS Lewis | Addition and subtraction up to 4 digits using formal methods, including exchanging 3x, 4x, 6x tables |

Home Learning

We will be continuing to use Seesaw as the platform for our home learning this term. This is a great way to record the children's learning in a variety of media, including photos and videos. Our expectations for the children's weekly homework will consist of the following activities:



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Reading

Daily reading to an adult (minimum of 10 minutes). We ask parents to sign their child's reading record when they have read with their child. Likewise, we ask teachers/ teaching assistants and volunteers to record when they have heard the children read at school. The reading record should be used as a two way means of communication. You may find that your child is reading at a slightly lower AR level than they were at the end of last year since we retested them in the first week of term using the Star Reading Test. Children often experience this 'dip' during the long summer holidays and we are sure they will recover very quickly. We ask the children to record the scores from their Accelerated Reader quizzes in their reading records so you can see how they are getting on.



Spelling

Daily high frequency words/ spellings (minimum of 10 minutes). We ask parents to practice a little each night. We will send out lists of spellings weekly on Fridays.

Maths

Times tables are particularly important in Year 4 as the children take an external test on these at the end of the year – all the children have their own Times Tables Rock Stars log in now, and we would encourage them to use this to practice their times tables regularly.



Homework Grids

In addition to this, the children will have a choice of home learning tasks to complete each half term. These will be a mixture of homework style tasks, home learning style tasks and citizenship activities which encourage the children to undertake tasks for the community benefit e.g. doing shopping for an elderly neighbour.

Each half term the children will be given 15 tasks to choose from. There is a minimum expectation to complete at least 7 tasks and must include one from each category. Children are able to complete more tasks if they wish to do so therefore giving families the choice as to how much weekend time to spend on home learning activities. Homework will be recorded on Seesaw either as a written piece of work or a photograph/video as a record of what has been done at home. The children can give these in each week or at the end of the half term when all are completed. Teachers can then use Seesaw to provide feedback on the tasks.

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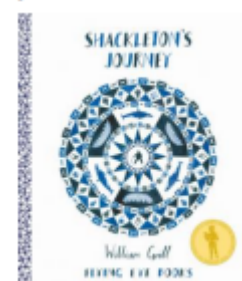
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English

In school, we are very fortunate to have the opportunity to share some fantastic literature and we hope the children will be as excited about the range of texts as we are. We have already started our first immersive Literacy unit on a book called Shackleton's Journey which combines true events, exciting adventures and inspiring illustrations. This year, we will be developing our sentence structure further, including the use of adverbial phrases and fronted adverbials. We will also have time dedicated to handwriting, spelling and grammar each day.



Maths

Mental arithmetic is of great importance, with a particular focus on times tables. The expectation of children starting Year 4 is that they are fluent in the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4, and 8 times tables. In year 4, we will be learning the 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times tables. By the end of the year, the curriculum requires all children to be fluent in recall of all of the times tables and they will be required to sit a statutory test set at the end of the year. Please support your child in learning their times tables regularly as secure knowledge of these makes all other areas of calculation much easier. Children are encouraged to use a range of strategies in maths. Any help is appreciated, however if you are unsure of the various strategies used for calculations please speak to your child's class teacher



P.E.

Year 4 will be having P.E. on Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in on these days. We suggest they keep their kit here all week to ensure that it is available when needed – there is sometimes the opportunity to have an extra PE lesson with Mr Riley at short notice. As the weather gets colder, warm tracksuit bottoms and tops will be much appreciated by the children.

Please ensure that earrings are not worn on P.E. days



Educational Trips, Experiences and 'Wow' Days

Trips are always a highlight for both pupils and staff. We are aware of the importance of giving parents as much notice as possible so will send out any information as far in advance as we can. During the course of Year 4, we are planning to produce and stage an opera performance, introduce the children to the wonderful world of Eurovision and visit the British museum in London. Trips provide excellent opportunities for the children to learn a variety of skills and a level

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of independence. For balance and to keep costs to our families in check, we will ensure that that some opportunities will be held in school, such as online workshops or 'wow' days hosted by the teachers.

Uniform

The children have started the year looking very smart and your help with this is appreciated. Please remember that jewellery (apart from plain studs) is not allowed in school and shoes should be appropriate for the school environment. Hair gel and closely shaven hair is not permitted along with large bows and hair pieces.

No sweets or fizzy drinks are permitted in school. Children are allowed to have **fruit or vegetables** at break times as a snack and are encouraged to drink water throughout the day.

Please can we also remind all parents and carers that Loseley Fields is a nut free school.

I hope your child enjoys the year ahead. If there are any problems, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

Many thanks for your continued support

Miss P Leah and Mrs C Stanton
Year 4 Teachers Aquila & Perseus

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