

Welcome to Year 4

Teachers



Mrs Bartlett 4B



Mrs Keynes 4KR



Mrs Ross 4KR

Teaching Assistants



Mrs Milne



Mrs Watts

Back to School Information about Year 4 September 2021

Welcome

Welcome back! It has been fantastic to see all the children back at school breathing life into the classrooms. The children have been amazing in their attitude, positivity and adaptation to the changes to the new school routines. They have been so focussed on trying their best, working hard and supporting each other. Newbridge is starting to feel like Newbridge again. In this booklet we aim to outline all the key elements you will need in order to support your child in Year 4. If it raises any questions, then please contact us via the school office.

Meet the team

Class 4B is taught by Mrs Bartlett

Class 4KR is taught by Mrs Keynes (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday) and Mrs Ross (Thursday, Friday)

Our teaching assistants in Year 4 are Mrs Milne and Mrs Watts.

Learning

Our first enquiry is 'How can we help our World'. We will be learning about the rainforests and deforestation. Our other enquiries this year will be: What makes a home? What can we learn from Stonehenge? How does the past affect us? What have the Romans done for us? Can I Learn Everywhere? These are interesting and exciting enquiries and we are looking forward to learning with the children, and allowing them to research.

We are following the Year 4 national curriculum, a mastery curriculum, which means the children need to demonstrate that they have mastered objectives before being challenged. Challenge comes in the form of reasoning, problem solving and linking understanding.

Planning, Preparation and Assessment

PPA time for Year 4 teachers is Wednesday morning (Terms 1-3). During these sessions, your children will be taught by Mr Seaborne (P.E) and Mrs Best (Music).

Routines

When children arrive in the morning they should come straight to the classroom between 8.45am and 8:55am. They will be practising times tables and mental arithmetic before register. This will be followed by Maths and English every morning. Morning break is at 10.35 -10.50am. Lunch is 12 -1.00pm. The children are now following the systems we used before the pandemic, they go out into the playground and then wait to be called to have their lunch. Packed lunches then have their lunch in the Upper School hall, while the children opting to eat school dinners, go the Lower School hall. It has been lovely watching the children socialise with the younger children both in the playground and in the dining halls.

The school day ends at 3.15pm where children are collected from the lower part of field, next to the tree, by parents following the one-way system.

Drinks and Snacks

Please send the children with water and either fruit or vegetable as a snack for morning playtimes. Please do not send packaged fruit such as 'Yo Yo bears' as these are not allowed.

Behaviour and Rewards

In line with our Behaviour Policy, the traffic lights will continue to be used. If a child behaves particularly well their name will be put on the star. We will continue to use house points with their houses. Star of the Week certificates will be presented in class on a Friday to reward children. We have been really impressed so far, the children have demonstrated how kind, thoughtful and caring they are.

Toilets

Each year group has been allocated a toilet for their use which means that they are unisex toilets. Children use the toilets one at a time and this is monitored by class teachers and the adults supporting in class. Please let us know if there are any specific needs.

Volunteers

We are really pleased that we will be able to have volunteers in school starting in Term 2. If you would like to support with reading, maths or have any other skills that you feel would support the children's learning, then please let us know. We would really appreciate the extra help and know from first-hand experience, that children benefit greatly from extra input from an adult.

If you do have time to volunteer, please could you get in touch with Mrs Hill in the office as we need to ensure that all DBSs are up to date.

Inhalers

If your child needs an inhaler, please check they have an in-date one in school and that you have filled out an indemnity form. This can be found on the school website via the following link <https://www.newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk/school-life/useful-forms>

P.E.

Please ensure children come school wearing full PE kit on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays**. Please think about ensuring children are dressed appropriately for all weather conditions as PE will be taking place outside i.e. black tracksuit bottoms, warm tops etc. Long hair must be tied back and earrings must be removed or covered with tape provided from home. Children will need wear suitable shoes or change into trainers.

Supporting your child

Your child will continue to access the Doodle Maths and Doodle English as part of their home learning. Ideally, we would like the children to use the programme 4 times a week. We will be adding extra lessons on the programme which will reinforce learning which we be sent on a Friday.

