



**LITTLE KINGSHILL COMBINED SCHOOL**  
Windsor Lane, Little Kingshill  
Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire HP16 0DZ  
01494 863744  
office@lkcs.org.uk  
Head Teacher: Mrs G Sutaria-Cassidy  
[littlekingshillschool.co.uk](http://littlekingshillschool.co.uk)

**WHERE LEARNING HAS NO LIMITS**

10<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope your summer break has been an enjoyable one, leaving the children refreshed and ready to embrace the challenges of Year 4, which will be a busy, yet rewarding year. This letter provides a brief outline of the curriculum topics covered during the autumn term as well as some of our class routines and forthcoming events.

### **Weekly Timetable**

This year different teachers will teach some subjects. Music will be taught by Mrs Priestly and Mr Parr, Games by Mr. Mullins and for the winter term Strictly Shine Dance will be teaching Dance for P.E. In addition to this, Mrs Tapping will be taking some children three times a week to extend them in mathematics.

### **Classroom Equipment**

During Year 4, all children must use a blue or black ink handwriting pen for writing in school as well as for homework, except for maths. Please ensure that your child sticks with the initial colour chosen throughout the year to maintain a consistency in their books. A quick reminder that biros are NOT permitted. Although we do provide some equipment in school, children should have their own basics in a small pencil case, which will be able to fit easily into their tray. This should include items such as writing and colouring pencils, an eraser, glue stick, ruler, sharpener and a suitable writing pen. Please avoid scented eraser and novelty erasers that are made of small pieces.

Please ensure that all equipment is clearly named, with your child's full name. As the children move through the school we recognise it is important for the children to become more independent and self-reliant, therefore we will not be phoning parents to bring in any forgotten equipment.

### **Homework**

Your child will be receiving regular homework tasks during the course of Year 4. These tasks are aimed at consolidating and, on occasions, extending what has been covered in school. They also give parents the opportunity to become more involved and informed regarding their child's activities in class. Every child has been provided with two homework books, one for spellings and English and one for maths into which all homework tasks will be written.





Spellings will be sent home on a Monday and English and Maths tasks will be written in the weekly letter which is sent out every Monday via the school website. In order for children to have the opportunity to seek assistance with tasks when necessary, they will be allowed two evenings to complete each task.

The following homework schedule is a rough guide:

**Monday:** Spellings given out, an associated spelling task to be handed in on Wednesday, spellings to be tested on Friday.

**Tuesday:** English homework is set, to be handed in on Thursday.

**Wednesday:** Maths homework set, to be handed in on Friday.

Extended projects, such as building an animal model or making an instrument, will also be set throughout the year to support and extend the children's learning in specific subjects. Children will have several weeks to complete these tasks. Occasionally, there may be additional homework; for example, a piece of science, research or learning lines for a performance, but a suitable amount of time will be given for this to be completed in addition to other homework.

The recommended amount of time for children to be working with parents to complete a set task for homework in Year 4 is 1.5 hours across each week. This is in addition to children reading aloud for 5-10 minutes every night and learning their spellings and times tables.

### Late Homework

In accordance with school policy, in order to tackle persistent late homework, each time a child is late handing in their homework it will be recorded by the teacher. If the late homework does not arrive the following day they will be asked to complete it during lunchtime that day. If three pieces of work are late during a half term period, then the child will lose lunchtime in school.

As well as expecting homework to be handed in on time, we expect work to have the same high presentational standard that we expect in class. Those who fail to meet these requirements will be asked to complete or repeat the tasks during their own time.

### Curriculum areas

<b>Maths</b>	Place value; the four operations; fractions; properties and reasoning about number; shape; data.
<b>English</b>	Non-fiction - writing recounts Non-fiction – instructions and explanations Non-fiction – chronological reports Poetry - creating images Fiction – myths and legends# Fiction – play scripts
<b>Science</b>	Sound and States of Matter
<b>History</b>	Local History – crime and punishment since 1066
<b>Art &amp; D.T.</b>	Studying famous artists and themes in art.
<b>Computing</b>	Computer programming using Scratch, designing a game using a computer programme
<b>P.E.</b>	Gym, invasion games, including football, hockey and tag rugby. Weekly swimming session



<b>R.E.</b>	Pilgrimage
<b>P.S.H.E.</b>	Citizenship (rules and laws; responsibilities and respect; keeping safe)
<b>Music</b>	Violins and choir
<b>French</b>	Tout le Monde

## **P.E. and Games lessons**

### Outdoor games

Lessons will take place on Tuesday, for which the children will need a full outdoor kit including trainers. As the weather becomes colder they will also be required to have a suitable tracksuit. Uniform jumpers **must not** be worn as part of their P.E. kit. Dance or gymnastics will take place on Monday for which children will require black plimsolls as clean, indoor footwear.

