

Welcome to Year 4



September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Year 4 team hope you had a lovely summer holiday. We have enjoyed welcoming your children back into school and we hope that they have enjoyed their first week back into the new school year. The children have returned with enthusiasm and it has been wonderful to see children settling in so quickly, meeting their new teachers and becoming familiar with routines. Communication between our school and parents is absolutely essential for our partnership, so please remember to let us know as soon as possible if you have any concerns. This week, we have introduced our new topic and we have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned that will excite and engage the children. As you know, all the Year 4 classes are named after significant scientists (Marie **Curie**, Alexander **Fleming** and Stephen **Hawking**) and we look forward to learning more about these inspirational people throughout the year.

This year, we will be conducting our “Meet the Teacher” event via Google Meets. This will be on **Wednesday 22nd September 2021 at 3.45pm**. A link will be posted on the stream on Google Classroom allowing you access to the meeting. If your child does not have their Google Classroom login please email the school office: adminoffice@st-michaels-jun.hants.sch.uk to request it; we are also able to reset any forgotten passwords. There will be an informative presentation from the year group team and the opportunity to ask any questions. The meeting will also be recorded and made available on Google Classroom, if you cannot make it. This meeting will provide you with more information about the year ahead. Some of this information may change as the year progresses but we will endeavour to update you as soon as we can if this is the case.

We are also planning to hold virtual parents’ meetings in October, which will take the place of the usual in school parents’ evenings for safety and social distancing purposes. Further information will be provided nearer the time.

Important Dates

Meet the Teacher (via Google Meets) – on **Wednesday 22nd September 2021 at 3.45 – 4.15 pm**.

Ufton Court Information Evening – on **Monday 20th September 2021 3.30pm** Further information confirming this date and time will be sent separately.

PE Kits

Children should have a t-shirt in their house colour, black shorts and trainers/plimsolls please. Coloured T-shirts with the school logo can be purchased from our uniform supplier Link Up. In colder weather the children will often benefit from wearing a tracksuit. It is useful if the children have a spare pair of socks in their PE bag (especially for girls who wear tights). Please note that only stud earrings should be worn and these **MUST** be taped up for PE. Please provide your child with tape if this applies. All PE kit **must** be clearly labelled. Children should bring their PE kit in on a Monday and take it home on a Friday.

Year 4 PE days will be **Monday** and **Friday**.

Snacks

Please remember that we have children in school who are severely allergic to nuts and nut products. Therefore any snacks provided must not contain these products. Snacks should be healthy in accordance with our healthy schools initiative such as fruit or vegetable sticks. All snacks for morning break should be kept in their lunchbox or a small named container.

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school every day. **Water only please.**

Punctuality and Attendance

It is extremely important that your child arrives at school on time and ready to learn. Doors open at 8:35am, the school day begins at 8:45am and all pupils are expected to be in school at this time. Morning registration is at 8:50 am and closes at 9:00am.

Homework

Homework will begin on the 7th October and will be sent home each **Thursday** with the expectation that it will be returned by the following **Wednesday**. This is the same for all year groups. Homework will be provided on Google Classroom each Thursday. Please contact your child's teacher if your child needs a paper copy.

In Year 4, weekly homework will consist of reading, spelling and times tables or arithmetic to enrich our learning in class. Please support your child to complete this to the best of their ability. If they need further guidance from school, then they just need to ask their class teacher. It is helpful if this is done before homework is due in please.

Reading

In everything we do we foster the love of reading and this can carry on at home; encourage your children to read anything – books, newspapers, magazines, recipes (maths as well!) or even the back of the cereal packet! They can read aloud or quietly on their own and children of all ages always enjoy being read to. Whilst we know family life is busy, research and our own experiences show that it really does make a difference to children's learning and achievements.

Your child should be aiming to read for at least 20 minutes, four times a week. **Reading should start immediately** – your child should not wait until homework is handed out in October. Many children will of course be reading for longer than this due to the nature of the text that they are reading. It would be appreciated if you would support your child in keeping their Reading Record up to date. Children and/or parents should write a comment about the book they are reading or how they have read, including the discussions you may have had regarding the text content.

