



St Barnabas Primary School • Hart Street • Oxford • OX2 6BN
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7th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have had a good holiday and I am looking forward to getting started with the new year. This year the Year 4 team is Dani Cameron, Eniko Canea, Emma Partington and Sarah Fletcher. Mr Cameron will be teaching every Monday to Thursday, while Mrs Partington will be teaching on Friday mornings with Miss Fletcher teaching the class on Monday and Friday afternoons. Mrs Canea will be supporting the class every day. The class will have PE lessons from our PE coach Jack and from Mrs Green, a PE specialist from Cherwell School.

This letter provides useful information for Year 4 and we have also attached a timetable and overview of learning for the year showing what the children will be learning and when.

Communication

- We welcome you to contact us with any queries or concerns through email. Please do feel free to talk to us this way. We may not be able to answer immediately, but will get back to you. For anything urgent or for something that needs to be shared immediately, you can either email the office, speak to Mrs Donaghey on the gate, who will pass on the message or send your child in with a note. You can also make an appointment with us at a mutually convenient time, by calling or emailing the office.
- Mr Cameron's email: dcam7637@st-barnabas.oxon.sch.uk
- School office email: office.3832@st-barnabas.oxon.sch.uk
- School office number: 01865 557178

Absence

- Please let the office know in advance if your child has a medical or similar appointment and will need to be taken out of school or to arrive late.
- If your child is ill, please ring or email the office as soon as possible on each day of absence.

Drop-off/Pick-up & Registers

- The children arrive and depart via our own classroom door, which opens onto the main playground.
- Year 4 opens at 08:45 (often earlier) and we take the register promptly at 08:55.
- At 3pm Year 4 will be brought to the gate of the public playground for collection. We expect all children in Year 4 to be collected unless they are signed up for one of our after school clubs.

Keeping Safe

- The children will continue to do many things as a class, and within their class, the children do not have to socially distance from each other. We will have one class assembly for the children held jointly with Year 3 with Mrs Donaghey each week either outside or in the hall.
- Please make sure your child has a named water bottle – fresh each day and a fruit snack (NO NUTS OR SEEDS please)
- Everyone will wash their hands frequently including: on arrival, before eating, playtimes and using the toilet. Classes have labelled allocated toilets.
- There will continue to be extra cleaning of classrooms, touch points, tables and toilets.

Equipment and clothing

- Children will have their own school equipment kept in their class drawer. (Please do not send in pencil cases from home).
- PE lessons are on Mondays and Thursdays but children should come to school in clothes that are suitable for PE every day. They should also have a pair of spare shoes or boots for going on the field when it is muddy at breaktimes. We will be using our outdoor spaces as much as possible, so layers of warm clothes are needed every day and can be left on the back of their chairs if the children get too warm. The guidance means keeping windows and doors open as much as possible for ventilation so warm clothes are essential. Please tie long hair back and children should not wear jewellery.

Reading

The children visit the school library regularly and choose a book which may be taken home and returned when finished. Please encourage your child to read at home daily. The more children read, the more words they are exposed to and these words gradually and inevitably make their way into the children's vocabulary. As such, reading is the most important homework a child can do. This assists with all areas of the children's learning, helps their confidence in speaking aloud and especially helps with ideas for their writing.

Homework

- Homework includes regular reading as well as challenges on Times Tables Rockstars (ttrockstars.com) or topmarks.co.uk, which is very popular with the class and provides games targeted to the specific Maths areas we are studying in class. I will set classwork through the Google Classroom, which all the children should be able to access through their school Google account, including if they are isolating at home with Covid-19. Please contact me if your child needs help with remembering their passwords. While homework will mainly be set online it can be printed for any children who cannot easily access online learning. Learning homework will also be set in the form of spellings and times tables.
- Diary - I will be giving each child a book in which they should record a daily diary of what they have done. I only expect a minimum of two sentences but I would like to see these diaries every Tuesday to see what they have written. Many children are keeping a list of the books they finish in the back of the diary.
- Spelling – Children are given 10 spellings to learn each week, with a test on Thursdays. These words are taken from our weekly spelling units as well as from statutory lists of spellings from the National Curriculum.

Thank you,

Dani Cameron, Eniko Canea, Emma Partington & Sarah Fletcher