

Class 4 Autumn Term Newsletter 2024



I hope you've had a great summer holiday and that you're as excited as I am for another fantastic year of learning! For all those joining Class 4 for the first time, and to our returning year 6, welcome!

Teaching in Class 4: Mr Dean continues to be the main lead for teaching in Class 4. Additional lessons are taught by Mrs Farraday. The class is supported by Mrs Mason, Mrs Matheson & Mrs Crowder. I am also delighted to announce that Bob Sutcliffe will be supporting Class 4 in weekly art sessions this term.

PE Lessons are scheduled to take place on **Thursday afternoons** and Barrow Raiders will continue to deliver sessions on **Friday afternoons**. Please be reminded that students will not be able to participate in sport sessions without their full kit. This includes the removal of earrings, jewelry and watches. As we move towards the winter months, it is strongly recommended that students have a light waterproof jacket and spare socks as part of their kit. It is also helpful if PE kits remain in school throughout the week as session timings occasionally have to be changed at short notice.

Swimming lessons for years 4-6 also take place in the Autumn term. These will be on a **Wednesday morning**, leaving school promptly at 10.30AM. Arrangements have been sent to parents in a letter, but as a reminder please ensure students have swimming costumes, towels, swim hats and goggles (if required) ready to go.

Uniform policy: Students are permitted to wear stud earrings and watches, but not smart watches. Both must be removed for PE. Large or excessive hair accessories should not be worn, and students will be asked to remove hats, scarves and other outdoor wear while inside.



The new Class 4 on their transition day in July!

Equipment: As communicated in the July newsletter, students in years 1-5 are now required to use a **blue bookbag** and not a rucksack. Year 6 are exempt from this rule for this academic year only. Similarly, only year 6 are permitted to bring their own pencil case. If they choose to do so, this should contain essential items only. Toys, scissors, 'fidget' items, personal sketchbooks, trading cards and other similar items are not allowed in school and are likely to be confiscated.

Please note that while staff make the utmost effort to assist pupils in looking after their belongings, we cannot take responsibility for lost items. Please ensure all items (particularly clothing) are clearly named to help with this.

Homework: Homework will continue to be set and checked each Friday - it *must* be submitted by **Friday morning** unless otherwise specified. Pupils who do not have their homework in school by the deadline may be required to complete it during their break time or complete alternative work. This includes homework which has been completed but left at home. I recommend bringing it in on Thursday just in case! Each student has a blue homework diary where they record what they need to do each week - there will usually be a maths, English and 'topic' task.

Spellings follow a slightly different timetable, being tested and set on a **Monday**. Students will be taught a range of strategies for learning their spellings but encouraging them to practice daily is really valuable. Little and often is the key! As with our expectations on homework, students who have not practised their spellings may be required to use their own time in school to catch up. I will contact you if I have any concerns.

Reading: Students are expected to read regularly at home too - around five times a week - both alone and with an adult. This should be acknowledged by a parent signature in a reading record. Pupils regularly read to adults and other children as part of our guided reading lessons and in the wider curriculum, as well as being given guidance on their independent reading with suggestions about what to read next as appropriate. This will also be recorded in the child's reading record.

Trips: The below table gives an overview of the intended school trips for the 2024-25 academic year. Please note that there may well be additions or changes, particularly in terms of sporting events. News and information regarding all school trips will be shared via letters and published on the website. All costings are approximate and subject to change.

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<p>Outdoor activity days in school woodland & local area. No anticipated cost to parents.</p> <p>Visit to Liverpool Museum & Ancient Greek Workshop Approximate cost £30</p>	<p>Computing – Animation Workshop visitor to school. Approximate cost £10</p> <p>Edinburgh Residential Approximate cost £200, next installment of £50 due 6th September.</p>	<p>KS2 visit to Jewish Synagogue, Manchester, TBC</p> <p>Waterwise open water swimming. No anticipated cost to parents.</p> <p>Year 6 leavers treat & Year 5 orienteering trip to Brockhole on Windermere. No anticipated cost to parents.</p>

Contact: If you have any questions, queries or concerns, please feel free to contact me at class4@levens.cumbria.sch.uk. Urgent queries or information, including drop-off and pick-up arrangements, **must** be sent to office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk as the class inbox is not monitored during teaching time. You can also keep up with our learning by visiting our blog at levens.cumbria.sch.uk/school-blog

Curriculum information

Maths this term starts with a focus on place value, examining the structure of numbers up to 1 million and beyond! This includes partitioning, rounding and the use of negative numbers. Building on this foundation, we will then move on to applying the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. At the end of the term, we will introduce fractions, exploring fraction equivalence, mixed numbers and improper fractions.

English begins with writing based on the book "Way Home" by Libby Hathorne, including a diary entry and 'missing persons' poster. Our work in history & geography inspires persuasive writing in the form of a travel brochure and the retelling of well-known Greek myths and legends. The marking of Remembrance Sunday and learning about the history and significance of this event will lead to students producing an informative piece. We will also read, write and perform poetry in the styles of Pie Corbett and Michael Rosen. Core learning in **SPaG** is interwoven throughout, as well being covered in standalone sessions focusing initially on word classes. **Handwriting** is also explicitly taught in weekly sessions, supporting our learning in spelling.

Guided reading begins by focusing on comprehension and written response to novels chosen to suit the differing abilities and interests of our pupils. This is supplemented with an additional focus on fluency where required.

Our **science** topic this term is materials. We begin by recapping year 4 knowledge about solids, liquids and gasses, before applying this knowledge to identifying reversible and irreversible changes. We also study dissolving, including how to recover substances from mixtures and solutions.

In **history & geography** we study the achievements and legacy of the Ancient Greek civilization. We study the location and physical geography of both ancient and modern Greece, linking this to the importance of seafaring to the Ancient Greek empire. We then move on to examine the legacy of the Ancient Greeks, including their influence on democracy, language and education.

Art is also inspired by the Ancient Greeks as we look at depictions of mythical beasts. We also complete self-portraits using a range of drawing tools and use the work of Carolee Clark to inspire portraits of animals with a focus on colour, line and pattern.

Design and Technology is condensed into two end-of-term projects. In Autumn, we will be designing and making stuffed toys in textiles and electronic greetings cards in electrical systems.

Music has two units this term: 'how does music connect us with our past?' and 'classroom jazz' with a focus on improvisation with a variety of instruments.

P.E. begins with swimming coaching led by the team at Kendal pool. Alongside this we have a teambuilding unit incorporating a variety of games. After half term, we get stuck in to creating our own games based on a variety of invasion games as well as beginning a two-part unit of gymnastics.

R.E. this term has a unit of work on the Exodus, exploring the life of Moses and the events of Exodus in the Bible, associating this with how the events of the Passover are marked in the Jewish community and how this relates to the importance of the Last Supper in Christianity. After half-term, we explore how Christians prepare for Christmas through the period of Advent.

SCARF explores relationships in the first part of the term with a focus on teamwork and collaboration strategies to complement our PE sessions. After half-term we move on to examining rights and responsibilities, including managing money and the function of local councils.

Computing starts by looking at how information is shared in computer networks, before building on this learning to explore how the internet functions.

French builds on knowledge of vocabulary for school subjects, giving opinions and preferences on these. We also learn a range of adjectives to describe the place we live.