



# ***The Year Ahead in Swift Class Y4***

## ***Class of 2022 – 2023***

### Our Class

There are 24 children in our class. Mr Beavan is the Class Teacher and Mrs Hicks and Miss Smith will be working with the children at various points in the week to support in the delivery of the curriculum.

### Classroom organisation

Over the year, children will work in a variety of different groups depending on the subject and the activity. A mixture of whole class, group, paired and individual work is incorporated into our teaching. The children will be working in attainment groups, mixed attainment groups and in friendship groups at different times during the week.

### Equipment

Children are provided with all the necessary equipment for classroom activities. There is no need for you to provide your child with pens, pencils etc., but they are welcome to bring their own colouring pencils if they wish. These should be stored in a small pencil case which they can keep in their drawers as there will be opportunities to use their own equipment, particularly in Art.

PE is on Monday Morning and Thursday afternoons. During the Autumn and Spring terms, we will be swimming offsite for Monday's session. For PE, children should have:

- Blue, black or white plain shorts with an elastic waistband; school house or blue or white plain short-sleeved t-shirt
- Trainers
- For outside PE, children may wish to bring in a tracksuit (no hoods) to wear over t-shirt and shorts when it is cold.
- A named bag.
- Swimming: towel, goggles, swimming costume, swimming hat.

### School Visits and other events

School visits provide an excellent chance for children to learn outside the classroom. Year 4 often go to different places each year. As soon as I have a visit destination I will let you know (approximate voluntary contributions are detailed below):

#### Autumn Term

- Harvest Festival
- Visit TBC circa £20
- Christmas Service

#### Spring Term

- World Book Day
- Swift Class Assembly
- Visit TBC circa £20
- Easter Service in Church

## Summer Term

As a school, we participate in a wide range of sporting activities. From time to time, your child may be asked to represent the school. Details will be provided as required.

### Helping your child at home

In keeping with the School Homework expectations, children will receive homework each week, which will be set on Thursdays and will usually relate to the current learning objectives. These could be English, Maths, Science or topic based tasks. We would anticipate the children spending about forty five minutes completing the task. Some activities will lend themselves to further study or research which we hope children would be motivated to do.

Reading: Please encourage your child to read every night and try to share and talk about their books. This is important for fluent readers as well as those who may need support reading the words. Your child would benefit from reading a variety of different types of fiction and especially non-fiction texts e.g. narratives, poems, instructions, newspapers, catalogues, comics etc. I would like them to keep a note of what they are reading in their reading journals.

Spellings: Weekly spelling lists are sent home via spelling frame each Thursday to practise and learn for the following week. These may be commonly used words or words following specific patterns and rules. The national curriculum requires a child to be proficient with looking up unfamiliar words in a dictionary and 'to use words not normally use by a child of their age' e.g. pallid, scrutinised. As part of their spellings, I will pick one ambitious word a week for them to practise incorporating into a sentence – they may need your help with this. It would be helpful to try and use this word in your language with them at home. This way your child can hear the words in action so they become meaningful. We will then start to see this ambitious vocabulary naturally appear in their written work.

Maths: The children take responsibility for learning and practising their multiplication facts during the week. The children work on their own targets with the help of 'tackling tables' card and other strategies, with a view to rapid recall of multiplication and division facts up to the 12 times table. Later in the year we will use 'pinpoint times tables', which helps children to identify facts they do not yet know and to work to a time constraints. <https://www.themathsfactor.com/times-tables-check/pinpoint/#/>

As a school we have signed up to use 'Mathletics'– please encourage your child to make full use of this online resource. Mathletics tasks, which either relate to what is currently being taught that week or what is about to be taught, are set each week.

### Topics for the year ahead

- Saxon Secrets
- Imagine, Inspire, Influence
- Fragile Planet

The language which we will focus on in Year 4 will be Mandarin - this is the most spoken language in the world. We will concentrate on the basics such as greetings, colours, numbers and everyday classroom language. The children will also learn some geographical information about China, as well as something about Chinese customs and celebrations. Languages throughout the school will be taught through songs and games, the whole point is to have fun whilst learning.

### Communication and Parent Consultation Dates

- 18 and 20 October 2022 – on the 20<sup>th</sup> you also have the option of a Zoom appointment. Individual meetings to discuss settling in and exchanging relevant information.
- March 2023 – Main consultation to discuss progress with your child.
- July 2023 – End of year written report.

If you want to get in contact the most effective way is face to face after school or by telephone. You can also email the office at the following email address:- [office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk)

Please be aware that teaching staff will not be able to reply immediately as they will be in class teaching all day but will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

Please ensure that you report absences (planned or otherwise) to the office by telephone.

Please read 'The Star' every week to keep up-to-date with general school news and information specific to Year 4. Important information is generally shared by parentmail. The school website is full of useful information. We have a Year 4 class page where we post information about the work we have been doing in class, along with photos, school projects and special events, a class timetable and news about our curriculum themes.

We are really looking forward to working with you to make this year a happy and positive one for your child.

Best wishes, David Beavan, Stephanie Hicks and Bobbi Smith.

*Your child may consider making use of this 'aide-memoire' to help them prepare for the week.*

# Remember

<b>Monday</b>	PE Kit / Swimming kit for PE lesson in the morning.
<b>Tuesday</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	Complete my Homework Have I: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- completed my spellings on spelling frame?</li><li>- revisiting the year 3/4 spelling list?</li><li>- been reading at home, 'reading as a writer'?</li><li>- doing my Mathletics tasks online (in school if necessary)?</li></ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	PE Kit for PE lesson in the afternoon.
<b>Friday</b>	Take my water bottle home to be cleaned.