

Monday 7th September 2026

Dear Year 4 Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 4!

We hope that you all had an amazing summer and that your children have enjoyed the first few days of Year 4. We have loved getting to know your wonderful children and cannot wait for an exciting and enjoyable year. The Year 4 teaching team consists of Miss Parkinson (Interim Head of Year) in Mikenos Class, Mrs Evans and Mrs Carroll in Stanley Class, Miss Truscott in Meru Class and Mr Tilley in Kilimanjaro class. The members of the Year 4 support staff are Mrs Marlow, Mrs Kitching, Mrs Rogers, Mrs Gough, Miss Stewart, Mrs Sheffield, Mrs McNeill, Mrs Joseph, Mrs Burley and Mrs Kopec.

Learning

With this letter, you will receive an overview of our topic for the first half term which is called 'Passport to Europe'. We would like you to discuss this topic with your children by exploring the information given on the overview.

To kickstart this topic, the children will be taking part in launch day activities which include a 'countries of Europe scavenger hunt' around the school to explore various countries in Europe and some of their key features. Our aim is to inspire them with an exciting start to their learning, engaging them in the topics ahead. With the children having already learnt about Bagshot and the United Kingdom in Year 3, they continue their geographical journey by exploring the countries that make up Europe and their key features and attractions. Integrated towards the end of this unit, the children will also focus on OS maps. We will look at why they are used and how to read them using four figure grid references.

In English, the children will learn about the key features of leaflets and travel brochures as well as exploring key grammatical features such as word classes, punctuation and conjunctions (subordinating and co-ordinating) needed in order to make their writing both interesting and cohesive.

In maths, the children will cover place value, addition and subtraction, rounding and Roman Numerals. There will also be a weekly focus on mental maths and times tables. As you know we use Times Table Rock Stars at Connaught - login details are in homework diaries. Please ensure your child practises these regularly at home.

In science, our unit of work is States of Matter – we will be learning about solids, liquids and gases and linking it to 'The Water Cycle'.

Homework

On Mondays, the children will receive their homework for the week.

- **Reading** - The expectation is for the children to read 5 times a week. This is designed so the 5 slots can fit around your personal timetable and what suits you best as a family. Your child can choose either to read a physical book or use Bug Club, which is an online reading programme. They should already have a log in from last year.

Headteacher: Miss S McGann

Deputy Headteacher: Miss K Whiting

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- **Talk homework.** This will be linked to the theme of the week.
- **Arithmetic maths sheet.** This will be set to reflect the maths learning from the previous week or an arithmetic sheet that includes previous skills learnt throughout the year. The aim here is to give children time to practise their core skills. This will be completed in a small blue book that the children will bring home with them.
- **Times tables** - Complete 25 minutes of Times Table Rocks Stars (5 minutes per day). Times Table Rock Stars is a website which can be accessed either via a computer or the app on a phone or tablet. Login details can be found in homework diaries. The website has various modes: Garage mode allows children to practise just their set times table, while Studio mode allows them to test their knowledge of all times tables up to 12 x 12.
- **Spellings** – All children have access to Spelling Shed which they can use to practise their spellings. You can use the programme to play spellings games, and they will be tested in school on a Monday before receiving their new words.

Please come and speak to us if you have any questions or concerns regarding homework.

Pencil Cases

Please regularly check and ensure that your child's pencil case is fully stocked. They will need all basic stationary items: handwriting pens, whiteboard pens, pencils, colouring pencils, red pen, glue stick, rubber, pencil sharpener and a 30cm ruler.

Timetable

PE lessons are timetabled for Wednesday and Thursday; it is vital that pupils wear their full kit in school on these days. Please note that earrings must **not** be worn for PE and the children should be able to remove these themselves: tape over earrings is not permitted for safety reasons.

Communication

Your class teacher can also be contacted via the class email address e.g. mikeno@cjs.tamat.org.uk. However, for any communication relating to absences or for the attention of another member of staff, please contact the main school office either via a phone call or the school email address (school@cjs.tamat.org.uk). We are always outside at the end of the day and available should you wish to speak to us. If you would like more time or wish to speak about a sensitive matter, we are happy to arrange a phone conversation or meeting. Our aim is to always foster and maintain a positive relationships with our parents so if you have a question about anything, please feel confident in approaching us directly.

Kind regards,

Miss Parkinson (Interim Head of Year)

Mr Tilly

Mrs Evans and Mrs Carroll

Miss Truscott

Headteacher: Miss S McGann

Deputy Headteacher: Miss K Whiting

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