



# Abbey Meads Community Primary School

Hugo Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN25 4GY

Head Teacher: Mr Robert M. Buckley

Telephone: 01793 723239

Fax: 01793 723201

Email: [admin@abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk)

Website: [www.abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk](http://www.abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk)

## Curriculum Briefing Year 4 October 2020

Dear Parents,

Please find below details about the curriculum in Year 4 2020.

### English - Writing

As in previous years, children will continue to receive spelling, handwriting and grammar teaching, which for some children will also include a phonics recap. Throughout the year, we will be covering a range of text types, including narratives, non-chronological reports and various non-fiction pieces. Children will continue to build their writing skills, through exposure to modelled, taught texts alongside opportunities to use success criteria through independent application. Where possible, our writing will be linked to our school environment and experiences, for example writing a report about our school site.

### English - Reading

As always, we encourage children to read daily at home. Talking to your children about their chosen book is a great way to promote a love of reading. In school, children will be taught the skills of decoding, inference, skimming and scanning, predicting and evaluating during one to one reading sessions with their teacher, as well as whole class sessions using a range of texts. Your child will have a Home Reading Record, which should be in school every day. In Year 4, we recognise that along with reading to an adult, some children will read to themselves at home and that the Reading Record will reflect this. The spelling scheme will continue to run and children will have spellings to bring home. Further spellings can be found in the back of your child's Home Reading Record.

We are currently in a transition period with our reading scheme in Year 4, moving from coloured-coded levels to a decimal system. You will start to see your child bring home books that have decimal numbers on the spine, this should match with the range written on the inside cover of their Home Reading Record. The range is based on their performance on the Accelerated Reader diagnostic test which focuses on comprehension of language, author intent and inference amongst other reading skills and will be reviewed termly

### Maths

Children will continue to learn and apply knowledge of the four operations, with a focus on reasoning and problem solving. All taught methods are found on the school website, under learning gateway/must haves/calculation policy.

All children in Year 4, nationwide, will be expected to sit the new Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) for Year 4 in June 2021. This will test children on their multiplication facts all the way up to  $12 \times 12$  and will select a variety of questions from the tables. The questions have to be answered within 5 seconds, therefore regular practise of rapid recall will be of great benefit to your child. Knowledge of times tables supports your child in all aspects of their maths learning. In the back of your child's Home Reading Record, you can find a weekly breakdown of the times tables we will be focusing on in



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Healthy Schools

school each term. All children have a log in and access to Times Tables Rock Stars, which has various fun and engaging ways to practise tables.

### Forest schools

As you will already be aware, each class will have an opportunity every other week to experience outdoor learning through Forest School. Our qualified Forest School teachers run this exciting program. As the weather gets colder, children will need warm, waterproof clothing and footwear, which will get wet and muddy! Dates are available on our topic letter, which is available on the website.

### Other areas of the curriculum

We will continue to offer a broad and exciting curriculum for your child. Details of topics will be sent out at the start of each term. Unfortunately, we are unable to host the Wilderness Centre residential trip in January. This trip is under review and further information will be given to you should we be able to go later in the year.

### Expectations

This year, we will be encouraging greater levels of independence and responsibility by giving children ownership of their own resource pack in the classroom. Children will be expected to find the equipment they need from their given pack, so they are ready for learning.

We advise that children bring a waterproof coat into school each day, as we recognise the importance of them having opportunities to be outside. Where possible, jumpers, cardigans and coats should be labelled with your child's name and class.

Just to bring it to your attention, we are sorry to say that we are unable to give out birthday treats from children or hand out birthday invitations.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Rowley, Mr O'Brien and Mrs Dangerfield.