

October 2018

Dear Parents,

TO PARENTS OF Year 4 – Information 2018-2019

Welcome back to Nancy Reuben Primary School and welcome to Year 4! We hope you and your family have all had an enjoyable summer and a rest after all the Yom Tovim. This letter will detail information about the general routines and expectations for your child in Year 4. It also outlines the topic areas which will be covered this year for each subject.

The aim for this year is to consolidate and build upon the knowledge and skills they have gained in Year 3. This will also be the time to prepare for the new challenges which will face them in Year 5. We strongly believe that clear communication between home and school is central to ensuring your child gets the maximum potential out of his/her school experience.

Contacting the teacher

Please allow your child to come to the line in the playground and to the class by themselves. Due to time constraints in the morning, we are unable to speak with parents during the school day however, we are more than happy to meet with parents at an arranged time. You can arrange to meet the teacher by writing a note to the corresponding teacher or by contacting the school office. Please note that we do not always respond the same day, so if it is urgent please communicate through the office.

We would ask you not to come to the class at any point when the school day has begun. Any messages must be taken to the office.

Please make sure to let the teachers know of any change of circumstance that may affect your child, such as an ill relative, a parent going away, a family celebration or anything else that we should be aware of. Please also make sure we know of any appointments well in advance.

We are excited to introduce the new Year 4 team below:

Secular

Morah Leelal (Year 4 Class Teacher)

Morah Renee (Year 4 Learning Support Assistant/SENCo)

MorahDaliah (Music)

Morah Naomi (Art)



Kodesh

Rabbi Simcha (Year 4 Class Teacher)

MorahGalit (Ivrit Teacher)

Rav Malachi

Morah Hannah (Year 4 Learning Support Assistant)

Please do feel free to get in contact with us should you have any questions or concerns, either by means of notes in your child's homework diary or by email to leeal.reindorp@nrps.co.uk.

If something is urgent, the school phone number is 02082025646 and a member of the Year 4 team will return the call as soon as possible.

General Routines and Equipment

Routine

School starts with the sound of the whistle at 8:40am when pupils are expected to hang up their coats and bags in the cloakroom outside the classroom and bring their reading folders, with all necessary homework to the classroom. Upon entering the classroom, all homework will be placed in the designated area ready to be checked and marked. Children should be seated at their table with their siddur out ready for the register to be taken straight away. The children will then go to Year 6 for Tefillah with Rabbi Conway. Lessons will begin at 9:10am.

The school day finishes at 4pm, except for Fridays when we finish earlier. The children continue to have a morning break for 20 minutes and a 50-minute lunch. However, Year 4 do not have an afternoon break due to changes with the timetable to allow Benching to take place after lunch in the classroom with Rabbi Simcha. During the afternoon, the children will be encouraged, at an appropriate time by the teacher, to take a 5-minute break to have a drink and attend to any needs.

Snacks

We encourage the children to eat healthy snacks during the day. These consists of fruit, vegetables and crackers. Please do not send in any cakes, flavoured biscuits or sugary cereal. Please send a labelled bottle of water and ensure all lunch bags are labelled. Please remember that the school is a nut free zone, so check ingredients as many foods do contain nuts. Please also note that the school is 'Chalav Israel'. Crisps and pretzels may only be sent into school for Rosh Chodesh.

Green bags

Please check that your child brings their green bag to school every day. These should contain reading folders, homework and any letters or correspondence between the school and home. Please make sure that these are emptied regularly. We encourage the children to independently empty their own bags.



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Essential equipment list

The children have been provided by the school a ruler, HB pencil and whiteboard pen which have been labelled for the child's own use. Children will be responsible for ensuring that they replace any of these items missing from their pencil case and maintain their own equipment.

- Pencil case
- 3 HB pencils
- Pencil sharpener
- 1 rubber
- 2 glue sticks
- 2 dark blue friction pens or 2 dark blue Berol handwriting pens and 1 eraser pen (these will be needed later in the year, when your child starts to write in pen and receives their pen licence)

Other useful equipment:

- Different coloured highlighters
- Coloured pencil crayons

Birthdays

You will receive a reminder near to your child's birthday, where you will be asked to bring in a plain cake (e.g. Achva) for a class party. Paper plates and a plastic knife may also be brought in. Siblings and parents are welcome to attend the party. Class birthdays are usually celebrated at 3.45 p.m. Books, money or other gifts for the class in honour of your child's birthday are greatly appreciated.

Rewards and Sanctions System

Each week, one child from the class will be awarded a Star of the week certificate. In class, we shall be using the ClassDojo system, where children can earn individual, table or whole class points. This will feed into wider school systems such as House Points, as well as earning whole class rewards, based on ClassDojo data!

Use of a traffic light system is in effect where all children at the start of everyday are on green. Where negative behaviour is seen, sanctions follow the NRPS Behaviour Policy. Warnings will be given, and dojo points could be lost. Where the negative behaviour is persistent, behaviour sheets to be completed in class will be sent home for parents to sign. These will come back to the class teacher for review. At this point, the child's name will have moved to amber. If negative behaviour is consistent, their name will be moved to red and will be spoken with by the Senior Leadership Team. It is always important to log the behaviour and speak with the child to understand why this behaviour occurred. Each day is a new slate and all names will be returned to green.

It is important for both parents and teachers to communicate any celebrations or concerns to ensure consistency throughout the child's day.



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Homework

Reading

Children may read books from school or from home as long as they are challenging enough and appropriate for class reading. Children are encouraged to choose books carefully and aim to finish a book once it has been started.

Good reading habits are vital to all-round academic success, and we ask that you establish the habit of listening to your child read aloud on a regular basis. Each child is expected to read at least 15 minutes every night and should record the title of the book and the number of pages that have been read in his or her reading record book. Please use the 'Remarks' column in the reading record book to note down any observations you have from hearing your child read. From time to time the children will be asked to write book reviews. If you would like any book recommendations for your child, please don't hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to suggest titles that are appropriate for their reading level.

