



WEST BOROUGH

YEAR 4 PARENT INFORMATION



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PRIMARY SCHOOL

September 2019

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Year 4 Staff

Lilac Class – Class Teacher – Miss Whitworth
Teaching Assistant – Miss White, LSA—Mrs Dolmaci
Lime Class – Class Teacher – Mrs Walker **Trainee Teacher** —Miss Gadd
Teaching Assistant –Mrs Dunn, LSA—Mrs Dolmaci
Leader of Learning for Woodlands Team (Year 3 and 4) – Mrs Walker
PPA Cover : Tuesday afternoon – Mrs Hill/ Mr Atkinson

Class assemblies: Lime—Wednesday 20th May 2020 (pm) Lilac—Thursday 21st May 2020 (pm)

Our Learning

During the course of the year our topics will be: 'Light and Sound', 'Invaders and Settlers', 'Chocolate', 'From a Railway Carriage', 'Europe' and 'The Human Body'. Learning is cross curricular and we will continue to focus on deepening understanding of Maths through the mastery approach and also English skills. Children will be expected to write in Standard English and expectations of handwriting, spelling, punctuation and grammar will continue to be high.

We will continue to develop learning skills alongside our core values and curriculum. These skills enable children to become life long learners. This term the focus is 'Becoming Better Learners'. During the course of the year we will also cover 'Developing Independence and Responsibility' and 'Thinking Skills'.

This year we are investigating trips for the year ahead and will make you aware of details as soon as possible.

The class pages on www.west-borough.kent.sch.uk will be updated regularly to keep you updated with information. You can also follow us on Twitter @BoroughWest

Timestables

It is also an expectation that children in Year 4 know their all of their tables up to 12 x 12. At the end of Year 4 there is a Timestable check which the children will take part in. To help them prepare for this, children will continue to be tested as part of the 'Rockstars Maths' award in which certificates are awarded for continued high achievement. Times tables should be practiced regularly at home. Children can also practise at home via Timestable Rockstars. A reminder of their login will come home with them.

Uniform

The school has clear guidelines for School Uniform. We have already noticed that some of the children's clothing is not named; this makes it very difficult to return lost items to the correct children. Please make sure that all of your child's possessions are clearly named, including their PE kit and lunch boxes. Please remember that all hair of shoulder length or longer should be tied back; there should be no decorative hair bands or accessories. Nail varnish is not permitted in school and children will be asked to remove it.

Pencil Cases

At the beginning of each academic year each class receives a new supply of equipment. This equipment is for the children to use throughout the school day and they are taught to use it properly and with respect. In Woodlands Team the children will each be given a clear pencil case with the following equipment: Writing pen, writing pencil, ruler, board pen, glue stick, red, green and yellow pencil and a purple pen. The children will need to pay £1.00 each for the pencil case and equipment. Once they finish the academic year and return the pencil case, as long as they still have all the equipment, they will be given £1.00 back. As the year goes on, some of the equipment will run out and this will be replaced with new equipment at no extra cost.

Equality, Responsibility, Respect, Resilience, Challenge

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PE/Swimming

PE will take place on **Tuesday and Friday afternoons**.

All children are expected to take part in all PE lessons and to have an appropriate change of clothing and footwear which is kept in school.

All earrings should be removed before school on these days, unless your child is able to remove them themselves. If your child has recently had their ears pierced and cannot take their earrings out, they will be asked to tape their ears themselves using micro-pore tape, which you must provide.

During **Terms 3 and 4**, Swimming Lessons will take place on a **Monday afternoon** at **Larkfield Leisure Centre**. The children will travel by coach to and from swimming. Swimming lessons will be taught by Qualified Instructors, employed by Larkfield Leisure Centre. The cost of swimming will be £5 per week. Girls must wear a one piece swimming suit.

Healthy School Packed Lunches

As a Healthy School, we ask that children have suitable items in their packed lunch box. We ask that they **only have one** of the following:

Crisps
Biscuit
Cereal bar
Cheese string
Peperami
Cake/cake bar
NO SWEETS or CHOCOLATE
Children are also only permitted to bring in water to drink.

Busters Book Club

We will be continuing Buster's Reading incentive scheme this year. Children will receive a new bookmark very soon. Please record the **number of minutes** that they have read on a **Wednesday evening** ready for data collection on a Thursday. If your child has **exceeded their target minutes please record this on the bookmark too**. We will then collect the data and awards will be given out in **Friday Assembly**. This includes badges, class trophies and tickets to attractions such as Leeds Castle. Our target in **Years 4, 5 and 6 is to read for at least 20 minutes per night**.

School Priorities for 2019-20

Every year, the school produces an Improvement Plan that lays out what it hopes to achieve during the coming terms. This is approved by Governors who monitor the impact of any improvements.

Once again, our end of Key Stage results are very strong and we are achieving above National standards in the vast majority of subjects at every Key Stage, EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. This is a testament to all the hard work of our pupils and the staff, supported by you at home.

Last year our focus included enhancing subjects beyond English and Maths, to ensure we provide a broad and balanced curriculum that is rich and engaging. This was enhanced by many events, including our Arts Week and Language Fair. We hope to include many more events like these this year. Reading was another focus and again we have seen greater numbers of children engaging in reading both in the classroom and beyond, and end of Key Stage results validate this.

This year we will have a focus on Writing with a mastery approach. This follows on from our successful Maths Mastery teaching. This ensures children have mastered a writing skill before moving on to the next stage. More information will become available as we go through the year. We shall also be developing the children as global citizens, ensuring they have a growing understanding of the current issues affecting the world we live in. Finally, we have an embedded assessment and reporting system across the school, however we would like to adapt these procedures this year. This will involve parents views to ensure we are providing you with the most relevant and accessible information about your child's progress and attainment throughout the year.

We shall update you on progress of our priorities as we go through the year.

Learning at Home

Children are expected to **read at home at least 3 times a week** and the book should be signed. However, reading books need to be **in school every day**.

In addition to reading, we expect the children to learn and practise times tables and weekly spellings. The children will also continue to have home learning. This needs to be completed and returned to school on a **MONDAY morning**. Failure to do this will result in a loss of playtime.

We would like to thank you all in advance for supporting your children's learning during their time in Year 4.

Please do not hesitate to talk to your child's class teacher if you have any questions or concerns. It is often easier to talk to us after school, however if you need to speak to us regarding something that will affect your child during the day, either speak to the Class Teacher or Teaching Assistant when you drop your child off in the morning. As well as speaking to parents at the end of the day, we may write in your child's contact book or telephone you to discuss any concerns or to celebrate your child's achievements with you.

Thank you from the Year 4 team

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