



Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,



I hope that you and your children are all ready and eager to join the Year 4 journey and are as excited as I am for the new academic year. We have a wonderful year ahead of us with lots of new adventures and exciting learning opportunities planned, both in the classroom and out in the wider community. Opportunities already planned, include a trip to Blists Hill Victorian Town, Young Voices, a residential trip to Longtown Outdoor centre and fieldwork activities in Hereford – there is much to look forward to.

### **Keeping up to date in Year 4**

To help you find out more about your child's life at school there will be regular updates on the school website as well as in the weekly newsletter, emailed out each Friday afternoon. As always, each half term, the Kingstone Chronicle highlights what has been happening in each class and our Facebook page is a great place to see up to date photos. We will be adding photos of classrooms to our Facebook page over the coming days so that children can have a sneak peak of their new learning environment and begin to get excited about the year ahead.

If ever you would like an in person catch up or if you have a message to pass on, please do not hesitate to contact me: [agemmell@kingstoneacademy.co.uk](mailto:agemmell@kingstoneacademy.co.uk).

### **Staffing**

I will be teaching the class, supported by Miss Massey and Miss Brain. On a Monday afternoon Mrs Preece will teach the class. All the staff in Year 3 are very familiar with the children and any specific needs so I am confident that the children will have a smooth transition into Year 4. I can't wait to see how the children have developed since our time together in Year 2.

### **Morning Snacks**

All children have time to eat a piece of fruit or veg and have a drink of milk or water during morning break. Please ensure that the only snack sent in for breaktime is a piece of fruit or veg. Milk, provided by school, will need to be ordered and paid for in advance - please contact the admin office if you wish for your child to have milk. All children need to bring their own named water bottle to school each day to keep themselves hydrated.



### **Reading Books and Online Reading Journals**



In Year 4 we expect children to read at home a minimum of 4 times per week. Reading is an essential life skill and also one which will really support the children as they move through Year 4 and towards Upper Key Stage 2. Children will have a designated reading time in school each day and are expected to have their reading book in school for this. Please ensure that reading books come between home and school each day. Please log your child's home reading on Boom Reader. We check this platform daily in class in order to track the children's engagement and celebrate

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Head of School: Mrs Amy Preece

those that are meeting the expectations of regular home reading. Your child's log in details remain the same but if you require another copy of these, please let me know. There will also be a reading journal in class for children to request to take home and fill in with a review of a book they would like to recommend to others.

### Multiplication Check

Towards the end of this academic year (in June), children in Year 4 will complete the Multiplication Check. The Year 4 Multiplication Check is a statutory online assessment in England where pupils answer 25 multiplication questions, with 6 seconds per question, to assess their fluent recall of times tables up to 12x12. The test is similar to a game on times Table Rockstars. It is expected that by the end of Year 4, children will achieve 25/25. We put very little pressure on the children regarding the assessment and only ask that they try their best. We will be focussing heavily on times table recall this year and would encourage you to support your child with this at home, too. From experience, children who spend 10 minutes a day on Times Table Rockstars during their time in Year 4 perform very well in the assessment. Your child's score will be in their end of year report. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

### Seesaw

Your child will continue to have access to their Seesaw account; their login details remain the same. On here, optional homework activities will be posted, should children wish to do some learning at home. This is also a platform where children can upload any other learning they have done, share any out of school achievements or post photos from an exciting trip that they would like to share with school. This platform will also be used for setting work for any children who are away from school for an extended period and require learning to complete from home.

### Labels



We do our very best to teach the children to look after their belongings, please help us by making sure that you label all your child's belongings (jumpers, coats, drinks bottles etc.) with their name. Should you realise that any belonging is missing, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can locate and return it to you.

### PE

Year 4 will have PE each **Monday**. Please see below for a reminder of school PE kit:

- Plain navy hoodie or school branded hoodie
- Plain navy or white t-shirt
- Plain navy or black shorts/bottoms/skort
- White, black or navy socks
- Suitable footwear

Please see our topic web to find out about the topics we will be studying this half term. As always, please feel free to send in pictures of activities or writing that your child completes at home; we always love to see the things the children make at home.

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September I will be holding an open classroom 'Meet the Teacher' event. This will be straight after school at 3:20pm. It is an opportunity for you to meet me and see the classroom – it's also a chance to ask any questions you may have and learn more about life in Year 4.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to say that I am looking forward to sharing this academic year with you and your children. I know that we will have a very enjoyable and successful year ahead. I look forward to meeting you all in person. If you have any concern or queries ahead of the first day back, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

*A Gemmell*

Mrs Gemmell

Year 4 Class Teacher