

Year 4 Welcome Meeting

10th September 2025



Year 4 Staff

Support Staff:

Miss McDonnell - Class 4M

Miss Smith - Class 4S

Ms Ahktar

Mrs Millard

Ms Zeb



Attendance & Punctuality

Curriculum - every lesson counts. One lesson leads to the next and missed lessons make it harder to learn and understand the full curriculum

Appointments - (other than hospital consultant/ clinic appointments) must be made outside of school hours

Breakfast & bedtimes - including no devices in bedrooms

Attend on time every day!

Children cannot be collected early for parents/family members

Lunches

Packed lunches - NO NUTS! Including any chocolate spread.

Balanced meal - get children involved making lunch so they are more likely to want to eat what is in their lunchbox.

If lunch is not ordered or brought to school, you will be contacted and asked to arrange for a lunch to be brought into school. The child will not be given a school lunch as the meals are ordered in advance.

Water bottles with water, not squash/ juice.



Birthday treats

Birthday treats - not necessary!

From an email sent to parents in January 2024:

If you wish to send something in for your child's birthday, please adhere to the following:

- ***Send in one small chocolate/sweet per child (no more)***
- ***No cakes/drinks/toys etc***
- ***Everything has to be NUT FREE***
- ***A large number of children in the school cannot eat gelatine***

Anything beyond this will not be accepted, not given out and will be returned to you.



Uniform

- School uniform - jumpers/ branded items available from PMG Schoolwear (Eden Centre)
- PLEASE NAME ALL SCHOOL CLOTHES
- Shirts to be tucked in and shoe laces tied
- Coats, even if you travel by car



PE and Games



Wednesday Sports' Coaches and support staff

Thursday class teachers

Sports Clubs - keep an eye out for emails from school

Correct PE kits are essential and can be purchased from Asda/ Primark etc but **MUST** be plain.

PE Kits

Our PE kit is a plain kit consisting of:

- **Plain** royal blue shorts or navy-blue tracksuit bottoms (plain navy-blue leggings may be worn if they are changed from leggings worn as part of the full school uniform);
- **Plain** royal blue crew neck t-shirt;
- **Plain** navy-blue tracksuit top, hoodie or sweatshirt;
- **Plain** white or black trainers.

Please note, the following will **not be acceptable**:

- Branded clothes (e.g. Nike/adidas), except trainers
- Football kits
- Clothes in other colours

Our PE kit does not need to have the school logo on (unless you want it to) and will be widely available from a range of local retailers. In line with DfE policy, we are actively pursuing uniform options at the lowest possible cost to our families.



Curriculum topics



Writing - **defeating the monster**

Maths - **number and place value, addition and subtraction**

Science - **teeth, eating and digestion**

History and Geography - **Rome and the Romans**

Art - **Portraits (Picasso)**

Key priorities for the core subjects:

- **Number and place value, number bonds**
- **Multiplication**
- **Sentence punctuation**
- **Reading (comprehension)**

Keep an eye on website, Instagram and Facebook where photos will be updated regularly.

Trips and experience

- Hands on Science - **Thursday 18th September**
- Pizza making - Autumn 2
- Roman Day - **14th January**
- Church visit - Spring 1
- Saxons artefacts lesson Summer 1
- Iver Environment Centre - **22nd June**

Permission and payment on ParentPay

No more than £30 (less than £1 a week)

Trips/ experiences will be cancelled if insufficient funds are received.

THIS HAPPENED AT LEAST TWICE LAST YEAR!



Annual Challenge - Year 4

The purpose of the annual challenge is to broaden children's experiences in, around and beyond their own address.

- Run 1 lap of the field without stopping
- Do 20 burpees in a minute
- Take part in a litter pick
- Visit a nature reserve
- Pick your own fruit
- Bake bread
- Draw a picture - any style
- Plant and grow vegetables
- Visit the High Wycombe library
- Make a hot drink (parent help needed)



Getting involved	Attend a free event at the Eden centre (Emergency services day, Eco Elves, Green Eden etc)	Regularly take part in an out of school activity e.g. Scouts, Brownies etc, Sports club, Swimming lessons
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Beyond the basics... A different one must be completed each year.	Visit an art gallery Visit the seaside Visit a museum (not in High Wycombe) Camp out in a tent or sleep away from home for a night (without your parents) Attend a sporting or music event Go on a train Watch a show/pantomime/musical in a theatre (not cinema) Go ice skating or roller skating Visit a building of architectural interest (e.g. Stately home or in a major city – the Shard) Visit a tourist attraction that is not in High Wycombe
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Bronze Certificate = 6 from the top section & 1 from the bottom section (different one each year)

Silver Certificate = 8 from the top section & 1 from the bottom section (different one each year)

Gold Certificate = 10 from the top section & 1 from the bottom section (different one each year)

Drop off and pick up



Morning

Gates open at 8:35am and close at 8:50am

Staff on the gate to welcome pupils and parents

Afternoon

Gates open 3:20pm and close at 3:30pm

Come onto the playground and collect your child from staff from where they are lined up Don't stand on the gates and wave

Avoid using your phone while collecting your child - this encourages communication between teachers and parents and parents and children

Homework

Maths, Spag and spelling posted online

Teachers check on Mathshed etc who has logged on and completed work and keep a record

Must be completed daily - journal must be signed by an adult.

Shows you are interested in what they are doing and that you value their schoolwork.

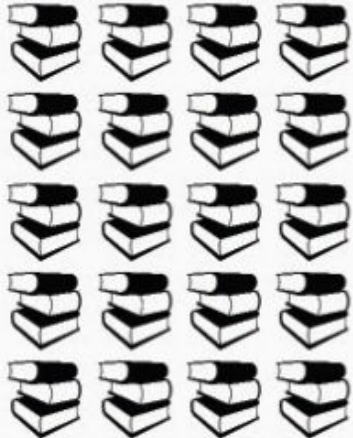
Reading and Maths scores are reported to the whole school on Fridays

and classes that win the challenge win a prize.

Children are never too old to be read to!



WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
❖ Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests.



Castlefield School

Importance of Primary School

Success in primary school sets the foundation for future earnings!

- Achieving ARE in primary school English and maths tests can mean **£64,000 more earnings**.
- Higher KS2 results (achieving GD) = about a **13.8% earnings boost**.

Strong KS2 performance leads to better GCSEs → better qualifications → higher pay.

DfE KS2 attainment and lifetime earnings, July 2025



Use of devices/ Internet safety/ Media



The internet is brilliant! We use it all the time in school.

Please monitor your child's use of devices and internet.

Know how to apply parental controls and age restrictions for games and platforms (including streaming services eg Netflix).

Be alert to misuse of devices - talk to your child about what they are looking at and their internet use... 'Show me what you have been reading/ looking at/ watching...'

Think about where your child uses their device... do they have unsupervised use eg in their bedroom?

Have a cut off time where devices are put away an hour before bedtime.

Communication



Please inform the office:

- Change of address
- Change in email address
- Change in telephone numbers

Contact the office if you want to see a teacher, or catch on the playground.

Appointments can be made

Class teacher → Year leader → Phase Leader → DHT → HT



Finally...

Parent readers - let office know if you have an hour or so to spare each week to hear readers. Training is provided.

PTA - always happy to hear from parent volunteers

PTA@castlefield.bucks.sch.uk

Remember... we all share a common interest - your children.
We work hard to provide the best primary education we can for them all and thank you in advance for your support.