

# Welcome to Year 4

## Teachers



**Mrs Bartlett 4B**



**Mrs Talley 4T**

## Teaching Assistants



**Mrs Milne**



**Mrs Watts**

# Back to School Information about Year 4 September 2023

## 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. They have been so focused on trying their best, working hard and supporting each other. We know this is going to be a great year already! 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 4T is taught by Mrs Talley

Our teaching assistants in Year 4 are Mrs Milne, Mrs Watts and Mrs Shaw-Butt.

## 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: Does charity begin at home? How did the Romans change Bath? Why are European countries unique? and Why are landmarks important? 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 Thursday 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 for 8.45am. They will be completing 'quick maths' activities before the register. This will be followed by maths and English every morning and foundation subjects in the afternoon.

Morning break is at 10.35-10.50am. Lunch is 12 -1.00pm. Packed lunches then have their lunch in the Upper School hall, while the children opting

to eat school dinners, go the Lower School hall.

The school day ends at 3.15pm where children are collected from the lower part of field, next to the tree.

## 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

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 Miss Kitchener in the office, as we need to ensure that all DBS checks 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 every Thursday and alternate Wednesdays. 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

**Times tables:** There is a national expectation that the children 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 make 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/>

**Reading:** Reading is a vital skill and one that will allow students 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 Lightening 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 spellings the children will be learning each week will be published on the 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!

## Equipment

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.**

## Forest School

4B and 4T will do Forest School on alternate **Wednesday** afternoons. Forest School will take place in classes and commences on Wednesday 20th September with 4B. 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 at [enquiries@newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@newbridge.bathnes.sch.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 Talley



## '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**