

Class 4

Miss Brooks, Mrs White & Mrs
Safdar

Information Booklet



Academic Year
2018 - 2019

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Live, Learn, Succeed,
Together

Welcome to Class 4! We hope you find the following information booklet useful. Included are details about your child's curriculum, the topics we intend to cover throughout the year and how their learning will develop throughout the year. Information will be updated regularly on our class webpage of the school's website: <http://www.garnteg.torfaen.sch.uk>

We would like to take this opportunity to tell you about our 'open door policy'. If you have any queries or concerns about your child please come and talk to us at the end of the day. Alternatively you can call the school to arrange a meeting.

Daily routines

The school is open from 8:50am. When the children arrive in the classroom they begin an Early Morning Activity which will support or reinforce learning or be time to enjoy reading a range of books, magazines and leaflets. This will allow the class teacher to complete the register. Pupils begin activities immediately upon arrival and morning register is taken at 9.00 am. Registers are also taken at the start of the afternoon session. Registers are closed at 9.15 am and 1.10pm. The school day finishes at 3.15 and children are to be collected from the doors at the top end of the Foundation Phase area. If there are any problems with collection please notify the office. If a child is not collected as normal that child will be taken to the school reception area and wait in the safe environment of the school.

Children who return to school following a period of absence are expected to produce an explanatory note/letter from their parents, unless the school has been previously informed by telephone. Persistent, unexplained absences are reported to the Head teacher who will bring the matter to the attention of the Education Welfare Officer

Throughout the day the children will complete:

- 25 minutes of Read Write Inc
- 1 hour of Literacy
- 1 hour of Maths
- 15 minutes of Welsh oral.
- 20 minutes of reading time
- 2 hours of topic or subject based work

The children participate in a school or class assembly four times a week and a singing practice once a week on a Tuesday morning.

School Uniform

Children in Garnteg are expected to adhere to the recognised school uniform. If there are any problems with uniform please inform the class teacher in person or through sending in a note.

The National Curriculum and the New National Literacy and Numeracy Framework 2013.

Garnteg Primary School uses a thematic planning approach through the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. For Foundation Phase, overview plans for subjects detail main objectives,

differentiated activities, assessment opportunities and resources. They also show linkage to the school improvement plan.

Weekly planning grids highlight the main learning outcomes for each session and are completed by teachers during the weekly planning and preparation time.

When mind maps in the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 have been created, teachers highlight the skills that the children will be taught on the skills grid. This ensures skills coverage.

Numeracy and literacy skills across the curriculum are also incorporated into weekly overviews. An additional learning needs identification sheet accompanies planning grids and highlights how those children with additional learning needs are supported.

A thinking skills lesson is taught weekly in each year group.

National tests in numeracy and literacy are now carried out every summer term from Year 2 onwards. These are compulsory tests set by the Welsh Assembly Government.

Literacy

The Literacy Hour is an opportunity to develop children's reading, writing and spelling skills through the Big Write programme. Children will discuss the text content, aspects of the text such as language, layout and meaning. Reading will then inspire a piece of children's writing.

Big Write sessions will take place every Thursday and Friday, which gives the children an opportunity to be creative through their structured piece of writing in a positive learning environment. Work is then assessed, and children are given the opportunity to improve their work the following week.

The Read Write Inc. intervention programme will take place daily for 20 minutes every morning. Here they cover phonics and practise their reading skills.

Maths

During our daily maths lessons the children work on a number of mental strategies. Using a range of resources such as individual whiteboards, number cards and an interactive maths board the children work on their ability to calculate sums mentally. This is a very effective way of revising previous work and developing understanding of relationships between numbers. There is also a strong emphasis on developing a range of strategies with which to approach calculations. This supports children in checking their answers by approaching questions in different ways. Children will also be given opportunities to put the strategies learnt into real life situations thus making their learning relevant to the world around them.

e.g. There are 4 rows of 10 stamps on a sheet. How many would there be on 10 sheets?

Children will learn shape, space and measure and how to handle data in tables, charts and graphs.

The Big Maths programme concentrates on mental strategies and tests children on their mental arithmetic every Tuesday. Through continued practise and implementation of this programme, children's understanding and ability to answer mental calculations will improve.

