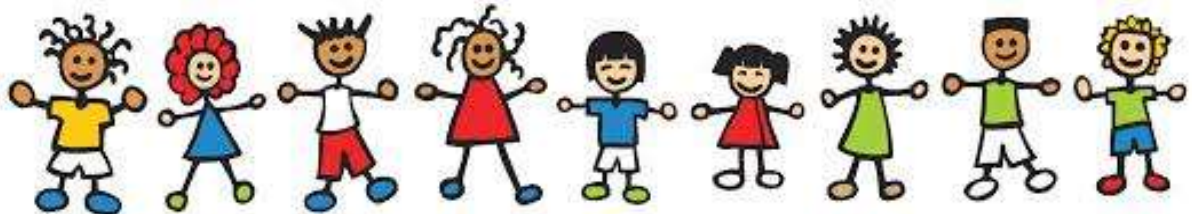


# Year 4 Parent Handbook 2017-2018



# Welcome to the new school year!

## Introduction

Within this booklet we have put together an overview of the curriculum for your child this year and also some general information and reminders that we hope you will find useful. The booklets are specific to each year group so if you have more than one child please do read each booklet. Copies of these are also available on the school Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Your child's login for the VLE can be found on page 4 of this booklet.

## Working Together

Your support is important to enable your child to do as well as they can and we value a close working relationship with parents and carers. We aim for children to leave our school having achieved their best, by developing their skills and talents through a range of learning activities and experiences. The school teaches a broad and balanced curriculum that includes the National Curriculum, which is enriched through additional events and activities. We do expect children to fully participate in events and educational visits. If there is a concern or difficulty in your child participating please speak to Mrs Callender in confidence.

Your child will be given homework activities which are detailed in this booklet. Please do support your child in completing these. It is important that homework is done so that your child can participate confidently during follow-up activities in school.

Your child's teacher will be the key point of contact for you and it is most helpful if you let the teacher know about any matters that may affect your child, so that we can support them in school. You may sometimes have questions or concerns and your child's teacher will be happy to discuss these with you. Brief updates, for example about end of day collection, can be easily exchanged at the classroom door as your child arrives for school. However, it is best to arrange a meeting for the end of the day if you wish to have a more lengthy conversation.

Most matters will be appropriately discussed and resolved with the teacher. However, you may feel a matter is more appropriately discussed with a more senior member of staff, in which case you may wish to arrange a conversation with either Mrs Ross (Deputy Headteacher) or Mrs Callender (Headteacher). Any conversations or meetings can be arranged either directly with the class teacher or via the school office.

## Attendance

We value children's good attendance and children receive bronze, silver and gold certificates for 100% attendance each term. There is a strong link between children's good progress in school and their good attendance. We are a local authority school and governed by their policies. It is not permitted to take children out of school for a holiday during term time. Exceptions are made for families in the armed forces if a parent is due to go/returning from a tour of duty. If you do feel there is an exceptional reason for your child to be absent from school, the request should be made in writing at least two weeks prior to the event, marked clearly 'Request for Authorised Absence', and handed into the school office. Any requests will be considered and authorised at the Headteacher's discretion in accordance with the Local Authority and National guidelines.

# Welcome to Year 4

**Key Stage/Year Group Leader** – Mr Wakefield

**Ash Class** – Mrs Houghton & Mrs Hall with Mrs Roper, Mrs Harvey and Mrs Codrai

**Beech Class** – Mr Bowen with Miss Dear, Mrs Wilding and Miss Southern

**Hazel Class** – Mr Wakefield with Mrs Atherton, Miss Dunn and Mrs Conacher



## We are a Values School!

Shefford Lower is a values school. Below are the values for each month. Although we have two values to focus on each month, the other values are still used, modelled and lived every day in school.

Children are rewarded with a stamp on their individual values leaf when they have demonstrated one of the school's values. Special Milestone Leaves are awarded to the children in assembly when they have achieved certain numbers of stamps.

