



Welcome to Year 4



4 St John Bosco's Class
Class Teacher: Mr Brown



4 St Peter's Class
Class Teacher: Mrs Snowden

Main objectives for your children for this year

- ⇒ To develop ownership of their learning by drafting, editing and peer-assessing their work independently.
- ⇒ To develop high expectations of their work and behaviour.
- ⇒ To respect themselves and others.
- ⇒ To develop their reading and writing skills by exploring a wide range of texts and build on their knowledge of the four operations.

Timing of the school day:

In the mornings we run a soft start for the children. The children will enter the school building via the Upper Key Stage playground from 8.40am. If your child needs to be left earlier, we run a breakfast club. Please contact the school office for details. The children need to be in their classroom by 8.55am to ensure they are marked as present in the register. Morning activities will be taking place from 8.45am - 9am.

In the afternoon, your children will be dismissed at 3:30pm. We will not dismiss your child until we see you, or someone you have authorised to collect your child. Please notify us if anyone other than you will be collecting your child. If you are running late, children should be collected from the school office.

Maths and English

Children in year 4 have Maths and English lessons every day. Maths is taught in a whole-class environment, where pupils' differing needs are catered for through scaffolded activities and effective questioning from the class teacher. Lessons will focus on the pupils' fluency in Maths (rapid and accurate recall of number facts) as well as providing them with the opportunity to build a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts by developing their skills in reasoning and problem-solving.

Reading

We request that reading scheme books and reading diaries are brought into school every day. Please do encourage your children to read regularly and note this in their reading record. We do enjoy reading comments from parents about their children's reading. Reading diaries will be checked on a weekly basis to ensure that all children, regardless of reading ability, are reading regularly. We encourage all children to have a reading book of their choice with them in school for when we have quiet reading time.

Homework

Schools across the nation have been reviewing their homework policies, and evaluating the impact homework has on pupil progress. The national research proves that homework does not have an impact on academic progress at primary school level and that schools should be focussing their time on providing first class teaching and learning during the school day. The research also comments that pupils between the ages of 5 - 11 could be using home time to practise social skills and take part in extracurricular activities. School homework can provide opportunities for the children to practise key skills and consolidate their learning.

Homework booklets are given to every child to bring home each half term, these booklets give details of:

- Weekly spelling words, children are encouraged to practise the weekly word lists at home, finding ways to use these in their writing at school and home. These word lists will be used in weekly spellings tests.
- A Brain Builder project will also be set for children to complete during each half term. Children are encouraged to share these projects with classmates on completion.

Pencil Cases

In your pencil case you will need: good quality writing pencils, a plain rubber, a sharpener, a blue berol handwriting pen and a white glue stick. You will also need a 30cm easy to read and use ruler, a pack of colouring pencils and a pack of basic felt tips (no sharpies etc.) Please respect that fashion stationery is best kept for home, as it causes a lot of distraction for the children in class. Please name as much as possible, so items can be returned. The school will not accept any responsibility for items which are lost or stolen.

Water Bottles

It is very important that the children drink regularly during the day. Please provide your child with a named clear sport's style water bottle (no screw caps) containing only water. We have drinking water facilities in every classroom to allow your child to refill their bottles.

PE Kits

The children in Year 4 have PE/ Games twice a week. PE kits can be worn to school on the allocated day. (See table below) The PE kit includes a sensible pair of black trainers. If your child is in school, they will be expected to participate in games lessons unless a suitable reason is provided by parents. Correct PE kits **must** be worn: this is black shorts, white T-shirt, black tracksuit top and bottoms.

Key information:

Tuesday	Outdoor Games 4SS and 4RB
Thursday	Indoor PE 4SS and 4RB

Uniform

Please make sure all school uniform is named. We prefer no earrings, but if they are worn, they should be silver or gold studs. Children are not allowed to wear earrings for PE, so they must be able to remove them without any adult help. Hair accessories should be simple and in school colours and children are expected to tie long hair back with a plain, school coloured hair tie. During hot weather, please provide your child with a sun hat. (Please see the school's uniform policy for further information)

What your children will be learning:

	Key Topic Title/Question
Advent Term (Autumn Term)	Anglo-Saxons The children will learn about the Anglo-Saxons. They will explore who the Anglo-Saxons were, why they came to Britain and some different Anglo-Saxon Gods. The Rainforest In this topic the children will learn about Rainforests. They will learn about the impact of the rainforest on the world and the impacts of deforestation. They will explore the geographical locations of rainforests and research what animals and plants you will find there.
Lenten Term (Spring Term)	The Vikings This term the children will learn about The Vikings. They will learn about who The Vikings were, how and why they invaded, and some important Viking Kings. Where does our Food come from? The children will learn about the distribution of the world's biomes and mapping food imports from around the world; learning about trading fairly, focusing on Côte d'Ivoire and cocoa beans; exploring where the food for the children's school dinners comes from and the argument of 'local versus global'.
Pentecost Term (Summer Term)	What are Rivers and how are they used? The children will learn about rivers; their place in the water cycle, the name and location of major rivers and how they are used. All about Maya The children will explore the Maya civilisation. They will learn about the various Maya Gods, food and their ancient cities, as well as the unusual number system.

Contacting us

- Send a note in with your child
- Give the office a call and we will aim to get back to you as soon as possible, but please bear in mind we are in class most of the day, so it will be either at lunchtime or after the school day.
- Sending an email to year4@olopprimary.co.uk
- Please give us a few dates/times when it is convenient to meet and we will arrange a time with you as soon as possible.