

Heron Hill Primary School

Year 4 Information

September 2023

Welcome to Year 4!



Meet the Year 4 Staff

			
Mrs Dodd-Hemingway Thornthwaite Class Teacher	Mrs Emma Patrick Thornthwaite Class Teacher	Miss Rebecca Watson Blencathra Class Teacher	Harley Year 4 Support Worker
			
Miss Hannah Pinder Teaching Assistant	Mrs Megan Taylor Teaching Assistant	Mrs Rachel Waters Teaching Assistant	Mr Dave Buxton Teaching Assistant

Welcome!

Welcome to Year 4! Our team are very much looking forward to getting to know your child in September and are already enthusiastically preparing exciting learning opportunities for them to ensure a thoroughly enjoyable year ahead.

This booklet will provide you and your child with information about their new class so they feel prepared and relaxed about the year ahead. They have already had a transition morning with next year group teachers and have some ideas about the many fun experiences they can expect to encounter over the coming year. We will start the year very gently, settling the children in, focusing on their well-being and establishing routines so that they are happy and relaxed in their new classes.

Morning Routine

Children should arrive in the playground 8.45 am at the earliest! Staff will appear and children need to line up in classes at the end of the playground where they will be met by their teacher. Parents/carers, please stand back and allow children to be independent. Say goodbye and watch them line up from a distance. Please make sure that any payments (visits, donations etc) which you send in with your child or deposit in the secure box in the entrance hall, are in a labelled envelope.

At the End of the Day

The school day ends at 3.15 pm. Children will leave their classrooms, collect belongings and meet parents/carers on the yard. Please do not come into cloakrooms - they are already very congested. Please talk at home with your child about being tidy and hanging up coats on their peg.

Uniform and Uniform Swap

Please label everything with your child's name. A full description of the school uniform is on the school website. Sweatshirts and cardigans purchased through the school cost from £8.00 but we are running down stock and moving to an online purchasing system. Please visit the school website and the link to Coniston can be found on the 'Uniform' page. Book bags are £4.50, PE bags are £4.00 and can be purchased from the school office throughout the year.

In order to promote recycling and re-using uniform, *Friends of Heron Hill* run a uniform swap on a termly basis. Items are **free** but if you wish, you may choose to make a small donation (which goes towards funding school visits and special events for children across the school). This is a very popular way to keep uniform costs down; watch out for information via Parentmail. You can also request items by emailing admin@heronhill.cumbria.sch.uk or through a link on the school website. If we have uniform items in stock, we will be delighted to pass them on. If you have uniform items which are in good condition but too small for your child, please donate them to the uniform swap.

Equipment and Pencil Cases

We ask that every child has a book bag to protect their library books and homework from the Cumbrian weather. All of the children will be supplied with a pencil case containing all the equipment that they need, including a pen, pencil, a ruler and highlighters to use in class, which will stay in school. You do not need to provide felt tips, colour crayons or other highlighters as these are available in school.

Mobile phones, smart watches and Fitbits must **NOT** be brought into school. If accidentally brought into school, they should be handed into the office immediately and collected at the end of the day. Children are encouraged to wear a simple, inexpensive watch.

Earrings

These should be removed for school in line with school and Cumbria County Council policy. Children who are unable to take earrings out will be unable to swim or take part in PE; please help us to avoid this situation occurring by remembering to remove earrings on the morning of PE days or send a box/container for children to put their earrings into.

