



Welcome to Year 4

at *South End
Junior School*

Class of
2024

Inspiring the Learning Journey

Telephone: 01933 314611

Check out our website: www.southendjunior.com



@SouthEndJrSch



A welcome for
parents and carers of
Y4 pupils

Welcome to Year 4

Welcome back to SEJ and happy new school-year!

We are excited to be meeting and greeting your children in Year 4 this September for what we *really* hope will be an uninterrupted year after the disruption over their past two academic years. We appreciate that there may be some anxious pupils (and staff members!) as they move into a new year group, so please be reassured that nurture and building positive relationships are at the top of our to-do list!

Our aim is to provide routine and stability from the outset in order to provide the foundations needed for children to overcome any barriers that may have arisen for them, and will continue to build on the progress that the children made throughout last year. Growth mindset principles will be re-launched so that the children can further develop their resilience and perseverance. We want every child to truly believe that they can do anything they put their mind to. In addition, we will also be recapping our values regularly so that children continue to develop their character and become role models for our new Year 3 children. Importantly, we will continue to have high expectations at all times as we know that behaviour and attitude plays a fundamental role in making progress.

The Year 4 team are committed to making learning exciting and enjoyable so that learning sticks. Through our creative 'Cornerstones' curriculum, much of the learning is planned and taught in an interwoven way so that the children become more 'hooked' into the learning from the start through making meaningful connections. In response to the school closures, we have needed to further adapt our intended curriculum, but we will still be teaching a broad and balanced curriculum through our five projects. You can find our intended curriculum overview for this year on the last page.

We cannot express how important the home-school relationship is, and would like to emphasise the fact that you are always welcome to contact us if you have questions or concerns regarding your child or their learning. It is important that the children see a united front between us, as staff, and you - their family. Your first port of call is your child's class teacher. You can arrange to speak to the teacher via the school office or by using the relevant email address below. If after talking with them you feel you need to address any matters further, please contact Mrs Gibbs.

Mrs Gibbs (Assistant Head Teacher)	lgibbs@southend-jun.northants.sch.uk
Miss Wong (Lewis class)	swong@southend-jun.northants.sch.uk
Mrs Moody (Rowling class)	hmoody@southend-jun.northants.sch.uk
Miss Hendrickson (Dahl class)	lhendrickson@southend-jun.northants.sch.uk

We look forward to getting to know you and your children and celebrating their successes!

Meet the Year 4 team



Miss Wong
Lewis teacher



Mrs Moody
Rowling teacher



Miss Hendrickson
Dahl teacher



Mrs Taylor
English teacher



Mrs Bird
Teaching assistant &
French teacher



Mrs Warr
Teaching assistant



Miss Scott
Teaching assistant



Mrs Davidson
Associate teacher



Mrs Twell
Associate teacher



Mrs Webb
Music teacher



Mrs Bazes
Teaching assistant

PE

Pupils have two timetabled PE lessons per week and will also engage in 'Daily Mile' sessions. Pupils must bring a clean, full PE kit to school every Monday and will be instructed to take it home for washing every Friday. We will do PE outside as much as possible and in most weathers, so please ensure your child has joggers and a sweatshirt/ hoodie in their PE bag alongside their shorts, t-shirt and trainers.

Jewellery

For reasons of safety, only stud earrings and watches may be worn at school by pupils. In PE lessons, all jewellery must be removed by the pupil.

Year 4 Curriculum Overview

In response to the period of school closure, we have adapted our planned curriculum with the aim to provide time to tackle any gaps in core skills but still deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that is compliant with the National Curriculum. Every day, pupils will have an English and a maths lesson that will be planned to cater for their exact needs at that moment in time plus supplementary short-burst sessions to further cater for reading, spelling, handwriting and times tables. In addition, all pupils will take part in science, PE, PSHE, computing, geography, history, RE, art, DT, music and French lessons. Where possible and beneficial, these subjects are taught through 'projects' to show connections and give purpose to the learning. Below are our planned curriculum projects for this academic year (subject to change in response to pupils' needs). We will send you a more detailed overview, including a knowledge organiser, as each project begins so that you are aware of what we are teaching and how you can support your child's learning.

Project 1: Potions	Potion: a poison, a mixture, an aromatic brew, a vapour, a liquid or sticky goo. Welcome to the magical world of potions and their properties.
Project 2: Burps, Bottoms & Bile	Open wide – let's take a look inside. We're on a voyage of discovery to investigate the busy world inside your body.
Project 3: Ancient Civilisations	Hold on tight as we travel back in time to three different ancient civilisations: ancient Sumer, ancient Egypt and the Indus Valley.
Project 4: Misty Mountain, Winding River	Discover the soaring heights of mountain peaks and then cool down as we meander through rivers taking in the changing landscapes as we go.
Project 5: Blue Abyss	Grab your wetsuit. We're going deep into an underwater world of incredible coral and mysterious sea creatures.

Home learning

Home learning will be set every week for Year 4 pupils and those who participate will not only be rewarded through House Points and Merits, but will reap the benefits of regular practice and revision of skills that are needed across curriculum areas and in many walks of life:

- **Reading:** Your child should read on a daily basis for at least 20 minutes and record this in their reading record. Parents are asked to sign the reading record on a Sunday to confirm the reading home learning that has taken place that week.
- **Times tables:** For optimum progress, pupils should play on TT Rockstars for at least 3 minutes every day. This can be accessed at <https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>. There is also a downloadable app for mobile devices. All pupils have a log on to TT Rockstars.
- **Spelling:** A set of spelling words will be sent home every week in your child's home learning spelling book so that they can practise them. This will normally be on a **Thursday**. They will also be able to practise these online using the Spelling Shed website (<https://play.edshed.com/en-gb/login>) and the log on details provided to them. These spellings will be tested a week after they are given out.