

Dear Parent (s)/Carer (s),

Welcome back to school! I hope you have had a restful and enjoyable summer holiday and I'm glad to see Year 4 make such a positive transition into this year group. The children have made a great return to school, with many stories, successes and smiles being shared all around!



Year 4 Expectations

As the children have made the move into Year 4, there is an increase in the expectations in for them. This is an important year for them to develop in confidence; both in the curriculum and wider school life. I am confident that this class can rise to the challenges set out for them.

The children will be expected to work hard and concentrate fully during lessons to achieve their best potential. We ask that all children take pride in their work and work to the best of their ability. In addition to this, Year 4 children should be starting to take more responsibility for organising their belongings and time. This means they should be thinking about what they need to bring to school each day, as well as what they need to take home – including water bottles, PE kits, reading books and records.

Autumn Term Curriculum.

English	To begin our English topic, we are focusing on descriptive writing , using <i>The Borrowers</i> and <i>Howl's Moving Castle</i> for inspiration. Later in the term we will begin to draft and write letters for a range of purposes, as well as explore more non-fiction texts, like biographies and explanations . Running along English lessons will be regular Grammar and Punctuation, Spelling and Handwriting lessons.
Maths	Our first Maths unit focuses on Place Value and understanding how digits hold value. We then move on to Formal Methods of Addition and Subtraction before a unit on Symmetry and Co-ordinates . The last Maths unit of the term will be Formal Methods of Multiplication and Division .
R.E.	Our first unit in RE will be leaning about Creation and the story of Abraham to Joseph by looking at the family tree of Abraham through to Jacob. We then will be studying prayers in the unit Jesus teaches us how to pray , followed by looking at Jesus' teachings in the unit Jesus – Light of the World .
Science	To begin the term we are studying States of matter , looking at the properties of materials and how they can be changed when heated or cooled. Later in the term we will be focusing on Sound by learning how vibrations create sound and the differences in sound caused by changes in medium.
P.E.	This term P.E. will take place on Tuesdays with Mr Youson and Thursdays with Mr Rolison. Please make sure that PE kits are in school on these days.
Geography	Year 4 will be studying Weather, Clouds and the Water Cycle . In this unit we will be studying different clouds, extreme weather patterns and how water moves around our planet.
History	Our focus for the Autumn term is learning about the Romans . Our particular focus is in the Roman invasion of Britain, their long term effects and everyday Roman life.
Design Technology	In the Autumn term, to go alongside our History topic of the Romans will be planning, designing and making a Pizza , before tasting and evaluating.
Art	With the support of Ms Quinn, we are creating art in the style of surrealist Joan Miro before moving on to study digital art in the style of Piet Mondrian and Kandinsky .

Reading

Each child in Year 4 has been given a reading record to use for the year. Please use this to support your child with their reading by reading with them 5 times throughout the week. After reading with your child, please note down pages read and the title of the book. Reading records should be returned to school on a **Monday morning** signed by an adult so they can be checked and rewarded as needed and placed into a collection box at the front of the classroom. Reading books and records should be in school every day so that we can also support your child's reading. If a book is finished, it should be placed inside the reading record and placed into the collection box in the morning to be changed that day.

Homework

Each Friday, a times table challenge will be sent home to be completed for the following Monday. Children should complete as many questions as they can within 4 minutes before returning the sheet to be marked in school.

In addition to this, children are introduced to the spelling rule of the week on a Monday as well as testing the prior week's words. In spelling lessons, we work on learning the rule and revising the words. Children are given a collection of example words using the rule as well as 5 common exception words to learn for the following Monday's test.

Key Diary Dates

Friday 1st October – **Go Green for CAFOD**

Sunday 3rd October – **School Mass – Welcome Reception**

Saturday 23rd October – Sunday 31st October- **Half Term**

Friday 17th December – **Last day of term**

I look forward to speaking with you at our virtual open evening in October. If you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please send me an email: tom.rolison@allsoulsschool.co.uk .

Many Thanks,

Mr Rolison

Year 4 class teacher

Ms Fox

Year 4 teaching assistant