



*Forward Together in Learning, Effort and Behaviour*

## *Welcome to Year 4*

Dear Parents and Carers,

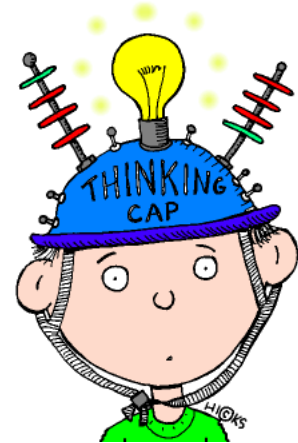
We would like to welcome you and your child to Year 4. We are taking this opportunity at the beginning of the new school year, to inform you about all aspects of school life in Year 4. We feel that if we all work together, your child will achieve the appropriate expectations for their age and have a positive and fulfilling experience in Year 4.

### EXPECTATIONS

In Year 4, we expect every child to work towards achieving their full potential. Work set will be matched to suit the varying abilities within the year group. All children will be expected to present their work neatly.

#### **THE EXPECTATIONS IN YEAR 4 ARE:**

- To be respectful to both their peers and all adults they work with.
- To be independent learners.
- To be resilient when facing challenges.
- To be responsible for their learning and personal organisation.
- To use a range of presentational skills.
- To take pride in their work and always produce their best.
- To continue to build up pace of work.



## YEAR FOUR STAFF

Class Teacher: Mrs Osborne and Mrs Goodfellow (Wednesdays)

Support Staff

- Ms Taylor-Pugh                      Teaching Assistant
- Mrs Monk                                French Teacher
- Mr Ilori                                  P.E. Teacher

## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

As is required by law, we follow the National Curriculum which provides each child with the opportunity to fulfil his/her individual potential. The children are grouped in a variety of ways such as: ability groups; mixed ability groups and friendship groups when learning. We believe that this maximises learning opportunities for all the children. In addition to daily lessons in English and Maths the children will have lessons in a variety of other subjects (see Topic Web).

At How Wood we are committed to ensuring that your child enjoys lessons and is challenged appropriately. In order to provide this a typical lesson will include at least one of the following strategies:

- High order questioning e.g 'How can you explain...?', 'What do you know about...?' 'Let's think about why...?'
- Open-ended activities which develop thinking skills; problem solving and investigations
- The expectation that children will explain their thinking and learning to others
- Mixed ability groupings where the children have opportunities to support and challenge each other through discussion and appropriately challenging tasks
- Differentiated activities
- Challenging children to ask questions and be active learners and thinkers
- Self-assessment and editing

## **READING**

Your child should keep a record of everything read at home or school in their Reading Records. Please encourage your child to read regularly as this will enable them to fully access all areas of the curriculum. In addition we would ask that you share books with your child, reading aloud to 'model' reading with enthusiasm and expression.

## **SPELLINGS**

Spellings are set weekly. These are based on the spellings that all children in Year 4 are expected to be able to spell consistently by the end of the year (this is a national expectation). A small number of children may be set individualised spellings that are personal to their needs. Children are expected to learn all the spellings using the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check method. Spellings will be set on a Wednesday and tested on the following Monday. If a child does not appear to have learned their spellings they will be re-tested at a convenient time.

## **MULTIPLICATION TABLES**

By the end of Year 4 all children are expected to be fluent with all the times tables (up to 12 x). All children are encouraged to learn as many of their tables as possible. It is important that children practise their times tables regularly at home, as well as in school and they will prove essential in developing their mental and written fluency.

## **REWARDS AND MERITS**

We have a whole school approach to rewards. We will be awarding weekly certificates for good behaviour, effort and learning. The children also work towards 10 merits for a special Head teacher's certificate. This you will know as the bronze, silver and gold system.

## **HOME LEARNING**

Maths and English home learning will be set each week and handed out on Wednesday. The expectation is that it will be handed in by the following Tuesday but it may be handed in as soon as it is completed. There will be an in-school Home Learning club on a Monday lunchtime and Wednesday after school.

## UNIFORM

It is essential that all children come to school wearing the correct school uniform. Hair bands, hair clips and accessories must be sympathetic to our uniform colours (blue, black, grey) and long hair must be tied back for health and safety reasons. Nail varnish is not permitted in school. Black school shoes (or un-patterned black boots in the winter months) must be worn. Trainers or sport's shoes are not part of the school uniform and therefore are not permitted.

## PE KITS

PE will be on a Tuesday; however, it is important that your child has their kit in school all week. The kit is as follows:

- Black shorts
- Yellow T shirt
- Trainers (for outdoor p.e.) and plimsolls for indoor
- Dark coloured track suit bottoms (for cold weather)
- Dark coloured sweat shirt (for cold weather)

Teachers will send kits home to be washed regularly. For health and safety reasons children with earrings will be asked to remove them or tape them up.

***Please remember that all pieces of uniform need to be named.***

## SWIMMING

In years 3 and 4 children will attend swimming lessons at Westminster Lodge on a Wednesday afternoon. Please ensure that your child arrives at school prepared to swim. If for any reason your child is not swimming one week, a letter must be sent into school that day explaining the reason why.

## EQUIPMENT

This year the children have been asked to bring a pencil case to school. It should include the following equipment:

- Felt tips
- Coloured pencils
- Glue stick
- Sharpener
- Rubber

Children who forget to bring their pencil case to school will be provided with pencils, pens, rubbers etc. to use within lesson times.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Please ensure that your child is in the playground by 8.50am ready to line up. It is important that your child arrives on time as learning begins promptly as soon as they arrive in the classroom. If your child is absent, please inform the school on the morning of the absence. A letter must also be sent to the office on their return to school. Regular absences from school can affect your child's learning since they will miss vital work that has been planned. This will then mean they will be working to 'catch up' when they return.

If for any reason your child is late in the morning please enter the school via the office so they can be marked in the register and any dinner choices can be made.

Non-attendance and punctuality is recorded and is regularly monitored by the Head Teacher and the Hertfordshire Attendance Improvement Officer.

## **PLAYTIME SNACK & LUNCH**

How Wood is a healthy eating school and we encourage children to adopt healthy lifestyles. Playtime snacks should consist of a piece of fruit. As there are a number of children across the school with nut allergies, we ask parents not to send in nut based products.

Herts Catering, who provide our school meals, ensure that lunches are well balanced and healthy. Packed lunches that some parents provide should also be balanced and healthy.

## **DATE OF CLASS ASSEMBLY**

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November

**Enclosed with this booklet you will find a class timetable and topic web.**