



# Welcome to Year 4

Year 4 Teacher:

Mrs Hutton

Year 4 Teaching Assistant:

Mrs Merriman

# Our Curriculum

Following the National Curriculum, the school is able to provide a wide range of activities but places the greatest emphasis on making sure that all children are at a good level of literacy and numeracy by the time they leave our school at age 11. We value these basic skills because they form the building blocks of future learning. As mentioned previously, the curriculum is planned in a very integrated and applied way, where many subjects are practically linked in a topic based approach.

## Mathematics

Within school, from Year 1 to Year 6, we use a mathematics development programme (Assertive Mentoring) which bases itself on pre and post testing procedures. Children are tested on their Year Group's expectations and then areas of work are then planned from the results. In addition, within each area of maths being taught, weekly smaller pre and post assessment tasks are completed by the children so that progress can clearly be monitored on a shorter term basis.

For more information on Mathematics please follow the link below: <http://www.deeping-st-james.lincs.sch.uk/maths.asp>

## English

### Writing

Writing, and the progression of writing, is hugely important. We use a programme called Active English, which focusses on grammar and punctuation, and the development of it, from Year R to Year 6. It is taught in an intensive and fun way, relating particular grammar elements to picture clues and actions. This grammar and punctuation is then applied in the children's writing.

### Spelling and Reading

The basis of all our reading and spelling teaching is phonics. These are taught from Year R using a mixture of Ruth Miskin and Letters and Sounds. In Key Stage 2 the Ruth Miskin Get Spelling programme is used alongside the teaching of the National Curriculum spelling requirements. Within reading - comprehension of the text being read becomes an increasingly important part as the children move up the school.

For more information on phonics and reading please follow the link below:

<http://www.deeping-st-james.lincs.sch.uk/reading.asp>

## Year 4 – Topics to look forward to :

### Autumn Term – Ancient Egyptians

**Topic:** We will be learning about the Ancient Egyptians, focusing on different aspects of this fascinating period in history including the Egyptian way of life, their beliefs and practises and the geography of Egypt.

**Science:** We will learn about States of Matter and how they change.

**Art and DT:** We will design and make Egyptian style death masks.

**RE:** The RE topic will focus on the Christianity.

**PSHE:** We will be developing class rules and focusing on the two themes of New Beginnings and Say No To Bullying.

**Computing:** We will be researching information and ensuring we know how to stay safe online.

**PE:** Football and Dance.

### Spring Term – South America.

**Topic:** We will focus of the geography of South America as a continent in the Southern Hemisphere. We will consider its climate, its economy and the challenges of maintaining the Rainforests.

**Science:** We will learn more about Living Things and Animals, including Humans.

**Art and DT:** In our DT learning, we will be developing skills in paper craft.

**RE:** Our learning will centre on Hindu lifestyles, where we will discover more about the origins of the religion and the different types of worship.

**PSHE:** Our topics for this term include "Going for Goals" and "Good To Be Me".

**Computing:** We will be learning about programming and finding out about debugging and algorithms.

**PE:** Gymnastics and if the weather is good, tennis.

### Summer Term – Local History

**Topic:** We will be focused on learning about our town of Deeping St James and the historical buildings in the local area. We will learn more about the history of the River Welland.

**Science:** Our topics for the summer term will be Electricity and Sound.

**Art and DT:** In our Art lessons we will use paint and learn about Picasso.

**RE:** During RE we will learn about Islam and the topic of Journeys.

**PSHE:** PSHE topic will focus on developing relationship and prepare us for changes in our life.

**Computing:** Data handling, using multimedia and digital imagery.

**PE:** Rounders, cricket, athletics and swimming!

## Expectations for Year 4

In year 4 the children are encouraged to be independent, responsible and self-motivated. The pace of work quickens in preparation for moving up to upper key stage 2 at the end of the year.

**PE:** The children are expected to wear the school PE kit (see below) Hair must be tied up and no jewellery will be worn. A child will only be excused from PE with a written letter from a parent.

**Reading;** The children are welcome to chose books from home to read in addition to the ones in the classroom which they can borrow. We try to visit the school library regularly and children are able to borrow books from this library in addition to those from the classroom.

**Homework;** As a school we are having a large push on core skills, this includes, spelling, reading and mental maths (number bonds, leading onto times tables). Please see the Year 4 Homework document on this web page for more information.

**Water Bottles;** Children are encouraged to bring water bottles into school so they can keep hydrated throughout the school day. Please ensure that your child's bottle is clearly named and only contains water.

## School Uniform

Our school uniform is smart and attractive and very popular with both children and parents. We have a policy in school not to allow jewellery. No necklaces, rings or earrings to be worn, apart from studs. This is largely a health and safety issue. If your child is to have their ears pierced, please can parents ensure that it is done in a longer school holiday as the children will have to be able to take them out themselves for PE and swimming. Staff are not allowed to do this for them. It is also against school policy for children to have dyed hair or hair styles that are out of the ordinary.

- Grey trousers (girls and boys)
  - Grey skirt or pinafore
- Polo shirt (jade green) with logo
  - Sweatshirt (navy) with logo
  - Cardigan for girls (navy)
- Grey socks/tights (white in summer)
  - Summer blue checked dress
- Smart black shoes - no trainers or boots

**PE Kit** - The school PE kit is navy shorts, white t-shirt with logo and trainers. Children can wear navy jogging bottoms and jumper in colder weather.

## Contact details

Headteacher: Mr Ian Wilkinson

Chair of *Governors*: Mr David Ludford

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