There is a national expectation that they will know all their times tables facts up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. At the end of this year, the children will be tested on their times tables knowledge. Please continue to practise times tables every week. Tables are the foundation to all maths and it will most certainly support their understanding when we introduce new concepts. We cannot stress enough how important it is that children focus on learning their times tables, so they can recall them with accuracy speed. Think about creative ways to learn them with your child for example:

- You could learn a song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v-NWsS3R-Ns>
- You could a poster together
- Practise in the car, particularly on long car journeys
- Place a poster or sticky notes around the kitchen or where your child would look at them regularly.
- Or practise regularly using this very useful website <https://www.timestables.co.uk/>

In Year 4 children do not need to bring in their own pencil cases as equipment is provided.

Water bottles, waterproof coats, reading books should be brought to school every day.

Please ensure all items of clothing and belongings are named. Especially as lots of children are leaving their jumpers and cardigans on the playground.

Reading: Reading is a vital skill to engage with the ever increasing demands of the curriculum. The speed of reading is also an influential factor. Whole Class Reading will continue with an emphasis on developing vocabulary as well as building inference and deduction skills. We also read a selection of classic and modern narrative stories to the class to enrich our enquiries and ensure access to quality texts for all. However, please continue to read regularly with your child at home. We would like the children to aim to share a book with an adult, at home, at least 4 times a week. To encourage your child with reading you may like to look at the 'Reading and Online Book Websites' section, on the school website. We also have a selection of 'Must Read' books for Year 4 which we would like the children to read at home over the year. These include: The Twits by Roald Dahl, Please Mrs Butler by Alan Ahlberg, Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan, How to Help a Hedgehog and Protect a Polar Bear by the National Trust, Flotsam by David Weisner and The Great Elephant Chase by Gillian Cross.

To encourage the children to read and become more independent, we have informed them that we will be looking at their Reading Records every Monday and awarding them with a house point if they have read 4 times or more at home within the week and recorded it.

Spellings: The children have received a paper copy of the spellings that we are focusing on this term. There are two lists, one is based on the words from the National Curriculum, the other from our Word Blaze scheme (Your child will know which list they have). You can also find them on the school website.

Again, we would really appreciate your support in encouraging your child to practise these weekly, not only the spelling pattern but the meaning of the word too. On the reverse of the spelling sheet, there are examples of how to learn them in a variety of ways. There are also lots of interactive spelling games online, if that is how your child prefers to learn.

There is a list of the 3 and 4 spellings in your child's reading record too, they are everywhere!

Forest School

4B and 4KR will do Forest School on alternate **Wednesday** afternoons. Forest School will take place in classes and commences on Wednesday 15th September with 4B. Please can the children come to school to their PE kit (ready for PPA); they will then change into Forest School kit after lunch. Please ensure your children have the appropriate clothing suited to the weather conditions i.e. hats, gloves, waterproof coats and trousers.

Website

All information, including dates, homework, curriculum overviews etc., is available on the school's website: <https://www.newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk/> Please write to the class teacher if you do not want your child's photograph to be used on the website.

Contacting us

If you wish to speak to us about any worries or concerns, however small, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. newbridge_pri@bathnes.gov.uk

We are really looking forward to the year ahead and getting to know the children. We are really enjoying learning -alongside them, while making sure they feel safe and happy in Year 4.

Mrs Bartlett, Mrs Keynes and Mrs Ross

'Must Reads'

Again this year, we are working on fostering a love of reading throughout the school. To this end we have chosen six books that we would like every child to read or have read to them over the year. These books have been carefully chosen by their class teachers and it is hoped that every child will, by July, have read every one.

Thank you very much for your anticipated support!
The English team

In school we share a Newbridge Must Read Book every term.
The list of the books chosen for Year 4 is as follows:



YEAR FOUR

The Great Elephant Chase by Gillian Chase

How to Help a Hedgehog and Protect a Polar Bear
by the National Trust

The Twits by Roald Dahl

Please Mrs Butler by Alan Ahlberg

Flotsam by David Weisner

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief
by Rick Riordan