Spelling

The majority of children in the class will be learning the same spelling pattern provided by the National Curriculum. The lists that they learn will mainly be differentiated by how many words each child has to learn. The spelling patterns are those listed to be learnt in Year 4- See curriculum section. At times, some words in the lists may seem quite simple, but it is to be remembered that the children are working on a pattern or rule. Children are encouraged to find patterns and rules in the given words and then apply this knowledge to their work. Your child will be given words to learn every week. He/she will need help, two or three times during the week, to learn and go over these spellings. The pupils will be tested on Fridays.

Times Tables

During the year your child will build upon his/her knowledge of the following tables: 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,8,9,10 and 11. We will soon learn the 7 and 12 times table. Please practise times tables at home throughout the year. There are many fantastic interactive online resources available to help make practising times tables fun; if you'd like any recommendations please don't hesitate to ask.

Written homework

Written homework will be used to consolidate lessons taught in class and should be completed independently by the pupil. Homework diaries are to be signed weekly and handed in on Friday, together with the reading record.

Homework is given on a weekly basis and according to the following timetable, for which further guidance is provided below. Homework set will reflect the nature of the work completed in school and has been differentiated appropriately. Where homework is set and the child chooses the difficulty, please encourage your child to challenge themselves, but not to overextend themselves.



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Subject	Day set	Day due
Numeracy homework (approx. 45 mins)	Tuesday	Thursday
Literacy homework (approx. 45 mins)	Thursday	Monday
Spellings	Friday	Friday (test)
Reading	Daily	Friday- to be written into reading record and signed weekly, ready to be signed by the teacher on Friday

Part of your child's homework may be to access their work from home on a computer device. Please ensure they have the correct login for Active Learn Primary. Please do not hesitate to ask for their login.

Curriculum

The following gives you some guidance and information about the work that your child will cover this year. Plans for Year 4 are derived from the National Curriculum Key Stage 2. Regular and ongoing assessment helps to inform planning and differentiation of work. These are guidelines and work in class may deviate from the term plans, for example if children display interest in certain topics or reveal misconceptions and gaps in their understanding. The following is the expected learning outcomes for most students in the class. There may be times where your child is given extension work based on these topics, or support in these areas, to ensure that they meet the targets that are attainable for their achievement level.

Numeracy

The curriculum promotes the development of mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding. In addition, it develops a positive attitude to maths, encouraging awareness of its relevance to real-life situations and problem-solving.

Literacy

The curriculum is designed to develop a broad range of literacy skills. These skills include reading, comprehension and creative writing. Transcription skills, i.e. handwriting, spelling and punctuation are also developed. SPAG- Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar takes place throughout the year and is incorporated into weekly lessons. There will be a strong emphasis this year on handwriting and presentation of work, which will generally be completed in pen once the children have been awarded their pen licence.

To enhance the standard of their written work children will be introduced to proof-reading and editing techniques as well as peer and self-assessment. Across each term, the children will cover a mixture of fiction, non-fiction, live and poetry using a variety of texts to stimulate learning.



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These units are shown below:

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Literacy Unit	Biographies and diary entries Stories from other cultures Spooky stories Creating images in poetry	Journalistic Writing Language work Fantasy Stories Exploring poetic form	Non-chronological reports Science Fiction writing Multi-media information text Exploring poetic language

Science

The main areas of focus of the science programme are knowledge, skills and understanding. The children will be guided in how to conduct rational investigations and research in order to develop their understanding of scientific concepts. Science process skills include observing, predicting, fair testing, recording and drawing conclusions.

Topics to be covered this year are:

- Living things and their habitats
- Circuits and conductors
- Sound
- Eating and Digestion
- States of Matter

Humanities

Humanities encompasses both History and Geography and allows children to explore the world around them, through enquiry, fieldwork and by studying primary and secondary sources. Where possible, Humanities will link to other subjects in the curriculum and will also be a way for children to explore British Values.

History

- Vikings
- Shang Dynasty of China

Geography

- A case study of Israel
- A comparison of the UK and Africa
- Fieldwork

Children in Year 4 will also be taking part in the Tzedek Ghana project, which is a twinning programme, linking NRPS to a school in Ghana! The project will start during the first full week after Sukkot!



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Physical Education

The children take part in a wide and varied sports programme. The children have one lesson a week on a Wednesday, of either an indoor gym lesson or outdoor games and activities.

Please ensure that your child has the correct labelled PE kit, otherwise they will be unable to take part in the lesson.

Music

Music will be taught by MorahDaliah this year and will cover the objectives set out by the National Curriculum.

Art

Art will be taught by Morah Naomi this year and will cover the objectives set out by the National Curriculum.

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

This year, there will be a focus on teamwork, cooperation and communication as the primary tools for learning. Children will learn about the following issues during the year:

- New beginnings
- Remembrance Day
- Going for goals
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Bullying
- Life in other countries – Ghana Project

Computing

We have been very fortunate at NRPS as we have been given iPads for 1:1 use. This means we will be able to look in depth at how technology can be manipulated through coding. The children will also learn the importance of being safe online and how to use a technological device safely and appropriately.

The children will continue to develop their typing skills, present writing information and edit pictures and videos. Through this, iPads may be used discretely in other subjects to improve learning and promote progress.

Ivrit

Ivrit will be taught by MorahGalit.

The focus will be on developing vocabulary knowledge, speech and the development of conversational skills in a basic context.

We hope this gives you an idea of the work we intend to cover and that your child has an enjoyable year full of laughter, fun and learning.

Kind regards,

Morah Leal.



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