ICT

The skills of IT are taught directly in weekly ICT lessons as well as being integrated into topic and other subjects. Children benefit from a class set of laptops, iPads, and access to the recording studio and a range of other ICT equipment. Each class has their own computer and SMART board with full internet and email access. We also use visual and audio recording equipment to allow pupils to record their work in different methods.

Science

Science is taught for 2 hours per week. The topics are taught in blocks throughout a term. There is a focus on investigational work rather than “knowing facts”. The children are encouraged to plan, obtain, record and evaluate data. Children are given opportunities to question and challenge information and become scientific thinkers.

Physical Education

The children have at least 2 hours of PE per week which includes a range of dance, gymnastics and ball skills. It is imperative that they wear suitable clothing for both indoor and outdoor activities. No jewellery is permitted.

Indoor activities:

- Girls: shorts/ leggings and t-shirt, daps or bare feet.
- Boys: shorts t-shirt, daps or bare feet.

Outdoor activities:

- Girls and boys: As above with suitable footwear, e.g. trainers. Tracksuit for cold weather.

Themed Learning

This gives children opportunities to explore areas within a topic. The child will become more responsible for their learning. Where certain areas of learning are missed the teacher will deliver a focused lesson thus ensure the children receive a broad and balanced curriculum. This work will be recorded in books and portfolios.

Forest Schools

The children take part in a Forest School sessions throughout the year. You will be informed when these sessions are due to start. It is important that children bring in coats and sensible footwear on this day. Forest School sessions are run by our trained Forest School practitioner Mrs Cox. Forest School is an innovative and inspiring approach to learning and development which gives the children opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences during regular visits to our school-based woodland site.

PPA (planning, preparation and assessment)

PPA is a (statutory) amount of time allocated to teachers to aid them in planning, preparation and assessing their teaching and the children’s learning. For this teachers will have half a day non contact time per week.

School Trips

At the start of each term (where possible) children will be taken on a trip that relates to the theme for that term. The trip will aim to ‘spark’ the children’s enthusiasm for the topic and can then be built on back in and around the classroom.

Some trips may not necessarily be linked to a terms theme, these trips will still be of strong educational or experiential value.

Classroom Rules

In class 4 we ensure that we have a happy learning environment where everyone feels valued and enjoys their time together. In order for us to achieve this we have a number of rules that we abide by that are linked in with the school rules.

School Rules

The school rules operate around our Golden Rules, these are

- Listen to the chosen speaker
- Follow instructions first time
- Keep hands, feet and unkind words to yourself
- Walk around the school

These rules are reinforced throughout the school and children are expected to adhere to them at all times.

As we strive to help children become lifelong learners we promote independence and responsibility throughout the school day.

School Council and Eco Council

Two children from each class are elected to represent their peers on both the School Council and Eco Council. In Year 2 this involves attending meetings, where children are encouraged to highlight any issues their peers may have raised with them and to participate in making decisions that affect the running of the school.

Medical information

If your child suffers from a medical condition that is likely to affect his/her education, we would be grateful if you would inform us.

Should your child require regular medication, and you wish to undertake its administration, we must ask that you inform us in writing. Information should contain the time of day it is to be taken and the dosage. Please complete a medical form at the office when bringing in your child first thing in the morning.

Home Learning

Each year group sends out this annual Information Booklet for parents pertaining to their year group. In class 4 we encourage the following home learning activities to support learning.

Reading

We recommend 10 – 15 minutes reading 3 times a week as a part of homework. Each child will have a home reader and reading record which will be changed every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Weekly homework and spellings

Children will be given a homework challenge to support or reinforce learning on a Friday. Pupils will have 12 days to return their completed homework challenge.

Spellings are also sent home every Friday and we ask that they are learned ready for a spelling test the following Thursday.

Numeracy

Each term teachers will send home a leaflet containing activities that can be played at home. These activities are linked to the areas of maths being covered in class. Please make sure you are playing the games several times a week. There are very positive results from doing these activities at home.

Pupils will also receive a piece of numeracy homework, along with their spellings, every Friday. This should be returned for the following Friday.

Home – School Links

You are offered the opportunity of meeting with teachers throughout the year.

In the Autumn and Spring term there are formal Parent – Teacher Consultations. The consultations provide opportunity for parents to discuss with teachers children's progress, targets and voice any concerns they may have.

