

### How can I support my child with reading and writing?

There are lots of strategies that families can use to support their child in making progress in reading and writing:

- Daily reading (to themselves or to an adult) and discussing the book. All reading is good reading!
- Writing comments in reading records (praising reading) and asking your child to do the same.
- Practising weekly spelling rules. Do they know what the words mean? Can they use them in a sentence?
- Writing stories letters and postcards.
- Practising handwriting.
- Use Mathletics and Bug Club (your child has a login). A fantastic internet resource for reading and comprehension.

### How can I support my child with maths?

There are lots of strategies that families can use to support their child in making progress in reading and writing:

- Use Mathletics daily to complete homework and to compete against other children.
- Practise times tables (by now every child should know by heart every fact up to 11 x 11)
- Calculate change, pay for items and save- all good experiences for handling money and for basic mental working out.
- Practise telling the time on a digital and analogue clock. Start by looking at the minute hand and counting in 5s and the add in the hour hand to 'put together' the time.
- Complete homework tasks involving maths.
- For keen mathematicians, nrich (see website list) will provide a range of challenging tasks and problems. Be aware that much of the content is aimed at much older children (select Lower/ Upper KS2 to find the most appropriate activities)

### Mathletics

By now, your child should have received their login for Mathletics ([www.mathletics.co.uk](http://www.mathletics.co.uk)) This fantastic internet based resource allows your child to practise a wide range of maths skills in their own time. Your child's teacher will set a task(s) weekly (usually on a Wednesday) and when this task is completed, they will have access to an area where they can compete against children across the world! Every question answered on Mathletics earns points and there are a variety of reward schemes in the different classes as an incentive for working those maths brains! Teachers can provide replacement passwords should yours be mislaid.

### Homework

Homework will be set each Wednesday and needs to be returned by the following Tuesday. Dojo points will be awarded based on effort, with all homework handed in on time being awarded points. Homework will take a variety of forms, some creative and some more traditional (maths and English activities in particular).

When homework is completed, it impacts on progress in the classroom and for this reason, as preparing children for a much bigger workload at secondary school, we encourage all children in Y4 to complete their weekly homework task to the best of their ability.

### Bug Club

Similar to Mathletics, Bug Club is a website that pupils at CBJS can use to significantly develop their reading skills. Login details will follow shortly. When accessing the website, children will be able to read exciting, stimulating texts online and then answer questions and complete activities as they go along. As children do this, information is provided for their teacher about strengths and weaknesses, allowing us to target these areas in school. We encourage children to complete at least one book a week.

### Uniform

Children need to ensure they are wearing the correct school uniform. Jumpers and cardigans should be red or grey, but not black. School shoes must be worn at all times apart from PE lessons and at lunchtime. **A reminder please that school shoes are black without logos or coloured soles.**

### Jewellery

In the interests of your child's safety, the only permitted items of jewellery are a wristwatch and stud or small sleeper earrings. Rings, necklaces and bracelets (of any kind) are not allowed in school. Please be aware that during P.E lessons, children must remove all earrings, including studs, or a plaster will be provided to cover them.

### Advanced notice of costs

Over the year certain trips and events happen, where we ask for you to contribute towards the cost. To help in budgeting for such things, there is a list here of events and their approximate cost (dates and costs may vary a little):  
September— Egyptian workshop- £4  
January: Roman Workshop- £4  
April: Anglo Saxon workshop—£4

### Medication

If your child needs to bring inhalers or medication to school please make sure you have completed the appropriate Medical Consent Form, which is available from the school office.

### Who to contact

You are welcome to speak to any member of school staff if you have a question or query and will often want to speak to your child's class teacher. You are also very welcome to contact me as year leader, either directly or through email. All teachers' email addresses are on the reverse of this newsletter. We look forward to working with you this year.

### Who's who in Year 4?

**Miss Blomeley- Year Leader/ 4B**  
s10fblomeley@cbjs.solihull.sch.uk

**Miss Varnham- 4V**  
s10svarnham@cbjs.solihull.sch.uk

**Miss Shakes- 4S**  
s10eshakes@cbjs.solihull.sch.uk

**Mrs Chaplin & Mrs Lewis-4CL**  
s10mchaplin@cbjs.solihull.sch.uk  
s10klewis@cbjs.solihull.sch.uk

### The School Day

Consists of 5 sessions.

**Lesson 1** 8.50-9.50

### Assembly

**Lesson 2** 10.10-11.15

### Break

**Lesson 3** 11.30-12.30

### Lunch

**Lesson 4-5** 1.30-3.30



## Year 4 Curriculum

Children will experience three topics through the year, which will encompass most areas of the curriculum. Where it has not been possible to make links to the topic, subjects will be taught discretely.

### Autumn Term Topic- Egyptians

<b>Literacy</b> <b>Book studies:</b> Rascally Cake- Jean Willis  Charlie Small Gorilla City by Nick Ward	<b>Maths</b> Place value Addition and Subtraction Multiplication and Division Ration and Proportion Fractions Statistics (mean average) Measurement Algebra	<b>Science</b> Electricity  Sound
<b>Computing</b> SMART rules (e-safety) Information research Revelation Natural Art	<b>History</b> Egyptians	<b>RE</b> Hinduism

### USEFUL WEBSITES TO SUPPORT LEARNING:

[www.mathletics.co.uk/](http://www.mathletics.co.uk/)  
[www.mathszone.co.uk](http://www.mathszone.co.uk)  
[www.bugclub.co.uk](http://www.bugclub.co.uk)  
[www.nrich.maths.org](http://www.nrich.maths.org)  
[www.classdojo.com](http://www.classdojo.com)



### WELCOME

Year 4 is where the children are beginning to get ready for year 6. This mid-point is crucial to ensuring pupils are on track to achieve and potentially exceed their year 6 expectations. We aim to support every child in meeting their potential this year in all areas and working with families is the most effective way of achieving this.