



Welcome to Woodpeckers!

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to Year 4! The children have been absolutely brilliant on their return to school, we have been so impressed with their mature attitudes and their desire to get back to learning! You will find an overview of this half term's learning on the school website.

Hopefully you will already be becoming familiar with the adults in our class but to confirm, Mrs Scammell is the full time class teacher and Miss Pollard is with us every morning.

A few housekeeping bits and bobs: the children must have their own drinks bottles to keep in school which they can access throughout the day. It is advisable that the children bring a healthy snack for break time as the morning can seem quite long! Our lunchtime is 12:00pm by which time there have been some very rumbling tummies!

As a school, we are now firmly settled into Curious City enquiries where we enjoy 'being' different types of learner. We will begin the Autumn Term with the enquiry 'What is Sound?' This has a fantastic Scientist focus, where we find out how sounds are created and how we hear them. There are also lots of fantastic musical opportunities to enjoy. The final challenge of this enquiry is to demonstrate to younger children how sounds are made.

Our PE days mean that children come to school wearing the correct PE kit. To begin with, we will have PE on a Monday and Thursday starting from next week. There has been information already sent to you about the new PE kit.

This year we will be having a big push on times tables as the children are due to take their statutory tables check at the end of Year 4. The curriculum expectation is that they know **all** of their times tables by the end of Year 4! We will be continuing to use Times Tables Rockstars to help us with this as the children were in Year 3. Please encourage your child to practise at home as often as possible. They will find that they will creep up the league table and unlock different rewards! **This is our homework for Year 4 so we expect children to be using it each week.**

Reading in Year 4 will be similar to Year 3. Children will continue to have a home reading book which they can share with you as often as possible, we ask for three times a week as an absolute minimum. In class we may use these books for independent reading time but not for sharing with an adult unless children are not yet fluent readers. The children can complete their Accelerated Reader quizzes whenever they are ready. As teachers, we are able to monitor what they have read and their progress using Accelerated Reader. We will also be teaching reading in whole class sessions. Three times a week, we will work as a class working on the key skills of vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising, (we will call this VIPERS).

Please let us know if there are any questions, we are very much looking forward to working with your wonderful children. We are more than happy to answer queries at pick up time.

Mrs Scammell