Every child has been given E-Library access and we encourage as many children as possible to use this service, which offers a range of e-books and audio books. Teachers can provide recommendations from our School Library Service. We can provide more information in our parents' meetings.

Spellings

Spellings will be set weekly and children should practise their spellings every evening. Children will be tested on a **Wednesday** and the children's work will be monitored to ensure they are applying their new spelling knowledge. It is not just about the children spelling their words correctly in a test.

Times Tables/Arithmetic

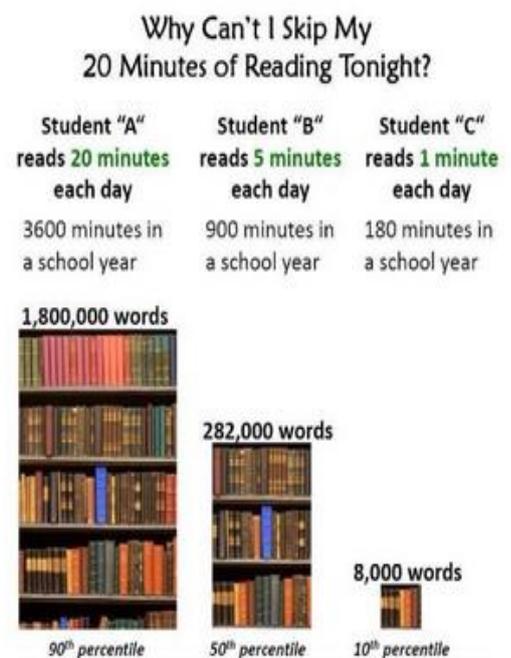
Children should continue to practise their Maths at home. We use TTRockstars as an online resource to support children to learn their times tables. The children's scores from TTRockstars will also be checked on a **Wednesday**. When we look online at scores, we are looking at the improvement for each child. The aim of this learning is to not only increase children's knowledge but also their speed and fluency at recalling related number facts. Children who have graduated from TTRockstars will continue to be given arithmetic homework alongside their times tables practice.

Topic related project

This homework will be given termly and will relate to the topic that the children are studying within their year group. As it is project based, the children will be able to select their own method of presentation. The projects will need to be submitted on a set date which will be detailed on the homework.

Uniform

It is important that your child is dressed in the correct school uniform please. We are aware of a supply issue currently so please don't worry if you have to mix and match initially. High expectations are important for our school community. The children need to wear their uniform with pride. Please help us to ensure that this is the case. Uniform consists of:



Boys' Uniform

- Wine coloured crew neck sweatshirt with school logo
- White polo shirt with or without school logo
- Maroon fleece badged with school logo
- Grey or Black Trousers
- Grey or Black Shorts
- Grey or white socks
- Sensible black school shoes (no trainers)

Girls' Uniform

- Wine coloured crew neck sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- White polo shirt with or without school logo
- Maroon fleece badged with school logo
- Grey pleated pinafore dress, pleated skirt or trousers
- Red checked dress
- Sensible black school shoes
- Grey or white socks
- Grey tights

Please note that the St. Michael's logo school fleeces can be worn in place of the school sweatshirt or cardigan.

All belongings, including all items of school uniform, **MUST** be clearly labelled to aid their return should they be lost. If your child mislays an item, please contact your child's teacher.

Hair

Long hair should be tied back during the school day. Please use plain headbands, clips or bobbles that complement the school uniform.

Jewellery

The only jewellery the school permits a child to wear is a plain small wrist watch and/or plain small studs for earrings. Pupils with earrings must remove them for PE or tape them as noted above. Other items are not permissible in school.

Head Dress

The school recognises that some faiths require headdress to be worn and this is respected.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

The Year 4 Team

Ms Gregory, Mrs Davies, Miss Bourne, Miss Streek, Mrs Jones, Miss Campbell, Miss Partridge, Mrs Smith