

WILLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs A. Gallimore

Dear Parents,

11th September 2017

I hope that your child is settling into Year 4. I thought that I would give you an outline of some information which you may find useful for the year.

Year Four Parents' Meeting

On Thursday 28th September at 3:45pm, I will be holding a meeting for all Year 4 parents in our classroom. During the meeting, I will discuss the differences between Years 3 and 4; how your child will learn English and Mathematics during the year; how to use the My Maths online Maths tool; ways to help your child to read and learn their spellings at home as well as general expectations throughout the year. The meeting should last approximately half an hour, and there will be a crèche in the hall during this time for younger children to go to whilst the meeting takes place.

Half-term topics

Our topics this half term are 'The Normans' and 'Forces'. As usual, we will always find time to share any information your child, or someone in the family, wants to bring in about the topic.

Ideas for home that you could do together are:

- a. Use these internet sites to find more information: 'Woodlands Junior History'; 'BBC Bitesize Forces'.
- b. Carry out simple experiments together involving different forces and how they act on objects.
- c. Visit Norman sites – e.g. Tutbury or Warwick Castle.

Homework

a. Practising times tables.

Multiplication tables provide a very strong basis for the children's mathematical understanding in Year 4. The children will need to learn all their 2 to 12 times tables to instantly recall multiplication and division facts by the end of Year 4. (All the tables can be found in the Home Diary.) Multiplication facts will be tested each week so consolidation of these at home will be very useful for the pupils.

b. Maths and English homework.

Homework will be sent home on a Monday and will be due in on the following Monday. This will take the form of either a Maths or English piece of work. Sometimes, the Maths work will be set on MyMaths, an online Maths tool which the children can use to carry out homework tasks and games. Further information regarding how this can be accessed will be explained at the Year 4 parents' meeting.

c. Topic Homework.

Your child will have already received their homework book with their topic homework sheet inside it. This explains that they need to carry out two pieces of homework based around the topic. The children have been given some suggestions of what they can make or do, but please feel free to help them to



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use their own imagination and create their own ideas for the project. The two pieces of work need to be completed by the Thursday of the last week of half term.

d. Home reading

Children need to aim to read five times each week. Ideas to support this can be found within their reading diary and on the book mark which they have each received. In Year Four, this needs to be a mixture of the children reading aloud to an adult, answering questions about the text in order to develop their comprehension skills further, and also reading to themselves. After every five times that your child has read at home, they will receive a raffle ticket where they will be entered into a whole Key Stage Two draw where they have the chance to win a book of their choice. The more that they read at home, the more chance that they have within the reading raffle.

e. Targets

The children will have Numeracy and Literacy targets which they will also need to practise. These will be given out later in the term.

f. Spellings

A number of spellings will be sent home weekly, according to the words which the children will be learning during their spelling lessons in school. These will be accompanied with strategies for learning spellings at home. Further details of these strategies will be outlined in the parents' meeting later in the month.

I would appreciate your help in giving reminders to complete the work and, if necessary, by giving direct help. Please let me know, of course, if your child seems to be struggling with the work.

Water bottles

Children are allowed to have a water bottle to drink from during lesson time. These are all kept in a tray in the classroom, however the bottle must be named and have a **sports bottle type valve** to minimise the chance of spillages. As part of our healthy-eating policy, the bottle must contain only water and not juice or flavoured drinks.

P.E

Children will have PE lessons on a Monday and Wednesday afternoon. Pupils will need to have both an indoor kit and outdoor kit in school on both of these days. The indoor kit should contain a white t-shirt, black shorts and black pumps, and the outdoor kit should contain a white t-shirt, tracksuit bottoms, a sweatshirt/hoodie and a pair of trainers. Please note that pupils should not bring football shirts as part of their PE kit. Jewellery must be removed for all PE lessons, and earrings must be properly taped up by the pupils independently.

Many thanks for your co-operation and I look forward to meeting with you at the Year 4 parents' meeting, and working with you throughout the year to support your child with their learning.

If you need any further information, please contact me at school.

Many thanks,



Mr M Rodgers

