



Year 4

Welcome back! We hope you had a revitalising break, and the children return to school ready to learn. Time has flown and we cannot believe that we are in the final term of the year already. It is an important time as the children will prepare for their entrance to enter Upper Key Stage 2 after the summer break, where they will face new challenges and expectations.

This term will be full of hard work and fun. We have the Year 4 government multiplication checks coming up in June which we will continue to work hard towards. We kick off the summer term with swimming (Elm in the first half term, Chestnut in the second). We are also very excited to be visiting the Canal & River Trust in Newbury, to support our learning in Geography.

Both teachers in Year 4 welcome an open door policy and are happy to answer any questions and discuss any concerns.

Many thanks for your support

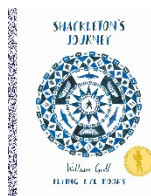
Ms Swift & Ms Hinton

Curriculum Information

English

During the Summer term we will focus on non-fiction writing gaining inspiration from **'Shackleton's Journey'** by William Grill and **'The Baker by the Sea'** by Paula White culminating in the children creating a detailed travel brochure.

We will also be learning to create a narrative sequel, based on the Mermaid of Zennor.



Maths

In Maths this term we are going to be continue focusing on decimals before moving onto money, time and Shape. In Summer 2 we will focus on shape, statistics and position and direction.

Between 1st June & 12th June, your children will sit the government Multiplication Tables Check. In preparation for this we will continue to focus on learning our tables on a daily basis. Please ensure that the children are using TTR daily to rehearse this rapid recall.



History/Geography

In history, we will be learning about how the Anglo Saxons invaded Britain; their influence on modern Britain and Alfred the Great.

In geography, we will be learning about the bodies of water on our planet and their human and physical features as well as the impact of global warming.



Computing

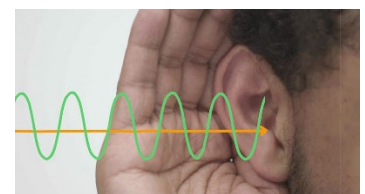
This term, the children will be learning about data logging. They will use a data logger to collect data and interpret data collected using sorting tools.

In the final half term, the children will be learning to identify devices that can record sound; recap input and output; and record an effective audio for a podcast.


Science

In science, the children will be learning how sounds are made; how sound travels to the ear; the volume of sound versus strength of vibration; and why sounds get fainter.

The children will also be learning about simple electrical circuits; naming basic parts of a circuit; and open and closed circuits.







<p style="text-align: center;">RE</p> <p>This term, the children will be focusing on Christianity and learning about how and why Christians try to make a difference in the world.</p> <p>They will follow up this learning, by learning about the Pentecost, the Holy Spirit and the Parables of the Kingdom of Heaven.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PE</p> <p>We will be learning how to carry out different balances and forward rolls. We will continue to develop our skills in running, throwing and jumping.</p> <p>We will develop our skills in catching, batting, bowling & striking when playing rounders.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PSHE</p> <p>In PSHE, we will explore the emotional aspect of relationships, including jealousy and bereavement. We will also be exploring negative relationships.</p> <p>In our final unit of the term, we will be learning about puberty, including bodily change, menstruation, sanitary health, conception, intercourse and genetics.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">DT</p> <p>In DT, we will be learning how to design and create our own working torch!</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Music</p> <p>Our Musical Spotlight during Summer 1 is 'Expression and Improvisation'. Children will learn that improvisation is a way to express our feelings and music comes from our hearts. Children will make improvisation more expressive by adding dynamics. Our final unit for the year is 'The Show Must Go On!' where children will create and present a performance while considering the social question, 'How does music connect us with the environment?'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Art</p> <p>In art we will explore why Tudors had portraits painted and recreate our own Tudor style portrait. We will discover what coats of arms are and why they were used before designing and creating our own. Additionally, we will find out about the Tudor rose and what it represents before creating one out of clay.</p>

Home Learning

At Meadow Park Academy, we believe that home learning can provide valuable opportunities to consolidate and practice learning.

