

# Class 4 Curricular Letter



## Autumn Term 1

Dear Parents,

We would like to wish you and the children a very warm welcome to Class 4! We are Emma Smith and Jenny Leap and we are extremely excited to be teaching your child over the next academic year.

Emma will be teaching the children every morning with a focus Literacy, Phonics and Maths and Jenny will teach every afternoon covering guided reading, science, PE as well as teaching the split maths for Year 1 or 2.

Alongside us during the week will be our brilliant teaching assistants, Donna Woods and Lisa Newell who are eager to begin our year. The KS1 staff are a great team and over the year in maths the children will be working in small groups with different members of teaching staff. These groups will enable us to teach the children in smaller groups and give the children the opportunity to work with all the children in their year group over the year. If you have any queries, concerns, or simply a question, please don't hesitate to send either of us an email, we will be more than happy to help! Our emails are [e.smith@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:e.smith@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk) and [j.leap@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:j.leap@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk).



The first topic that we will be exploring together is '**Who Lives in the Woods?**' We will be exploring the woodland areas in our school grounds, thinking about the animals and plants that live there and how we should take care of areas such as this. Please take some time to talk to your children about the topic, read books and stories, watch programmes and think of some questions they can explore in class.

### The Half Term Ahead

Who Lives  
in the  
Woods?

Can I write  
a new story  
to inspire  
class 5?

Can I make  
textures  
with clay?

Can I write a  
report to explain  
about badgers  
for visitors to  
Duxbury woods?

Why did Jesus  
welcome  
everyone?

Where in the  
world is.....?

How far can I  
throw?

### Days to Remember

#### Monday

New phonics book

#### Tuesday

#### Wednesday

PE

Library

#### Thursday

#### Friday

Celebration Assembly

Spelling test and new  
spellings sent home

The children will be continuing with their learning from previous years; looking at letter formations, learning the sounds (**phonemes**) of the alphabet and reading and writing progressively more complex words. Parents are encouraged to continue to discuss sounds and letter names within words, write lower and upper case letters correctly and practise decoding (sounding out) words to spell. In Year 1 we will begin the year by ensuring children can write simple sentences that make sense using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. This really is the foundation to good writing and once these skills are concrete we will begin to add in skills to build more complex sentences. In Year 2, we will build on these skills but also focus on using a range of joining words in our sentences.

Reading will be of great importance throughout the year and the children will participate in whole class reading sessions, take part in one guided group reading session a week with their teacher and all of the children will have the opportunity to read and discuss their book individually. Children will have reading books at home from Monday to Friday and will continue to access books at their own level within school.

### **How can you help at home?**

- Talk to your child about the phonemes and 'tricky' words that we have been learning at school.
- Read with your child at home on a regular basis, modelling how to sound individual phonemes, digraphs & trigraphs and blend them together.
- When writing independently, encourage your child to use their knowledge of phonics to make their own attempts at spelling whilst using a correct pencil grip.
- Read a selection of books based on our literacy topics and talk in detail about the topic.
- Encourage children to ask questions when reading as well as answering questions about the text.

### **Mathematics**

The children's mathematical development is furthered through whole class work, through focused activities in small groups with an adult and through play. This work will continue to be focused around practical work, but we will begin to record work more often in various different forms. This half term we begin our work on Singapore maths using the 'Maths No Problem text books.' In Year 1 this half term we will be learning about Numbers to 10, Number bonds within 10 and addition and subtraction within 10. In Year 2 we will be learning Number to 100 and Addition and Subtraction within 100.

### **How can you help at home?**

- Help your child to recognise and order the numbers and write numbers correctly.
- Support children in practising addition, subtraction, using practical resources.
- Encourage your child to use appropriate mathematical vocabulary, such as 'heavier', 'heaviest', 'lighter', 'lightest'.
- Practise finding one more and one less than any number from 1-10 and then further.
- Practise reciting days of the week and months of the year.

### **Notes for Parents**

- Book bags need to be in school daily and children will have the opportunity to change their own books in an afternoon.
- We aim to read with children once a week individually (this may be with a member of staff or a parent volunteer) and once in a group guided reading session, and as stated above, we do encourage children to read at home on a daily basis.
- On Fridays your child will be receiving a set of spellings based on our work during the week, please practise these with your child daily. Tests will also be on a Friday. Year 2 can access these spelling through spelling shed and the list will be put on seesaw. Year 1 spelling list will be put onto seesaw as well as in their spelling books.
- Children will continue to bring home their 'Home Learning Book' each half term with their homework menu. This will contain an explanation of the topic that we have been working on and ways that you could explore this with your child. Please continue to be inventive and imaginative with the tasks, not only do we love to see it, but it also helps to inspire and engage the children.
- Please ensure all belongings are labelled with your child's name, so if lost, they can be easily returned to you.
- The school provides children with a piece of fruit each day. If you would prefer your child to bring his/her own snack to school, please keep in mind that we are a healthy school and it should be a piece of fruit or veg (no nuts).
- Children are encouraged to bring a drinks bottle to school each day, filled with water. A water fountain is also available in school for children to use at their leisure.

- We will be going outside often during the year, so please remember to send in named waterproof coats.

Over the coming year, the children's learning will be fostering independence. This will be a smooth transition for the children, and the curriculum will continue to be filled with enjoyable and fun activities that will enhance and bring out the best in their learning. In addition, the school website has plenty of ideas on helping your child. Click on the subject areas for lots of great ideas.

We look forward to meeting you all during the term, but again we urge you to email or call us at school should you have any queries.

Many thanks,

Emma Smith  
Class 4 Teacher

Jenny Leap  
Class 4 Teacher

Nicola Gregson  
Deputy Headteacher