A written report is issued at the end of the Summer term.

Each week a newsletter is published and sent home each Friday.

You are invited to concert performances and assemblies throughout the year to share our celebrations. Each week the school holds an awards assembly (currently Friday 9.15- 9.40). We invite parents of our 'pupils of the week' (announced in the previous Friday's newsletter) to join us in this assembly.

Parental Concerns

If you should ever feel it is necessary to make a complaint about the school curriculum or indeed any other aspect of the school, your first point of contact would be the class teacher, senior lead member, deputy head teacher then the head teacher. If after speaking with the class teacher you are still concerned you can contact the school and arrange to discuss any matter with the head teacher in the hope that it can be resolved quickly and to everyone's satisfaction.

Class Dojos

At Garnteg we reward great behaviour with dojo points. Each child will have their own monster avatar and will build up their points and rewards through the year. Parents and carers are invited to view the children's dojo point progress where they can too download the app and receive notifications of the points changing, pictures and a live feed throughout the day. The school does not use the direct messenger on class dojo however, if there are any questions for staff the open door policy still stands.

Attendance

In year 1 and 1/2 we pride ourselves on the great attendance records we have kept over previous years. We look forward to keeping this great attendance record over the coming year. Remember your child needs to be in school every day to learn and cannot achieve attendance targets if they have any absences that total 10 days or more. Please send your child to school every day.

Class 4 HOME SCHOOL POST

We recognise the importance of children, parents, and teachers working in partnership to enhance the quality of education for each individual. To this end we have outlined some homework ideas to support learning this half term.

HOMEWORK RULES

- Homework is intended to be a shared process between child and grown up.
- Homework ideas for maths activities will be sent out termly.
- Weekly homework, which support classroom learning, will be given on Fridays.
- You can do as much or as little as you wish

As always, children will be bringing home a book to read, share and enjoy. Please return the book every day, if you can, with a comment on your child's reading of the book or read pages; children will be rewarded for regular reading at home and completion of homework. Reading is important to reinforce the strategies learnt in school during Read Write Inc or guided reading. The home reader should be a comfortable read in order to promote enjoyment of reading.

We have also included the Autumn term overview at the end of this booklet, which outlines curriculum coverage and topics to be studied. You may wish to support your child and help them to develop their understanding of their topics or help them research using books or the internet.

Homework challenges will be sent home every other Friday.

Spellings will be sent home every Friday.

You can help your child learn their spellings by using the following activities:

- Use dictionaries to research and establish clusters of words using the same root.
- Create new words out of the same prefixes
- Use an (online) etymological dictionary to research word histories
- Use newspapers to highlight common connectives
- Identify phrases in everyday life which contain connectives.
- Make letter fans
- Create a word collage
- Create a poster
- Create a card game with certain spelling on

There are also lots of online resources which can help your child's learning. A few of them are listed below.

www.primaryresources.co.uk
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/>
<http://www.coolmath-games.com/>
<http://www.purplemash.co.uk/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/>
<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/literacy/>
<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/revision/Science/>
<http://nrich.maths.org/primary-lower>

**Enjoy supporting your child's learning.
 We look forward to sharing work and meeting you at Parents evening.**

These are the year 1 and 1/2 High Frequency Words (Tricky Words) that we will be learning in class throughout the year.

about	don't	two	once
can't	home	because	take
her	must	from	way
many	put	just	but
over	time	not	half
then	your	should	love
who	as	us	one
after	dig	bed	than
could	house	girl	were
here	name	last	by
may	ran	now	has
people	too	sister	made
there	back	very	or
will	door	been	that
again	how	good	what
did	new	laugh	call
him	saw	off	called
more	took	so	have
push	ball	want	make
these	down	boy	our
with	if	got	their
an	next	little	when
do	school	old	came
his	tree	some	help
much	be	water	man
pull	first	brother	out
three	jump	had	them
would	night	live	where
another	seen	lived	

Miss Brooks Class 4

Year Group: - Year 1

My teachers for this year will be: -



Miss Brooks
Class Teacher



Mrs White
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Safdar
Teaching Assistant

Other teachers in my area are: -



Mrs Lewis
Class Teacher



Miss Freeman
Teaching Assistant