### Swimming

Children will be swimming on a Wednesday morning, for which children will need suitable swimwear (a one piece, full swimming costume for girls and short, Speedo-type trunks for boys), a swim hat **must be worn** if your child's hair is longer than chin length. Goggles may be worn if your child would prefer (please send a letter to give permission for your child to wear goggles). If you are unsure regarding any aspect of P.E. kit please refer to the school prospectus.

### Name Labels

Please ensure **ALL** kit is clearly named, not just initialled, even if it is only written on the label. Please check these labels regularly as they often rub off in the washing. Earrings should be removed or covered on PE days and earring tape must be provided by home.

## **Hot Lunches**

Due to the time that the children return from swimming on a Wednesday hot lunches will be unavailable for children in Year 4 on a Wednesday. Please can you ensure that your child has a packed lunch provided every Wednesday, unless we are not swimming. Thank you.

## **Water Bottles**

It is very important that your child is sufficiently hydrated during the school day and therefore they may bring a bottle of water into the classroom. Please ensure that these have a sports style cap in order to avoid accidental spillages. Please also ensure

## **Fruit**

We are trying to encourage all children to bring a piece of fruit to school to eat at break. Unfortunately, as children move up the school the numbers who eat fruit at break drop. By encouraging children to eat fruit at break, not only are they getting part of their five-a-day, but it is also maintaining their energy levels. As lunchtime approaches there is a noticeable difference in the concentration levels and rate of work in children who do not eat fruit at break.

## **Absences**

If, for whatever reason, your child is absent from school, please could you inform the school by telephone before 9.15am on the day of absence and in writing when he/she returns to school. Your assistance in this matter would be greatly appreciated.



## **Trips**

As part of their English work, the children will receive a workshop visit from the Young Shakespeare Company in October, followed by the opportunity to watch a performance of *Midsummer Nights Dream* in November at the Wyllotts Theatre in Potters Bar. The approximate cost of the company visiting school and other trips is indicated in the table below. Children in Year 4 will experience their first residential trip from 3<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> July. Although this seems a long way off, it will come round sooner than you think! I shall keep you up to date with any information to do with Shortenills over the coming weeks.

## **Estimate of Costs**

Violins Autumn Term	£15
Violins Spring Term	£15
Violins Summer Term	£15
Y4 Swimming Autumn	£35
Y4 Swimming Spring	£35
Y4 Swimming Summer	£35
Y4 Hazard Alley	£17
Y4 Shortenills	£145 (can be paid in instalments)
Y4 Wyllots Theatre Autumn	£20

Please note these are approximate costs. Further detail on costs when detail about the events are released in parent information notes throughout the terms.

## **Meet the Teacher**

The year 4 meet the teacher is on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 8:45pm in the year 4 classroom. If you cannot make this but have some questions for me, you can either write me a letter or catch me after school.

## **Class assembly**

Every class will perform two class assemblies each year. The first year 4 class assembly will be on Tuesday November 6<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall at 2:40 pm which with a 'Crime and Punishment' theme from our history lessons. More information about costumes sent out once I have assigned the speaking parts.

## **Parent Consultations**

A formal Parents' Evening will be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October. More details and times will be made available nearer this date.



## **Parent Helpers**

We are always very grateful for regular help in the classroom in the afternoons, particularly with art, D.T and reading. However, if you have any specific skills that you feel would benefit the children please let me know.

We have many exciting DT and art lesson plans for this year and would greatly appreciate parent help so that all students can be immersed in these projects.

Parent helpers during guided reading in the mornings are most welcome, please see the timetable below for our guided reading times. Helpers during guided reading give students the opportunity to extend their reading and comprehension ability.

Guided Reading will be conducted Tuesday – Thursday 8:50-9:15

Art and DT will be on Fridays from 1:10pm – 2.10pm

We will also be learning basics of a different language each week (hello, good morning, how are you etc.) to keep the morning register interesting and to explore cultures and languages. If you know a specific language and would like to come in a guest to teach us some basics, we would be excited to have you.

Further information and forms are available from the office or the School's website.

## **Letters, Reply Slips and Forgotten Items**

If your child brings in a letter or a reply slip please can you ensure they bring it to me rather than to Mrs Boyle in the office as this frees up time for the office staff. Please also be aware that if your child forgets any items, such as their P.E. kit, we will not be phoning home to ask for it to be brought in as this takes up a lot of the office staff's time. Instead, your child will be given an alternative task to complete.

Please note that weekly class letters and club letters will be uploaded to the school's website.

## **Questions and Concerns**

Should you have any concerns during the year, however small you may think they are, please do not hesitate to contact me by sending a note in with your child so that I can arrange a mutually convenient time to see you as soon as possible. Please remember that, as your child's class teacher, I should be your first point of contact in order to deal with any issue that may arise as quickly and effectively as possible. I shall also be around in the playground during home time if you need to have a quick chat or any questions.

Many thanks in advance for all your support and co-operation, and I look forward to an exciting and fulfilling year together.

Yours sincerely

Miss B McIntyre