We expect all children in Year 4 to complete the following weekly:

<p style="text-align: center;">Reading</p> <p>Reading is key to all learning and is a primary focus for homework.</p> <p>Please read with your child at least five times a week and sign their reading record.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Spelling Shed</p> <p>As a school, we have subscribed to Spelling Shed, an incredible app that allows children to practice their spellings in a fun and interactive way.</p>  <p>Logins have already been sent out, but please speak to your class teacher if you need another copy.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Times Table Rockstars</p> <p>Times Table Rockstars is a wonderful program which allows children to battle and play games to win tokens. All they have to do, is answer their times tables!</p>  <p>Logins have already been sent out, but please speak to your class teacher if you need another copy.</p>
<p>If you are struggling to access any of this homework, please speak to your child's class teacher about alternative arrangements.</p>	<p>This spelling practice is in preparation for their weekly spelling test on a Friday children must work for 15 minutes per week on Spelling Shed.</p> <p>https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/</p>	<p>Children must practice multiplication on TimesTable RockStars for 15 minutes per week.</p> <p>https://trockstars.com/</p>



Other information

School Uniform

All children should come to school in the correct school uniform, which is:

- Meadow Park sweatshirt
- Plain white polo shirt
- Plain grey or white socks
- Grey trousers
- Grey skirt
- Black, sensible shoes (no heels)
- Summer dress



PE Kit

Children may come to school wearing their PE kits on their PE day. Our PE day is:

Wednesday
(Summer 1 – Chestnut swimming, Elm PE
Summer 2 – Chestnut PE, Elm swimming)

Our PE uniform is:

- Meadow Park black shorts
- Meadow Park emerald, green T shirt
- Plimsolls, trainers or bare feet (for indoor PE)
- Trainers with good grip and support for outside sport (different to indoor trainers)
- Plain grey or black tracksuit bottoms and top (optional)
- Hairband to tie long hair back

For swimming, you will need:

- Swimming costume
- Swimming trunks (these cannot be loose ‘board short’ style)
- A towel
- Swimming cap
- Goggles

Any issues?

In the first instance, please speak with the class teacher at the end of the day. If you are unable to be there on collection, please contact the school office to arrange a time to meet with the teacher.

If you are still unsatisfied, please arrange a meeting with the phase leader.

Acorns, Cherry, Willow, Maple – **Ms Parsons**
Beech, Sycamore, Elm, Chestnut, Ash, Holly, Hazel, Oak – **Ms Geary**

If after that meeting, you continue to be unhappy with the resolution, please contact the school office to make an appointment with **Ms Holehouse, Ms Voisey or Ms Drysdale**.

If you require specific support regarding a child with SEN, please arrange a meeting with **Ms Mughal**.

Lunchtime

Our delicious lunches are provided by Educatering Solutions.



Lunches must be ordered by **midnight on Tuesday**, to ensure that your child has lunches for the **following** week. As the lunches are cooked to order, there are usually no spare lunches.

You can place your lunch orders through MCAS.



Snacks and Water Bottles

Please make sure your child has a clearly labelled water bottle in school, so that they can stay hydrated.

We also welcome the children to bring in a healthy, nut free snack to enjoy at playtime.



