

Baden-Powell & St Peter's CE Junior School



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Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Rusling

Deputy Headteacher: Miss Amanda Knowles

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Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Year 4

We hope this letter finds you all well and rested after a lovely summer. We are incredibly impressed with how well the children have started in Year Four - They have already shown so much enthusiasm for the work they have been doing. Their engagement with our first few days has certainly set the bar high for the rest of the year.

Staff

We have a fabulous team of staff working in Year Four this year and we are really excited about the year ahead:

Classes and Teachers:	4BU	Mr Bush (Year Leader Mon-Tue)
	4DP	Mrs Dawes (Year Leader Wed-Fri) - Mr Paterson (Mon-Tues)
	4PL	Miss Lee
	4KL	Mrs Leigertwood
	4NP	Miss Poppleton (Mon-Wed) and Mrs North (Thurs and Fri)
	4CV	Miss Virrill

Teaching Assistants:	Mr Branford	Mr Holman	Mrs Dillon
	Mrs Tanner	Ms Bushell	Mrs King
	Ms Bickley	Mrs Gallyer	Mrs Taylor

Expectations

In Year Four, we expect children to build relationships; focusing on wellbeing and creating a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment where they can thrive. We will take the time to ease them back into school life and make the parameters clear through clear modelling from all members of staff. We know that they will exceed our expectations and demonstrate a high standard of both behaviour and attitude to learning.

Equipment

We would be grateful if your child came to school prepared for their learning with the items in the list below and that these are **named**. Although we do have spare pens and pencils etc. in school for emergencies, it is so much easier if your child has their own and that they learn to be responsible for them.



"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart" Colossians 3:23

- A small pencil case
- 3 x sharpened pencils
- Colouring pencils (including a pink and green)
- 3 x blue handwriting pens or fountain pen with spare cartridges
- Rubber
- Highlighters (including orange)
- Pencil Sharpener
- 30 cm clear, rigid ruler
- Glue stick (this may need to be replaced regularly)
- 2x dry wipe whiteboard pens
- Water bottle

Curriculum

Curriculum Overviews and Knowledge Organisers will be on our website in the coming days so that you can find out more about what the children will be learning. In addition to the overviews, our Writing standards and Maths and Reading objectives have also been included on our website, should you require more detailed information.

Please note that all offers of help for trips and DT sessions would be gratefully received. Equally, if you find yourself with a spare hour or two each week, we would love you to come in to listen to readers. Please contact the office if you would like to volunteer regularly to complete a volunteer application form. This is always much appreciated by your child's teacher and by the children themselves, who enjoy the variety of adult interaction.

We will be continuing with our weekly 'Buddy Run' run as part of our Stormbreak initiative and this will take place on a **Tuesday** morning. Please can you ensure that your child comes to school dressed in the appropriate **school** PE kit with suitable shoes for running and a spare pair of shoes, should the weather be against us. This run will be on the same day as their Games lesson so the children can remain in their kit all day. When your child has swimming, they can still wear their PE kit into school for the run. **Your child's teacher will inform you about the other day when your child will need to wear PE kit to school i.e the day on which they have their PE lesson.**

Each term, two classes will attend swimming lessons at the Dolphin Swimming Pool. You will receive further details before your child's class is due to go. We will need some parent helpers to make this a success. These helpers must be DBS checked so if you think you are able to help on a Tuesday afternoon then please contact the office ASAP to get the ball rolling. Thank you very much to those who have already volunteered for DP and KL.

Autumn	4KL and 4DP
Spring	4PL and 4BU
Summer	4NP and 4CV

Homework

Every week, children will be asked to complete some pieces of homework which will assist with their learning or help revise concepts already learnt. Each child will have a homework diary to record the homework set and the date it is due in. We instil in the children that it is **their** responsibility to ask their parent or carer to sign the diary at the end of each week, which is an important part of our home-school agreement. That said, it would be most helpful, if you could remind your child of this until it becomes more of a routine. Once a week, the homework diaries will be checked and signed by your child's class teacher. Again, this will be the responsibility of the child to hand it in when asked.

