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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the first Year 4 Newsletter of the year! I hope that everyone has had an enjoyable summer holiday despite the strange circumstances, and that you are all ready for the school year ahead! Let's hope that it is a little more settled than the last one.

We have lots of exciting topics this half term, which I am sure your child will enjoy! You will find an outline for this half term's topic overleaf for you to read through.

You will find a copy of the Year 4 sample weekly timetable on the school website so that you can easily see when your children need to bring in particular items such as P.E kit. Please ensure that all stationery is clearly labelled with your child's name. A list of stationery requirements for Year 4 can be found in the school newsletter. Please keep to one pencil case to save space on the children's desks. Small pencil sharpeners that fit inside the pencil case are much easier too!

This term, your child will be trialling a more structured daily spelling procedure which will focus on repetition of patterns and word families. The spellings will be introduced to the children on Mondays and associated spelling work will be carried out every day. There will then be a test of those words on Fridays. The list of spellings for the first half of the Autumn term can be found on the Year 4 section of the website. A similar approach will take place for the multiplication tables, learning a specific times table over the week and having a test on Thursdays. This is to prepare the children for the Year 4 Multiplication Check which is a statutory government test taking place in July. It would also be beneficial to hear your child read and also for you to read to your child in small amounts as often as possible, but at least three times a week. Guidance on how to help your child read and write can be found on the school's website. We will be trialling an online homework system similar to Seesaw but this will not start straight away. This homework will usually be relevant to the work that the children have covered during the week. If you find that your child spends over 45 minutes on each piece of homework, then please write a little note on the bottom of it so that I am aware, particularly if the work was difficult or incomplete. I shall inform you more fully when the system is ready to use.

Year 4 P.E will consist of two sessions per week on Mondays and Thursdays, which will take place outside, weather permitting. Mrs Ellis, a P.E specialist will be taking the children's P.E lesson on Mondays with me present, and I shall be taking the Thursday P.E lessons. As explained in the school newsletter, the children will need to arrive at school wearing their PE kit, and will wear it for the day. Usually, from Year 4 onwards, the children change in separate boys' and girls' changing rooms, but this is not possible at present. If your child forgets to arrive in their P.E kit, they are not currently able to borrow a kit, but we will try and telephone you to see if trainers can be dropped off. In this situation, the child will remain in their school uniform. Please provide a note if your child is unable to take part in P.E.

Thank you for your time and co-operation. Further information about this will be provided in my Year 4 'Parent Induction Meeting' presentation, which will be available to you online.

Yours sincerely,
Miss L. Butcher