Indoor and Outdoor PE Lessons

	Year 4	PE Kit needed:
Outdoor PE lesson	Monday afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plain white t-shirt• Black shorts• Socks
Indoor PE lesson	Wednesday afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plain black or dark blue sweatshirt, fleece or jumper• Plain black or dark blue tracksuit bottoms• Suitable sport trainers

- Indoor and outdoor kit required; children should wear their kit to school on their PE days. For personal hygiene reasons, school sweatshirts and polo shirts, lycra shorts, tight fitting shorts and tights cannot to be worn for PE. No skorts and no designer labels or logos on kit, please.
- For safety, hair must be tied up – no headbands for PE.
- Trainers are not acceptable footwear for school other than for PE. Black school shoes, please.
- Plain black, white or grey socks.
- **Everything has to be named please.**

Year 4 Swimming Lessons

The Year 4 children will have swimming lessons in the spring term. All children will need a towel and swimming costume/trunks. Girls should wear a one piece suit; boys should wear swimming trunks, not long, loose shorts. Long hair must be fastened securely; it is better if a cap is worn. If your child has to wear goggles then a permission slip must be completed, signed by yourself and returned to school before the first session. All equipment must be named and carried in a waterproof bag/carrier. See the consent letter for further details.

Snack, Water, Lunches, Milk

Children in Year 4 do not get free fruit so your child may like a snack at break time. Please can you talk to your child about the importance of bringing in a healthy snack. This should be fresh fruit, vegetables or cheese. These should be taken into class at the beginning of the day so that children are not tempted to raid lunchboxes at break time.

Please provide your child with a clearly named water bottle. Research supports the need for water to refresh the brain. No juice please.

School meals should be ordered online by 9.30 am on the day and can be booked up to 2 weeks in advance. Our school kitchen prepares hot meals on site, providing 3 meal choices each day, including a vegetarian option. Meals cost £3.00 per day, but see information about the Pupil Premium Grant below. Please remember to cancel your child's school meal by 9.30 am if they are unwell or you will be charged for the meal. Contact the school office if you have lost or forgotten your log-in details.

Please put a cool pack inside the lunchbox during warm weather and clearly label the lunchbox with your child's name.

School milk is available at a cost of approximately £18 per term. Coolmilk supplies the milk; to order your child's milk contact www.coolmilk.com

Pupil Premium Grant

You may be eligible for Pupil Premium Grant due to your level of income or through other circumstances. We distribute a leaflet every year with more details, please ask at the school office if you have not seen one, it is also on the school website. It is worth applying for Pupil Premium; if granted you receive many benefits including free school meals, uniform vouchers and fully funded visits and some clubs. Please contact the office if you would like more information, or apply via https://ems.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

Communication

Please let us know of any concerns or successes that happen by contacting school. Children are sometimes asked to relay messages and they do not always get them right. If you are unsure please ask.

Please inform the school, by telephone or e-mail before 9.30 am, if your child is unwell and will be absent. If you take your child out of school for medical or dental appointments, please provide evidence (show the office staff the text or letter), if available. Give at least 4 weeks' notice, if possible, if you are taking your child out of school for a holiday; work will be provided for your child to complete during their absence.

Meeting with Staff

If you want to speak to a member of staff, please telephone or email the office.

Parent Consultation Evenings

You will be notified soon about the arrangements we will put in place in order to discuss your child's termly report.

Reading

In school, your child will participate in class reading activities and enjoy listening to the class story. They will also choose individual reading books, guided by their ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development) level, to read independently and share with parents/carers. This level will be generated by the 'Star Reader' tests in school at intervals during the year. Once they have read a book, they will then complete an online quiz in school for each book as part of our Accelerated Reader programme. Whatever the ability of your child, shared reading continues to be an enjoyable activity, as does hearing a book read to them that is too difficult for them to read independently.

The expectation in Year 4 is that your child will read at home for a minimum of 15 minutes, four times each week, and discuss their book with you.

