



## Ellesmere Primary School

Elson Road, Ellesmere, Shropshire, SY12 0BE  
Telephone: 01691 622288 Fax No: 01691 624893  
e-mail: admin@ellesmere-pri.shropshire.sch.uk www.ellesmereprimaryschool.org.uk  
Headteacher: Mr Andrew Everett, BSc Hons, PGCE



## Welcome to Year 4

We hope you all had a lovely summer. The children have already settled in very well to their new routine. Here are a few extra pieces of information for you to support them.



### Our Topics



This term our theme is **World Conflicts**. As a school we have changed our approach to topic and lessons will allow the children to take ownership of their learning and the work they produce, by learning specific skills from the curriculum, and showing these through child-led outcomes. The children can choose to study areas within the topic that they are interested in and they will have a chance to show off their work during our Curriculum Open Afternoon at the end of the end of the halfterm. The children thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Bewdley museum this week and have already begun to ask a range of questions which have challenged their misconceptions.

Mathematics sessions will continue to develop the children's number sense; focusing on understanding and applying the four number operations.

In English, we will be starting the year with a beautifully illustrated book called Leon and the Place Between, highlighting how the writer has used exciting vocabulary to build excitement and keep the reader interested.

### Homework

Children will continue to receive weekly homework. This will be set on a Friday and will consist of a piece of GPS (grammar, punctuation & spelling), reading and/or maths. Occasionally, the maths activity will be through Mathletics. If you experience any problems logging on, please let us know so we can try to solve the issue. Spelling and Big Maths tests will be conducted on a Friday. Please help your child to be prepared and give them a prompt to ensure they have their Homework Diary every Friday as they will be using them during their spelling tests.



Where possible encourage your child to read daily at home, even if it is just 5 minutes squeezed in. It doesn't have to be their book from school, it could be a magazine, comic, annual or anything else they enjoy. If your child has read out loud to you, please make a note of it in their Homework Diary. In Year 4 we are expecting the children to not only decode the words, but to understand what they have read as well. You can support them in this through questioning them about the book e.g. why do you think the character said...? What would you do if you were in that situation?



In addition to Mathletics, we are continuing to use Times Tables Rock Stars to support children at home with learning their tables. By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know their tables up to 12 x 12. This website is both fun and educational for the children and many have found success using it in previous years. Codes for both Mathletics and Times Tables Rock Stars will be provided if required.



**Swimming & PE** – This year, Year 4 have P.E on Wednesday afternoon. Children will need to bring (or keep in school), both their indoor AND outdoor kits each week unless told otherwise. As a school, we are aiming to ensure that all children are dressed consistently in line with school policy and are prepared for all conditions.

Therefore we ask that you make sure that your child has a white t-shirt, blue shorts and pumps/outdoor trainers. As specified in our transition letter, old round neck school jumpers can be used during colder conditions in addition to blue jogging bottoms. Long hair also needs to be tied back for both girls and boys.

Swimming for both classes will be on a Tuesday afternoon. Please encourage your child to take responsibility for ensuring they have the required kit in school. Boys should be in fitted shorts or trunks and girls a one-piece swimming costume. It is suggested that children with earrings leave them out for that day or cover with tape if they have just been pierced. Children with long hair will also require a swimming cap.

**Water bottles** – children are allowed to have water bottles in class as it is good for them to keep hydrated throughout the day. **However**, they should only contain water: no juice please!



### **New school Behaviour Policy**

As a school we are always looking for ways in which we can improve and have welcomed the feedback from last year regarding our Good to be Green incentive. In response to this, we will be using a staggered approach to the consequences of reds and yellows. There will not be a limit but each one will represent an amount of time which they will miss from the Good to be Green events. We feel that this is a positive step in helping children to make the right choices once they have already received a red or yellow.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate in coming in to speak to us.

Many thanks,

Mrs Clarke, Mrs Foster and Mrs Masey