

Year 4 Induction



Friday 18th September 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

The children have been very busy in their class groups, getting to know each other and new systems in the school. We have slowly introduced the children to a variety of subjects in their classes and shortly they will start a more full timetable. They are growing in independence and confidence. If you have any daily messages, these can be emailed to your class teacher at 4N@northmead.surrey.sch.uk, 4M@northmead.surrey.sch.uk or 4LP@northmead.surrey.sch.uk

Staffing

Mrs Mclean – Year Leader and Mrs Polden (Monday) 4M, Miss Lewis and Mrs Pilson 4LP, Miss Newman 4N

Behaviour

Northmead is a well-disciplined school and the children are taught to be polite, cheerful and respectful. We praise and reward good attitude and behaviour.

We have discussed this year's newest version of our school rules; Be **ready**, be **respectful** and be **safe**.

We have a very clear behaviour policy which is explained to and understood by all children.

Parents will be notified if their child has been removed from class or if their child is continually causing disruption in lessons.

Marble Treat

In year 4 we run a marble treat system. Each class receives a marble in recognition of excellent team work or behaviour. When they have earned 30 marbles, the class is rewarded with a treat which they have voted for.

Maths

We are continuing to develop our maths teaching inspired by the Singapore and Shanghai approaches. In our lessons, children are encouraged to physically represent mathematical concepts. Objects and pictures are used to demonstrate and visualise abstract ideas, alongside numbers and symbols. Mathematical concepts are explored in a variety of representations and problem-solving contexts to give pupils a richer and deeper learning experience.

Times Tables

At Northmead we have a scheme to encourage children to learn their multiplication tables. It is important children can quickly and accurately recall their multiplication tables. Our scheme consists of weekly tests. Children will have 48 questions to complete in 4 minutes. Once they passed three times, they will move on to the next level. Pupils will be awarded certificates as they pass each tables test. Once children are ready, they will be entered into the star test. If these tests are passed, a star badge can be purchased from the school office at the cost of £1.

These tests, along with TTRockstars practice, will help prepare the children for the times tables test conducted at the end of the year, when all year 4 children are expected to know all of their tables up to 12x12.

 Purple star award x2 x5 x10	 Bronze star award x2 x5 x10 x3 x4
 Silver star award x2 x5 x10 x3 x4 x6 x8 x9	 Gold star award All tables up to 12 x12
 Platinum star award Fractions / Decimals / Percentages	

English



Reading sessions allow your child to improve both their reading accuracy and their comprehension. Children read daily and the teacher will also read aloud to the class every day.

Once initial assessments have been undertaken, children will take part in a daily spelling lesson using a scheme called 'The Oxford Read Write Inc'.

In English this year, each term includes a fiction and non-fiction unit of work, which is built around a model text. In fiction, we use a specific extract from a book, and the children focus on extending their vocabulary and learning to write using the language and structure of the text as the guide. In non-fiction, we use a Pie Corbett approach to writing, where the children imitate the language they need for a particular topic before reading and analysing it and then writing their own version.

Accelerated Reader

In Year 4 we will continue to use the Accelerated reader reading scheme. Accelerated Reader is a system used to promote children's reading skills and enjoyment. Children are assessed to determine their reading ability and can then choose from a range of recommended titles at their reading level. The children will be told which 'colour' band they are reading.

Children can choose a book of their colour, from their classroom, that they will then have the opportunity to change regularly. They will then bring these books home and keep them at home until they have finished reading them. Once they have finished a book, they complete an online quiz in school to check that they have read and understood it. For every quiz successfully passed the children will receive a raffle ticket. This ticket is entered into the draw to win prizes at the end of the term. All books will be quarantined before being given to other children.

Presentation

At Northmead, we expect all children to take pride in their work. They must write in legible, joined handwriting during every lesson. Children are expected to neatly underline the date and learning intention with a ruler.

Topics

Autumn Term: Ancient Egyptians

Spring Term: What the Romans did for us

Summer Term: Rivers

Trips and Visitors

Please note that while we hope that these events/visitors can go ahead later in the year, there is no guarantee.

Roman Day – A visit from a 'real Roman soldier' to learn about what life was like back in Roman times.

Holmbury St Mary – A one-night residential trip. We explore nature and take part in lots of group games and activities whilst studying Rivers in the Summer term.

Homework in Year 4

We successfully used Google Classroom as a home learning platform last year and are keen to use this to provide homework this year. **We will start expecting homework to be submitted by w/b 21st September 2020** and hope you can use September as an opportunity to try out the systems.

Your children's login details are the same as they were previously. New class codes have been sent out.

English and maths homework will be sent home on alternate weeks. All homework will be posted on a Thursday and expected to be completed by the following Tuesday.

Please be aware you must login with the child's Northmead account for safeguarding purposes.

Reading

Your child needs to read 3 times a week to an adult for 10 -15 minutes, this should include some discussion and questioning time. We will expect to see evidence of these reads submitted on Google Classroom each week on a Monday. To complement the physical books, which will be limited due to quarantining, you are very welcome to read home books and have access to a wide library of books using Oxford Owl. The login details are as follows:

Username and Password: Northmead4N

Northmead4M Northmead4LP



Spellings

Each week, **on a Friday**, a new spelling sheet will be uploaded to Google Classroom. Children will need to practice these spellings and "turn in" evidence of their practice the following Friday.

Maths

Your child is expected to learn their multiplication tables. On Google Classroom, you will have access to a range of 'home' sheets for your child to work through each day. **Please submit the assignment when your child has completed their daily practices for the week.** Children are tested weekly on the table they are currently working on and the score will be shared weekly on Google

Classroom. The test consists of 48 questions and they have 4 minutes to complete. If they pass 3 times, then they move on to the next table. We encourage using lots of online games and apps including 'Hit The Button' and 'Timestable Rock Stars'. Please comment on the Google Classroom assignment if your child's TTRS does not match their current table and we will update it for you.



Topic Homework

Each half term we will provide an open ended project based on an area of the curriculum that we are learning about. The first project will be set after the October half term break.

These projects will be shared as pictures/powerpoints/presentations online on Google Classroom when they are due.

Physical Education

PE lessons take place on a **Wednesday** afternoon and currently children are asked to wear their PE kit into school on a Wednesday. Children are not allowed to wear earrings during PE so please make sure your child is able to take these out on their own.

Music

As we are not allowed to sing or play wind instruments at school currently we are adapting the music curriculum to focus on percussion, rhythm and listening and appraising at the beginning of the year. To compliment this we can give you free access to a fantastic programme called Charanga where we have loaded several signing courses and lessons to learn keyboard, guitar, fiddle or recorder. Please see login instructions sent home with your child.. We hope you enjoy!

Keep in contact

If you wish to contact your child's teacher, please email the relevant teacher:

Miss Newman - 4N@northmead.surrey.sch.uk

Mrs McLean - 4M@northmead.surrey.sch.uk

Miss Lewis/Mrs Pilson - 4LP@northmead.surrey.sch.uk

If we need to contact you, we will phone, email or talk to you after school.

Ordinarily we would normally hold a brief induction meeting but currently this is not possible. Please do ask any questions you have at the end of the school day or email us as we understand it is lots of information to digest.