



St John's C of E (Aided) Primary School

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Welcome to Year 4 Newsletter September 2026

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome your child back after summer. We can't wait to get to know the children and get stuck into some great learning this half term. We hope that, with your support, we can all work together to help your child achieve their full potential. You can help by ensuring they are in school each day on time, that they are prepared and organised for the day ahead, that they read regularly at home, five times a week, and practise their times tables. At the start of the day and end of the day, we will unfortunately not have much time to speak to parents as much as we would like. Therefore, we ask kindly that you contact the office if you need us to call you or you can send us an email to our year group email address **year4@st-johns-gosport.hants.sch.uk**. You may not get an immediate response via the email but we will contact you as soon as we are available. Another way to get little messages to us will be via the children's reading diaries.

Water bottles, coats and snacks

Children should bring in their clean, named water bottle each day. We will be sending them home at the end of the day so that they can be cleaned before coming back in. Children are allowed to bring in water or squash but not fizzy drinks. If you would like your child to have a school dinner and pay in cash, their money should be sent in an envelope or money bag. Alternatively, you can pay via Scopay. Each child will have their own peg to hang their coat and bag on. If the weather is cold or raining, please make sure your child has a coat as we do try to get outside for break whenever possible. Children do not need anything else from home as they have their own pencil cases in school. They should not bring any of their own toys from home but can bring in a book. Our day starts promptly at 8:40am and our lunch isn't until at 12:25pm so children do really need to bring in a healthy snack ready for break time. They can bring fruit or vegetables.

PE days.

Our planned PE days are Tuesday and Friday - 2 hours per week- so please ensure children wear their PE kit on these two days. They will need warm clothes for the winter.

Reading at home

Each year group will continue to follow our reading challenge expectations; children will earn ticks over the year and receive a certificate for each 25 reads. Catch up reading will take place each Friday if children have not read at least 5 times during the week. As your children are older, they can read to themselves but an adult must sign their diaries. We do check the diaries daily so please encourage your child to bring them in each day. Last year, the children loved getting their rewards for reaching 100 and 200 reads and I'm sure your child will too. We want to promote a positive attitude to reading so we are happy for the children to read whatever books or comics that they enjoy; it doesn't have to be a book from school. However, if your child finds reading tricky, reading the Little Wandle home reading books with them would also be appreciated.

Homework

Homework will be set online. This will include using TT Rock Stars and Grammarsaurus . We will also be setting a home learning project linked to our topic each half term. We will send messages home with further details of when these are being set and how the children can access them.

Curriculum- Autumn I 2026

Maths – Place value, addition and subtraction, Multiplication and division, and fractions

English – Descriptive writing (Beowulf) Anglo-Saxons non-chronological report

Science – Mixtures and substances

History – Anglo Saxons

PE – Mindfulness and Invasion games Netball (outdoors)

French – Describing portraits

RE – Judaism covering the festival of Sukkot

Music: Children will be taught by Hampshire Music Service as part of the Listen2Me project – Ukulele.

Computing – Programming using Scratch

Personal Development Learning – My Healthy Self

Times tables and TT Rockstars

At the end of Year 4, your children will take part in an online national times table test, where they will be answering questions from 1x1 to 12x12. They will be asked 25 questions and have a maximum time of 6 seconds to answer each one. As part of the preparation for this, we will be setting times table practise as home work on TT Rockstars as well as using this in school.

School Trips

We are hoping to take the children to Arundel Wetlands in November. In the summer term, we will be going to Butser Ancient Farm as part of our Viking topic. It is a brilliant day as the children get to experience first-hand what life was like in Viking times. The entrance fee, which includes all the workshops, is £12, there is an additional voluntary cost for the coach and we are anticipating a total price of around £30. As soon as we finalise the details, we will let you know. The Year 4 sleepover also takes place in the summer term. The cost for this is likely to be around £10.

We will let you know the final cost for each trip at the earliest available opportunity.

Thank you for your support,

We look forward to having a great year with your children.

Kind regards

Mr Churchill, Mr Norris, and the Year 4 team