



Welcome to Year 4!

Working Together for a Fantastic Year

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to welcome you and your child to Year 4. This is an exciting year filled with new challenges, growing independence and wonderful learning opportunities. The support you provide at home makes a huge difference to your child's confidence and success in school. Please see below answers to some questions that we get asked often as teachers and we present our insights to you so you may help your child get the most out of this year.

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I help my child succeed this year?

The most effective thing you can do is show an interest in their learning. Ask them what they've learnt, celebrate their efforts, and talk positively about school. Research shows that parental engagement has a significant impact on children's achievement.

How can I help my child with reading?

Read together every day, even for just 10 minutes. Ask questions about the story, discuss characters, and encourage your child to explain their thinking. Shared reading is one of the most powerful ways to support learning.

How can I help my child with homework?

Provide a quiet space, establish a routine, and encourage them to persevere. Rather than giving answers, ask questions that help them think independently and develop problem-solving skills.

What if the homework is too easy?

Challenge your child to explain their thinking, teach the skill to someone else, find real-life examples, or take their learning further through reading, research, or creative projects. Deepening understanding is often more valuable than simply doing harder work.

How can I improve my child's confidence?

Praise effort, resilience, and progress rather than focusing only on results. Children who learn that mistakes are part of learning are more likely to persevere when tasks become challenging.

How can I help my child make friends?

Encourage kindness, turn-taking, listening, and empathy. Arrange opportunities to play or socialise with classmates and talk regularly about positive friendships and how to resolve disagreements respectfully.

What should I do if my child doesn't want to talk about school?

Ask specific questions such as:

- Who made you smile today?
- What was the most interesting thing you learnt?
- What challenged you today?
- Who did you play with at breaktime?

Children often respond better to specific questions than "How was school?"

How can I help my child become more independent?

Encourage them to organise their belongings, pack their own bag, remember key routines, and solve small problems themselves before asking for help.

How much screen time is appropriate?

Aim for a healthy balance. Prioritise sleep, reading, physical activity, family time, and hobbies. Technology can support learning, but it should not replace real-world experiences.

How can I help my child with their handwriting?

Encourage a little practice every day, focusing on correct letter formation rather than speed. Activities such as drawing, colouring, Lego, playdough and writing shopping lists can also help develop the strength and control needed for neat handwriting.

Every child benefits when home and school work together. Small, consistent actions every day make the biggest difference.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Kidwai and Mr. Taylor