Key Dates for your diary

- Tuesday 14th April 2026 – Children return to school & clubs begin
- Tuesday 21st April 2026 – Y3 @ Baylab
- Wednesday 22nd April 2026 – Earth Day
- Wednesday 22nd April 2026 – Y3 @ Baylab, Y2 Winchester Science Museum
- Monday 27th April 2026 – Y3 extended day at Ufton Court
- Thursday 20th April 2026 – Y5 Sulham Estate
- Monday 4th May 2026 – Friday 8th May 2026 – No clubs
- Monday 4th May 2026 – Bank Holiday – School closed
- Thursday 7th May 2026 – Polling Day – School closed to R, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5
- Monday 11th May 2026 – Thursday 14th May 2026 – Y6 SATs week
- Monday 18th May 2026 – Chestnut to Newbury Canal and River Trust
- Tuesday 19th May 2026 – Elm to Newbury Canal and River Trust
- Friday 22nd May 2026 – Clubs end & May half term holiday (3:15 finish)
- Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May 2026 – May half term – school closed
- Monday 1st June 2026 – Back to school and clubs begin
- Monday 1st June 2026 – Friday 12th June 2026 – Y4 multiplication check
- Wednesday 3rd June 2026 – Y6 to Reading Museum
- Monday 8th June 2026 – Class photos
- Wednesday 10th June 2026 – Year 4 – Englefield Estate
- Monday 8th June 2026 – Friday 12th June 2026 – Y1 phonics screening check
- Wednesday 17th June 2026 – Y6 to Milestones Museum
- Thursday 18th July 2026 – Year 1 trip to Beale Park
- Wednesday 24th June 2026 – Acorns to Oceanarium & Bournemouth Beach
- Monday 6th July 2026 – Friday 10th July 2026 – Sports Week
- Thursday 9th July 2026 – Reports home
- Friday 10th July 2026 – Sports Day
- Friday 10th July 2026 – Clubs end
- Monday 13th July 2026 – Transition Day
- Tuesday 14th & Wednesday 15th July 2026 – Y5 & Y6 leavers production
- Friday 17th July 2026 – Y6 Leavers Assembly – 9am
- Friday 17th July 2026 – End of term – 1:30pm finish
- Wednesday 2nd September 2026 – Children return for 2026/27

Packed Lunches

Lunchbox Builder for Kids

PICK ONE ITEM FROM EACH CATEGORY

MIX & MATCH EACH DAY!

Starchy Carbohydrate



Protein



Vegetables



Fruit



Dairy or fortified alternative



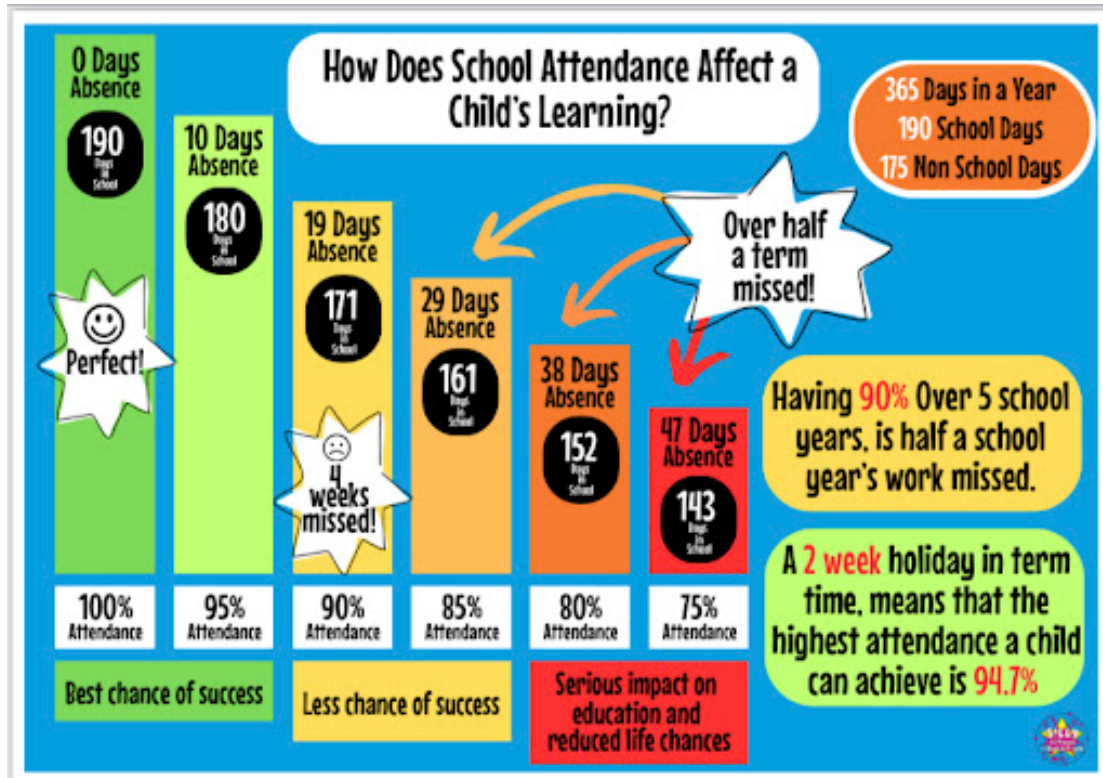
Don't forget a drink!



