

# Year 4 Overview 2020-21 – notes for parents/carers

Below are some of the key points covered in the Year 4:

- Staff**
- **Orion Class:** Mrs Downes (Class Teacher Mon-Wed) and Ms Vasquez (Class Teacher Wed-Fri); Mrs Gupta (Teaching Assistant)
  - **Pegasus Class:** Miss Eggitt (Class Teacher); Mrs Batten (Teaching Assistant).
- Timetable**
- Monday** – Pegasus PE Outdoor
- Tuesday** – Orion PE Outdoor  
Homework due in (On J2e)
- Wednesday** – Pegasus Outdoor PE
- Thursday** -Orion Outdoor PE  
Homework Set (on J2e)
- Reading**
- Please ensure that your child reads for 15 minutes at home every day and writes this in their home/school book. It is important that children read aloud to an adult some of the time and discuss what they have been reading.
  - Please sign the home/school book every weekend to indicate that the reading has been done every day.
  - Home/school books will be checked and signed by the teacher on a Monday.
  - Please remind children to bring any notes written in the home/school book to the teacher’s attention or use the class email.
- Spelling**
- Spelling patterns will be taught and revised during the week and may sometimes be part of the English Homework.
  - Children also need to be able to spell all of the words on the Y1/2 spelling list and we will continue to work on the spellings on the Y3/4 list.
  - Please continue to support your children in the learning of the spelling lists in the ‘Home Learning Resources’ folder on J2e.
- Writing**
- The children are expected to write in joined, legible handwriting in pencil. Throughout the year we will be building on their previous work and covering the Year 4 curriculum.
  - Pupils will be taught how to write in different genres for a range of audiences and purpose.

### St Dunstan's Handwriting

a b c d e  
f g h i j k  
l m n o p  
q r s t u  
v w x y z  
A B C D E F G  
H I J K L M N  
O P Q R S T U  
V W X Y Z

### My Writing Checklist

1. CL FS, ! ? ""
2. Paragraphs (topic sentence and supporting details)
3. Pronouns and nouns, e.g. he, she, we, Sally
4. Range of adverbs: then, next, soon, therefore
5. Conjunctions, prepositions and adverbs, e.g. when, after, so, because, soon, next, because of, during, in, before, while
6. Expanded noun phrases (e.g. 'the teacher' expanded to 'the strict teacher with curly hair')
7. Fronted adverbials with a comma
8. Apostrophes for possession and plural nouns, e.g. the boy's coat/ the boys' coats
9. Joined handwriting and correct spellings

### Times tables

- All children should be able to recall multiplication and division facts up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. Please keep practising these with your child.
- Times Table Rock Stars is available for your child to use. They should use their existing login details from last year. (New pupils to the year group will receive a new login.)

### National Multiplication Tables Check

- From the 2019/20 academic year, the multiplication tables check (MTC) was statutory for all year 4 pupils however, due to COVID-19, this test did not take place in the last academic year. We are waiting guidance regarding whether this will go ahead this year. If so, it consists of pupils recalling their times tables knowledge up to 12 x and it is tested using on an online platform. More details will follow once we have confirmation. We would like to remind parents that being able to recall times tables facts up to the 12 x tables is a year 4 National Curriculum objective, independent of any test, so please support your child in achieving this.

### Maths lessons

- Maths lessons are based on the White Rose Scheme, which supports the National Curriculum.
- Maths tasks are split into three sections – fluency, reasoning and problem solving.
- Fluency tasks contain basic methods of calculation.
- Reasoning tasks are given to enable the children to explain their calculations and methods that they have used.
- Problem Solving tasks are given to enable the children to apply their learning.
- Mastery tasks are also used to give the children the opportunity to develop an understanding of a concept in greater depth.
- The maths topics covered are: place value; addition, subtraction, length and perimeter; multiplication and division; area; fractions; decimals; money; time; statistics; properties of shape; position and direction.

## Homework

- English and maths homework will be **set on J2e** every **Thursday** and must be completed by the following **Tuesday**. Children should spend around 20 minutes on each activity.
- They need to save their work into their 'My Files' area where the class teacher will be able to access it and comment.
- Topic homework suggestions will be uploaded to J2e each half term. Children are expected to complete and save on J2e **three** topic homework activities by the end of the half term (before the half-term break). If pupils would like to complete a topic-related activity that is not on the suggested list, they are very welcome to do so and this will count as one of their pieces of topic homework.

## Resources to support learning

- Pupils have access to the London Grid for Learning (LGfL) **www.lgfl.net**, which has links to many useful resources. Their log in will be in their home/school book. Resources we would recommend are:  
Maths at Home (videos to explain maths concepts)  
Grammar Explained  
Busy Things  
BBC Bitesize  
J2e
- Pupils also have access to **Mathletics** and **Times Table Rock Stars** for which they have individual logins (see yellow home/school book). Links to these sites can be found on the pupils' J2e Launch Page, in the KS2 Home Learning Resources Folder.

## Topics

- We will have a different topic focus each half term, around which much of the children's learning will be based:

Autumn 1	I am Warrior!
Autumn 2	Winding Rivers
Spring 1	Burps, Bottoms and Bile
Spring 2	Traders and Raiders
Summer 1	Road Trip USA
Summer 2	Blue Abyss

## Trips/events

- In previous years, Year 4 trips and events have included visiting the Science Museum and Sea Life Centre, swimming lessons, Roman Day and Viking Day. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, we are currently unable to give any details regarding when, or indeed if, these events will go ahead.

## Behaviour

- We will continue to use the Behaviour and Learning Ladders along with the Christian Values Tree to promote and celebrate positive learning attitudes and behaviours.
- If your child's behaviour is causing us any concern, we will contact you.

## General

- If your child's end-of-day arrangements change, please inform the class teacher in advance.
- Please ensure that full PE kits are in school every day.
- Children need to remove any jewellery and watches/fitbits etc before PE lessons. If, for any reason, they are unable to remove earrings, they must bring their own tape to cover them with.

## Communication

- You are able to contact your child's class teacher via the class email address:  
Orion Class: [orion@stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk](mailto:orion@stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk)  
Pegasus Class: [pegasus@stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk](mailto:pegasus@stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk)  
If your message is **urgent**, please phone the school office.
- If your child brings a note in their home/school book, please remind them to bring it to their teacher's attention.

**Many thanks in advance for your support.**

**By working together, we hope that your child will have a happy and successful journey through Year 4.**