Sharing a book can be... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hearing your child read aloud• Sharing/alternate reading aloud• Reading to your child and discussing the content• Silent reading	Remember to ask questions about the story/information... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can they predict what will happen next?• How would you feel if...?• Can you change the ending?• Imagine if....?• Do they know what to do when they get stuck?
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Homework

In addition to reading at home, each week your child may be set up to 3 pieces of homework to complete each week. These could be across a variety of platforms including:

- 1) **Mathletics:** The school has subscribed to Mathletics for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. This is a fantastic resource and evidence demonstrates that regular use leads to significant improvements in children's mental agility. All children have been given an individual login and password. Mathletics is fun to use and very informative – topics covered within class are accessible on the site together with help and advice sections. We strongly recommend regular use at home. As the term progresses, focussed Mathletics homework activities will be set each week. We will run Mathletics competitions during the year to encourage pupils to practise and develop their mental and arithmetic skills. Children who do not have access to a PC are welcome to attend lunchtime homework clubs to complete Mathletics homework tasks.

- 2) **Learn Its:** Multiplication tables knowledge and secure number bonds (Learn Its) will be increasingly important to support your child's learning and the latest national expectations are for children to know all their tables to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. We will test these regularly in school. There are many resources on our school website to help children practise their Learn Its.
- 3) **Spelling:** Your child will be asked to learn a section of the statutory spellings for Years 3&4 each half-term, please also see the useful spelling lists at the end of this booklet. You will also find the statutory spelling words on the Year 4 Home-Learning site.
- 4) **Topic homework:** On occasion, children may be asked to complete a topic-based homework. Normally, this happens potentially once a term and children will be given significant time to complete it.

Year 4 Curriculum Overview

Below is a guidance curriculum overview for Year 4 to give you an idea of the topics we will cover throughout the year.

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Science	Plants	Electricity	Animals, inc Humans		Sound	Forces and Magnets
History		Roman Empire	Our locality		Anglo-Saxons and Scots	
Geography	Climates and Rainforests			Coasts (local study)		Comparisons of regions
Art	Drawing		Printing			Collage
DT	Food Technology	Electrical Systems		Mechanisms	Programming	
Music	Pattern and Rhythm		Pitch and Melody		Musical Effects and Moods	
Computing	Online Privacy	Animation	Internet Safety Day Networks and Hardware	Data Handling	Programming and Algorithms	Copyright
Indoor PE	Dance	Yoga	Gymnastics	Gymnastics	Circuits	Large Apparatus
Outdoor PE	Swimming		Striking and fielding	Tag Rugby	Athletics	CIAA
RE	Views about God	Pilgrimage	Exploring Islam	Jesus the Leader	The Spread of Christianity	Exploring Buddhism
German	Numbers, Months of the Year	Dates and Birthdays	Colours Animals	Pets	Weather	

Independence

The children will be encouraged to take much more responsibility for organising themselves and looking after their belongings. We want them to take great pride in everything they do, showing resourcefulness and maturity in their conduct, approach to learning and ability to take responsibility.

The expectation at the start of Year 4 is that pupils will be accompanied to and from school by a responsible adult. Please inform us if your child is not going to be collected by their parent/the usual adult at any point. Also, please discuss with your child's class teacher if you are considering allowing your child to begin to travel to and from school unaccompanied by an adult.

Our hope is that your child will have a happy start to life in Year 4. We are really excited about the year ahead and working in partnership with you to ensure the very best for your child.

Year 3 and 4 Statutory Spellings

accident(ally)	early	knowledge	purpose
actual(ly)	earth	learn	quarter
address	eight/eighth	length	question
answer	enough	library	recent
appear	exercise	material	regular
arrive	experience	medicine	reign
believe	experiment	mention	remember
bicycle	extreme	minute	sentence
breath	famous	natural	separate
breathe	favourite	naughty	special
build	February	notice	straight
busy/business	forward(s)	occasion(ally)	strange
calendar	fruit	often	strength
caught	grammar	opposite	suppose
centre	group	ordinary	surprise
century	guard	particular	therefore
certain	guide	peculiar	though/although
circle	heard	perhaps	thought
complete	heart	popular	through
consider	height	position	various
continue	history	possess(ion)	weight
decide	imagine	possible	woman/women
describe	increase	potatoes	
different	important	pressure	
difficult	interest	probably	
disappear	island	promise	