In addition, the diary is your primary means of sending a message to your child's teacher. However, because they are only signed once a week, we do ask that if you need us to be aware of something more urgent, you ask your child to present their diary at the beginning of that day or that you contact the school office via phone or email. It is vital that your child brings their diary into school every day as they are needed regularly. Children will also have spelling lists included in their diaries, which we'll be working on in school and you may wish to look at them with your child at home too.

Spelling homework will consist of an activity that will help the children to learn and practise spelling rules. We will spend one lesson every week helping them understand the new spelling rule and/or pattern and encouraging them to become more independent when correcting spelling errors in their written work. To start with, we intend to spend time revising some Year Two and Three patterns so that we have a solid foundation on which to base the Year Four spelling rules, which will come later in the Autumn Term. In addition, we will be encouraging the children to engage with different spelling strategies like the Superstar Spelling Strategy throughout all lessons as well as doing starter spelling tasks in English lessons to build an increasing security and confidence in how to spell words.

Below are further homework details:

Homework	Day Set	Day Handed In
Spelling	Wednesday	Wednesday
Maths (set on Maths.co.uk or TTRS)	Thursday	Thursday
Times Tables	Ongoing	Ongoing
Project based homework	This will be a homework piece based on a current topic during the year. Children will be given the opportunity to be as creative as they wish to present their work in a way that is special to them eg drawings, paintings, models. What is important is that your child enjoys this chance for both independent and highly personalised learning. More information regarding these will be handed out in due course.	
Reading	An hour a week recorded in their Reading Record (see below)	

In addition to these main pieces of homework, your child should **read regularly** at home. They may read a mix of independent reading and/or reading aloud to an adult alongside some discussion about what has been read or listening to a text being read to them (this could include audio books) – all of these are important elements to making progress in reading and help to instil the importance of reading.

Your child has a weekly 'Reading Record' in their homework diary. **The expectation is that this is filled in and signed every week**, showing that the Reading homework has been completed – in most cases, this will involve reading 3 or more times a week to total at least **one hour**. There is space for your signature, as well as for details of minutes spent each day and the number of pages read, which should be completed by the child. The reading record will be checked each week and the children can earn extra house points and **golden tickets** by demonstrating that reading is taking place at home.

Through our weekly library lessons and reading sessions, we will endeavour to help every child find the 'right' book for them, and the support you can offer as a parent is vital in helping your child develop into a confident reader.

For children who struggle to complete homework at home, there will be an opportunity to attend a Year 4 homework club every **Wednesday lunchtime**, where a member of staff will be on hand to provide help and support.

Trips

At BPSP, we pride ourselves on running a wide range of trips and themed activity days to support the learning taking place in the classroom. Our first topic is 'The Romans' and, in order to help bring learning to life, the children will be taking part in workshops led by staff from Poole Museum. A separate letter will follow shortly confirming the exact dates, costs, times and clothing etc.

Hooke Court (19-21 May 2027) and Activity Week 17-21 May 2027

The planned residential visit for Year Four is to Hooke Court near Beaminster, West Dorset, where children follow a programme of outdoor educational activities in the woods and grounds. This is a half week trip running from Wednesday to Friday. We have booked sufficient spaces to offer a place to any child who wishes to go. You will receive further information about this trip in the next few weeks. Please read this carefully so you know the deadline to reply to avoid disappointment. Further information about Hooke Court can be found online at www.hookecourt.co.uk

Needless to say, this trip cannot take place without your support. We are always in need of additional adults to help support us, and if you can help with the residential, we would be very grateful.

Parental Consultations

Forthcoming parent consultations to discuss how your child is settling into Year Four will be in the coming term. A letter enabling you to make an appointment will again be issued nearer the time.

Let the adventure commence!

Hopefully, this letter has provided some useful information about the coming year. If you have any questions, please feel free to come and chat to us or your child's class teacher at the forthcoming 'drop-in' evening. Failing that, we look forward to meeting you all at our Autumn parent consultations.

Kind regards

Mrs Dawes and Mr Bush

Year Four Leaders