Laura
 Matthews
 Nutrition



Attendance



Authorised Absence	Explanation	Unauthorised Absence	Explanation
Illness	When a child is too unwell to attend and parents inform the school.	Family holidays during term time	Term-time holidays are not permitted unless exceptional circumstances are approved.
Medical or dental appointments	When appointments cannot be arranged outside school hours and medical proof has been provided and accepted by the school.	Late arrival without valid reason	Arriving after registration closes without explanation.
Religious observance	Days set aside by the family's religious community.	Keeping child off for birthdays or special outings	These are not considered valid reasons for absence.
Approved exceptional circumstances	E.g., a close family funeral.	Parent or carer illness (non-emergency)	Unless the situation places the child at risk if they attend.
Participation in approved educational activities	e.g., school visits, exams, sporting events.	Unexplained absence	No reason provided or the school does not accept the reason.
Traveller family commitments (in certain contexts)	When absence fits within recognised travelling patterns.	Oversleeping or poor morning routine	Not considered a legitimate reason for missing school.
Authorised part-time timetable (temporary)	When agreed with SEND or medical teams.	Avoiding school due to minor complaints	Mild cold, tiredness, or refusing to come in without valid cause.



Term Dates 2026/27



Terms & Holidays – 2026/2027

Autumn – Term 1	
<i>Staff Development Day</i>	<i>Tuesday 1st September 2026</i>
Start of Term – Children in School	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026
Last day of Term	Friday 16 th October 2026
Term Break - Holiday	Monday 19 th October – Friday 30 th October 2026
Autumn – Term 2	
Start of Term – Children in School	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Last day of Term	Friday 18 th December 2026
Term Break - Holiday	Monday 21 st December – Friday 2 nd January 2027
Spring – Term 3	
<i>Staff Development Day</i>	<i>Monday 4th January 2027</i>
Start of Term – Children in School	Tuesday, 5 th January 2027
Last day of Term	Friday, 12 th February 2027
Term Break – Holiday	Monday 15 th February - Friday 19 th February 2027
Spring – Term 4	
Start of Term – Children in School	Monday, 22 nd February 2027
Last day of Term	Thursday, 25 th March 2027
Term Break – Holiday	Friday 26 th March – Friday 9 th April 2027
Summer – Term 5	
Start of Term – Children in School	Monday 12 th April 2027
Last day of Term	Friday, 28 th May 2027
<i>Early May Bank Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 3rd May 2027</i>
Term Break – Holiday	Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June 2027
Summer – Term 6	
Start of Term – Children in School	Monday, 7 th June 2027
Last day of Term	Friday 23 rd July 2027
Term Break – Holiday	Monday 26 th July – 1 st week September TBC



Free School Meals Application

Free School Meals are available to support families and ensure every child has access to a healthy, nutritious meal during the school day. If your child is eligible, they will receive a free meal at lunchtime, and the school will also receive additional funding to support their learning. Families may qualify if they receive certain benefits, and applying is quick and confidential. Even if your child prefers packed lunches, applying still helps the school. If your child is eligible for free school meals, they are entitled to 1 free club space per term. Children are eligible automatically in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2. Please contact the school office if you require a paper form.



APPLICATION FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Please complete this form only if you are eligible under the categories listed overleaf and your child attends a Reading school.

PART A

Please provide the following information (PRINT)

Full Name of Claimant: (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)									
Address:									
Postcode:					Telephone:				
National Insurance Number:					Date of Birth: / /				
NASS Reference Number:									

Children for whom you are claiming:

Surname	Other Names	M/F	Date of Birth	School Attending	Relationship to Child
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Declaration by Claimant

I agree that you will use the information I have provided to process my claim for free school meals and will contact other sources as allowed by law to verify my initial, and ongoing, entitlement.	
Signature:	Date:

DATA SECURITY

Personal data provided on this form may be held on a computer and is therefore subject to the Data Protection Act 1998. It will only be used for the intended purpose i.e. to determine eligibility for FSM.

Once you have completed the form please return it to **YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL** as soon as possible. Free school meals cannot be provided until the school has received the form and verified your eligibility.