<b>September</b>	Respect	Responsibility
<b>October</b>	Thoughtfulness	Kindness
<b>November</b>	Tolerance	Understanding
<b>December</b>	Peace	Hope
<b>January</b>	Excellence	Quality
<b>February</b>	Freedom	Happiness
<b>March</b>	Friendship	Love
<b>April</b>	Patience	Sharing
<b>May</b>	Co-operation	Unity
<b>June</b>	Trust	Honesty
<b>July</b>	Courage	Determination



## Some useful websites:

Oxford Owl – Phonics:

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/home/reading-site/expert-help/phonics-made-easy>

Virtual Learning Environment: <https://bedfordshire.itslearning.com>

Shefford Lower School Website: <http://www.sheffordlowerschool.co.uk/>

Bug Club / Phonics Bug: <http://www.bugclub.co.uk>

## English

Autumn Term 2017	Spring Term 2018	Summer Term 2018
<p><b>Texts will include:</b></p> <p>My life as a Slave Iliona's Diary</p> <p>Beowulf</p> <p>The Roman Soldier's Handbook</p>	<p><b>Texts will include:</b></p> <p>Friend or Foe My Life in The Blitz Revolting Rhymes Creature Teacher</p>	<p><b>Texts will include:</b></p> <p>Bear Grylls: Mission Survival Extreme Earth and Oceans Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Ugly Truth</p>
<p><b>Spellings will include:</b></p> <p>Words beginning with l become –il Words beginning with m or p become –im Words beginning with r become –ir Words beginning with re- (meaning again or back) Words beginning with sub- (meaning under) Words beginning with inter- (meaning between or among) Words beginning with super- (meaning above) Words beginning with anti- (meaning against) Words beginning with auto- (meaning self or own)</p> <p>The <b>suffix</b> –ation added to <b>verbs</b> to form <b>nouns</b> Words with the ending ‘-sure’ Words with the ending ‘-ture’ Words with the ending ‘-sion’ The suffix –ous Words with the endings ‘-tion’, ‘-ssion’ and ‘-cian’</p> <p>Words with the ‘k’ sound spelt ‘ch’ Words with the ending ‘sh’ spelt ‘ch’ Words ending with the ‘g’ sound spelt ‘gue’ and the ‘k’ sound spelt ‘-que’</p> <p>Words to be learnt in years 3 and 4: <b>Including:</b> <i>accident, advertise, approve, benefit, behave, bicycle, breath, breathe, building, calendar, certain, concentrate, chocolate, congratulate, conscience, continue, decorate, describe, dictionary, difficult, discover, disturb, early, earn, earth, educate, excite, experience, experiment, explore, extreme, February, grammar, guide, guard, half, heart, immediate, improve, increase, independent, injure, inquire, interest, island, junior, knowledge. Library, material, medicine, mention, multiply, murmur, nephew, occasion, often, opposite, paragraph, particular, peculiar, position, possess, produce, professor, promise, property, prove, punctuate, quality, quantity, quarrel, quarter, recite, recover, register, regular, reign, remember, sentence, separate, sew, situate, strength, sufficient, sure, surprise, surround, thought, through, though, weary</i></p>		<p><b>Examples:</b></p> <p>illegal, illegible immature, immortal irregular, irresponsible redo, refresh, return subheading, submerge international, interrelated superman, superstar anticlockwise, antibacterial autobiography, autograph</p> <p>information, preparation measure, treasure, pleasure furniture, picture, nature division, decision, television dangerous, enormous, jealous invention, confession, musician</p> <p>scheme, chemist, chorus chef, brochure, machine league, tongue, antique</p>

## Glossary of terms

<b>Noun</b>	A noun is word that is the name of a person, place or thing and is used as the subject or object of a verb.
<b>Suffix</b>	A suffix an ending, something added to the end of one word to turn it into another word e.g. sad <u>ness</u> , joy <u>ful</u> .
<b>Verb</b>	A verb is word or phrase telling of action or experience e.g. reply, push.

## Mathematics

The national curriculum is designed to ensure all pupils become **fluent** in the fundamentals of mathematics, **solve problems** and **reason** mathematically.

**Fluency** in mathematics is related to children being able to learn and remember key mathematical facts e.g. the 7 times table.