Useful Words in Year 4

Homophones: words that sound the same but have different spellings

there	Sit over there.	quiet	Our quiet garden is lovely.
their	They have their own books.	quite	The jar is not quite full.
they're	They're (they are) reading.	accept	Please accept my help.
here	The ambulance was here.	except	All except Billy cheered.
hear	Did you hear the siren?	affect	Bad weather doesn't affect me.
see	I'll see you on Friday.	effect	Sweets have a bad effect on teeth.
sea	A weekend by the sea!		
bare	The room was bare.	berry	I ate a berry from the garden.
bear	The bear was cuddly.	bury	A pirate likes to bury treasure.
to	We are going to the park.	break	If you break it, you buy it.
two	We are leaving in two minutes.	brake	Pull the brake gently.
too	It was too much for Charlie.	grown	The kitten is almost fully grown.
be	I will be at Darcy's house.	groan	We all groan at her jokes.
bee	A bee makes a buzzing sound.	mail	The mail is in the letterbox.
blue	Heron Hill has a blue uniform.	male	Boys are male, girls are female.
blew	She blew out the candles.	meet	I would like to meet your cousin.
night	It was a dark and stormy night...	meat	A dinner of meat and vegetables.
knight	The knight saw the dragon.	missed	I missed the last bus home.
new	New uniform leaves blue fluff.	mist	Mist over a lake is beautiful.
knew	Mrs Lehane knew all the names.	piece	I have lost a piece of the puzzle.
for	This present is for you!	peace	We shook hands and made peace.
four	One, two, three, four, five.		
are	These are my friends.	plane	Jaz went to France on a plane.
our	Miss Watson is our teacher.	plain	I like my food plain, not spicy.
		weather	Cumbria's weather is always sunny.
where	Where is the SPAR shop?	whether	I don't know whether to go or not.
wear	Always wear black school shoes.		
one	One, two, three, four...	whose	Whose book is this?
won	Heron Hill won the prize.	who's	Who's (who is) last in the line?

300 High Frequency Words

I	some	too	eat	found	feet	looked
Mr	so	by	our	live	queen	narrator
Mrs	not	day	two	say	each	thought
I'll	then	made	has	soon	book	through
I'm	were	time	yes	night	its	morning
I've	go	if	play	small	green	different
the	little	help	take	car	let	suddenly
and	as	called	dog	three	girl	something
a	no	here	well	head	which	everyone
to	mum	off	find	king	inside	grandad
said	one	asked	more	town	run	animals
in	them	saw	round	around	any	laughed
he	do	make	tree	every	under	couldn't
of	me	an	magic	garden	hat	there's
it	down	water	us	fast	snow	looking
was	dad	away	other	only	air	children
you	big	good	food	many	trees	shouted
they	when	want	fox	let's	bad	gone
on	it's	over	way	much	tea	hard
she	see	how	been	told	top	floppy
is	very	did	stop	another	eyes	really
for	look	man	must	great	fell	please
at	don't	going	red	why	friends	thing
his	come	where	door	cried	box	stopped
but	will	would	right	keep	dark	horse
that	into	or	sea	room	end	rabbit
with	back	took	these	last	than	white
all	from	school	began	jumped	best	coming
we	him	think	boy	because	better	he's
can	get	home	never	even	hot	liked
are	just	who	next	am	sun	giant
up	now	didn't	first	before	ever	looks
had	came	ran	work	gran	miss	use
my	oh	know	lots	clothes	most	along
her	about	bear	need	tell	cold	plants
what	got	can't	that's	key	park	dragon
there	their	again	baby	fun	lived	pulled
out	people	cat	fish	place	birds	we're
this	your	long	gave	mother	duck	fly
have	put	things	mouse	sat	wish	grow
went	could	new	bed	boat	eggs	wind
be	house	after	may	window	once	river
like	old	wanted	still	sleep	across	