

Mandeville Primary School

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September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 4! It has been lovely to welcome your children back to school. They have all come in with a very positive attitude and are already working hard.

Staff

This year the staffing arrangements for Year 4 will be as follows:

Miss Adams	Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
Mrs. Bishop	Thursday and Friday
Mrs. Milne	Every morning

Curriculum

Mathematics

We are continuing our whole school approach to Maths Mastery. We will develop these skills during our daily maths lesson. There is also a Maths arithmetic session daily. In this slot we focus on developing the children's mental arithmetic skills including multiplication (time tables) skills.

English

We have daily guided reading sessions. There is also an English lesson during the morning, where we continue to focus on reading skills as well as writing (including handwriting, spelling, grammar and punctuation). There will also be a daily spelling session.

Science

Science is a core subject in the National Curriculum. This term, the children are learning about 'Sound' and 'Animals, including humans', with an emphasis on scientific enquiry skills.

Foundation subjects

Throughout the week, we cover all the foundation subjects: P.E (physical education), art, music, R.E. (religious education), D.T (design and technology), history, geography, French, computing and P.S.H.E. (personal, social, health education).

Weekly Routines

The day starts at 8.40 and the learning starts as soon as the children come through the door with a morning arithmetic activity. P.E. is on a Monday and a Wednesday. If for some reason your child is unable to take part in P.E lessons, please provide a letter explaining this. Please ensure that named P.E kit with outdoor trainers is in school at all times. This should include school shorts and t-shirt, plain black tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt and please ensure that earrings are either removed or taped. This term we are focussing on athletics, tag rugby and dance. As the term gets colder and tights are worn, please ensure a pair of socks are put in the PE kit.

Snacks and Drinks

The children in Key stage 2 may bring in their own snack to eat during morning break at 10.40. This is recommended as it is a long time from breakfast until lunchtime! The school's policy is that fruit or vegetables should be given as a morning snack but please ensure no nuts are sent into school. This does not include fruit winder type snacks. Children should also bring water in a named bottle that can be taken home for cleaning each evening. The children have access to

their bottles regularly during the day. This water bottle should be in addition to the one used at lunch time if your child brings their own packed lunch.

Homework

Each week the 'Home Learning' sheet with spelling to be learnt and MyMaths to be completed will be put onto Google Classroom. This will be gone though in class. This will go 'live' on a Friday, with the homework needing to be completed by the following Friday. A spelling test will take place on Fridays. All children have their logins stuck into the front of their reading record books. The 'little and often' approach works well for spellings. These need to be practised several times during the week in order for the children to embed them in their memory, rather than just learn them for the test.

Reading

The children are expected to read every day at home and we would recommend that they read out loud with an adult, who can then ask appropriate questions to extend the children's thinking about their reading. Please sign the reading record when you hear your child read. We check, look at, and write in, the children's reading record books during our guided reading session.

Visits/Visitors

We are finalising a trip for this term and further details will follow.

How you can support

Reading with your child and helping with the learning of tables and spellings, along with helping your child to learn to tell the time, is the best help you can give your child. As well as listening to your child read we would suggest choosing a book which you read to your child if you are able, perhaps a book which was your favourite as a child or one which your child will appreciate and enjoy but which may be above their reading level at the current time. Another valuable skill is to ensure that your child is able to tie their shoe laces! Playing games with your child can also be extremely beneficial. These could include simple games such as Snakes and Ladders or Frustration along with card games and more challenging favourites such as Scrabble, Boggle, Pass the Bomb, Monopoly and Traffic Jam. Playing games will support your child's literacy, maths and logical/strategic thinking learning as well as developing their social skills.

And finally...

If you have any questions or concerns, either now or in the future, please don't hesitate to ask us. We look forward to a happy and successful year!

With best wishes
Miss Adams, Mrs Bishop and Mrs. Milne