**Problem Solving** is the ability to apply mathematics to a variety of problems e.g. word problems, investigations.




**Reasoning** is to use what is known about mathematics to tackle a problem and make connections between their learning e.g. *What will the 9<sup>th</sup> number in a sequence be? How do you know?*

*See Calculation Policy (Appendix)*

## Glossary of terms

<b>Addition</b>	The process of calculating the total of two or more numbers or amounts.
<b>Division</b>	Division is splitting into equal parts or groups.
<b>Fraction</b>	Part of a whole.
<b>Geometry</b>	The area of mathematics that deals with shapes and space.
<b>Measure</b>	To find a number that shows the size of something. Usually the number is in reference to some standard measurement, such as a metre or kilogram.
<b>Multiplication</b>	The basic idea of multiplication is repeated addition. For example: $5 \times 3 = 5 + 5 + 5 = 15$
<b>Number</b>	A number is a count or measurement.
<b>Place Value</b>	The value of where the digit is in the number, such as units, tens, hundreds, etc.
<b>Subtraction</b>	Taking one number away from another.

**Topic**

Autumn Term 2017	Spring Term 2018	Summer Term 2018
<p><b>History and Geography:</b> The Romans and Anglo-Saxons, The Roman Empire and it's impact on Britain, Britain's settlement by Anglo Saxons and Scots</p>  <p><b>Art and Design:</b> Roman mosaic art and making shields</p> <p><b>Science:</b> States of Matter – solids, liquids and gases</p>	<p><b>History and Geography:</b> Battle of Britain, Life during WWII</p>  <p><b>Art and Design:</b> Propaganda posters, Battle of Britain artwork, bomb shelters and gas masks</p> <p><b>Science:</b> Sound and Electricity</p> <p>Including a: <b>Residential visit to The Frontier Centre.</b></p>	<p><b>History and Geography:</b> Mountains/weather and Climate, North America</p>  <p><b>Art and Design:</b> Hokusai printing, and sculpting model mountains.</p> <p><b>Science:</b> Living things and their habitats, The Human Body and how it works. I</p>

**Computing**

The core of computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.



Autumn Term 2017	Spring Term 2018	Summer Term 2018
<p><b>Programming</b> – We will be using block based programming tools including Scratch to create and debug our own algorithms.</p> <p>The children will also safely contribute to the School's VLE and discuss how to do this appropriately.</p>	<p><b>Multimedia</b> – We will use apps and software to record and upload images to create our own Stop Motion animation.</p>	<p><b>Animation</b> - We will create our own GreenScreen animations using different apps and software.</p>

## Glossary of key terms

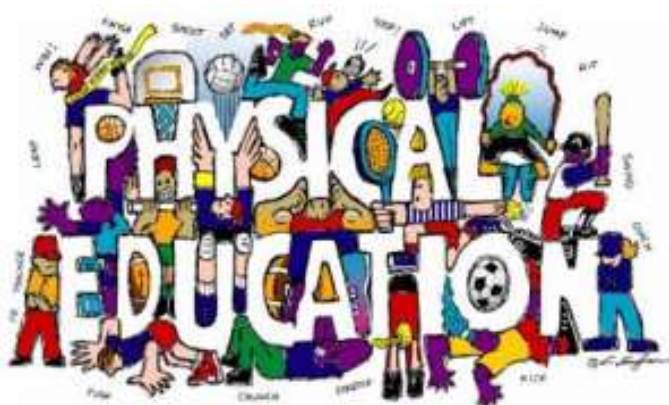
<b>Algorithm</b>	An unambiguous procedure or precise step-by-step guide to solve a problem or achieve a particular objective.
<b>Debug</b>	To detect and correct the errors in a computer program.
<b>Input</b>	Data provided to a computer system, such as via a keyboard, mouse, microphone, camera or physical sensors.
<b>Internet</b>	The global collection of computer networks and their connections, all using shared protocols (TCP/IP) to communicate.
<b>Output</b>	The information produced by a computer system for its user, typically on a screen, through speakers or on a printer, but possibly through the control of motors in physical systems.
<b>Program</b>	A stored set of instructions encoded in a language understood by the computer that does some form of computation, processing input and/or stored data to generate output.
<b>Sequence</b>	To place programming instructions in order, with each executed one after the other.
<b>Simulation</b>	Using a computer to model the state and behaviour of real-world (or imaginary) systems, including physical and social systems; an integral part of most computer games.
<b>Variables</b>	A way in which computer programs can store, retrieve or change simple data, such as a score, the time left, or the user's name.

**World Wide Web** A service provided by computers connected to the internet (web servers), in which pages of hypertext (web pages) are transmitted to users; the pages typically include links to other web pages and may be generated by programs automatically.

**ESafety:** Throughout all of the units children will be taught how to keep safe when using any computer, tablet or website. This will include the safe use of photographs, usernames and email. Children will be encouraged to use tablets and computers in the presence of their parents and will follow up any concerns regarding children's use of Facebook, Twitter, etc. Social Media sites are not considered appropriate for children of lower school age.

## PE

PE will be on the following days:



**Ash Class** – Tuesday afternoon & Wednesday morning

**Hazel Class** – Wednesday afternoon & Friday afternoon

**Beech Class** – Tuesday morning & Friday afternoon

**PE Kit** must be in a drawstring bag therefore **no rucksacks allowed**. Children in Year 4 will be allocated a locker for them to use in school.

Throughout this year the children in year 4 will be taught games, gymnastics and dance in school, including some outdoor PE and indoor work using a range of apparatus.

They will also have the opportunity to be taught PE by our specialist sports teacher, Mr Tilbury using the facilities at Robert Bloomfield Middle School on a weekly basis. In the Summer Term they will also complete a six week unit of swimming at Flitwick Leisure Centre.

In Year 4 some children may be invited to partake in inter/intra school competitions, including a range of festivals such as Sportshall Athletics, Swimming and Gymnastics Festivals arranged by the Redbourne Sports Partnership.

Children are selected to participate in sports festivals based upon their effort, learning behaviours and ability in that area of PE. The school will endeavour to provide an opportunity for as many children as possible to attend these events throughout their time at the school.

### Music



### MUSIC MATTERS!

In Year 4 this year the children will have an opportunity to work with our music specialist teacher, Mrs Rayner, and learn to play the ocarina. Recorder and Ukelele Clubs will be available for children in Year 4 as well as after school choir.

Children in Key Stage 2 will who are learning to play an instrument and/or attend the choir/recorder groups are invited to perform at evening concerts throughout the year. They are also invited to perform for the residents of The Birches in the lead up to Christmas. Children in the choir are regular asked to perform at different school events such as the PSA Coffee Mornings and the switching on of the Shefford Christmas Lights.

In class they will also have an opportunity to compose some music using the ICT programming GarageBand. The children in Year 4 will take a lead role in the Christmas Concert and will have a busy second half of the Summer Term preparing for their leaver's Assembly.

### General Information

**School Book bags** can be bought from reception. Children are expected to bring a book bag to school rather than other types of bags as they will need to fit into their class tray.

**Snacks:** In Year 4 the children, if they wish, may bring in their own snacks for morning playtime; these need to be raw or dried fruit and vegetables. We would also encourage your child to bring in their own named water bottle to ensure they get enough fluids during the school day.





**Reading:** We expect the children to read to an adult at home three times a week as part of their weekly homework. Children who read three times or more in a week will be given a Raffle Ticket. These go into a draw and the owner of the winning ticket receives a book from the prize box.

**Spellings:** Spellings are given weekly and spelling activity sheets should be kept in their red folder. The children should practise (using the look, cover, write, check strategy) their list of spellings up to three times at home before the test. The words will be based on a particular spelling objective.

The test will take place on a Monday and new spellings will be issued on Tuesday. The score they received and the spellings they got wrong will be shared with parents.

**MyMaths:** MyMaths homework is set every other Friday (the same day as the Learning Log). The children will have two weeks to complete the activities.

**Learning Logs:** Children in Year 4 will be issued with a Learning Log every week. Children will receive a new learning activity on a Friday, with the work being handed in on the following Wednesday.



**Frontier Centre Residential Trip:** In Year 4 the children will have an opportunity to attend a two night residential at The Frontier Centre in Irthlingborough, Northamptonshire.

While they are there the children will be able to experience a range of organised outdoor and adventurous activities led by an experienced team. These would include activities such as archery, canoeing or raft building, rock climbing or abseiling. Further information will be available in the first half of the Autumn term.

We have been sending children on this visit for ten years and this is always a highlight of their time at Shefford Lower School.

Preparations for this visit begin in the Autumn

Term and if you have any concerns or difficulties regarding your child participating we would urge you to discuss this confidentially with Mrs Callender.

**Transition to Middle School:** Shefford Lower School maintains close links with the local Middle Schools. Children in Year 4 have regular, weekly opportunities to use the PE facilities at Robert Bloomfield Academy and in the Summer Term there are a number of transitional activities planned for the children to prepare them for their move the following September.

Further information will be available for parents later in the school year.

